Dear Families,

It has been wonderful to see how positively the summer term has started, with children continuing to work hard, represent the school proudly and enjoy the many opportunities on offer. Please remember to make a note of key dates for your diaries listed below.

We are pleased to announce that Park Lane School is once again supporting the National Walk to School Week from 18th May to 22nd May. We encourage as many families as possible to take part in this important initiative.

Walking to school has many benefits for children, including:

- Improving physical health and fitness
- Supporting children's mental wellbeing and readiness to learn
- Reducing traffic and pollution around the school gates
- Encouraging independence and road safety awareness
- Providing valuable time for conversation and connection

Even parking a little further away and walking the final part of the journey can make a real difference. Thank you in advance for your support.

Attendance Matters

We have seen an increasing number of requests for holidays during term time and would like to remind parents of the importance of regular school attendance.

The Government attendance target for pupils is 95% or above. Excellent attendance gives children the very best opportunity to succeed both academically and socially.

Good attendance helps children to:

- Keep up with learning and make strong academic progress
- Build confidence and positive friendships
- Develop routines, resilience and independence
- Feel included in all aspects of school life
- Avoid gaps in learning that can be difficult to catch up on

We appreciate your support in ensuring children attend school regularly and arrive on time each day.

Sporting Success at Park Lane

Our Year 6 girls' footballers have continued their sporting success this term. Firstly, they won an inter-school primary schools' competition against schools from throughout Tilehurst, winning all of their matches and conceding just one goal as they lifted the trophy at Cotswold Sports Centre.

The girls then enjoyed a fantastic 3-0 win at St Michaels in a friendly fixture, further cementing Park Lane's reputation as one of the best schools in Reading for girls' football. Well done to all the girls who represented the school so brilliantly!

Our Year 3 boys footballers also represented Park Lane extremely well at a Cotswold Primary School tournament. A special well done to Noah for scoring our goal, and congratulations to all the boys for being such excellent ambassadors for the school.

Finally, all of our Year 5 pupils recently had the opportunity to experience rowing, courtesy of Reading Boys School. The children were put through their paces on indoor rowing machines before finishing with a competitive team race. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed trying a new sport and perhaps there is a future Steve Redgrave or Helen Glover amongst them!

Packed Lunches

We would also like to ask parents to review the contents of children's packed lunches. Some children are becoming overwhelmed by the amount of food packed for them, and we would encourage families to involve children in choosing what they would like to eat each day.

Spending a little time together at home selecting lunch items can help children feel more comfortable and independent at lunchtime, while also reducing food waste.

Please continue to encourage healthy choices by including a balanced selection of foods such as fruit, vegetables, sandwiches, pasta, yoghurt and healthy snacks wherever possible.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs McDonagh and the Park Lane Staff

Dates for the term:

Monday 8th June to Friday 12th June - Year 6 Oakwood trip

W/C 8th June – Year 1 Phonics Screening test

W/C 15th June – Book Fayre at the Laurels' site

Wednesday 24th to Thursday 25th June – Year 5 Rushall Farm trip

Friday 26th June – INSET day. School is closed to all pupils

Friday 3rd July – Sports day

Tuesday 7th July – EYFS trip to Prospect miniature railway

Wednesday 8th July – Non-uniform day (summer fayre collections)

Thursday 9th July – School Disco

Tuesday 14th July – Year 4 Wellington Country Park trip

Thursday 16th July – Year 6 performances

Friday 17th July – End of year reports sent home

Monday 20th July – Meet the teacher event

Wednesday 22nd July – End of term. Laurels – 1.50 finish. Limes- 2.00 finish