



# Parkroyal Life

Edition 86 - Spring 1 2026

**REMINDER** - school closes for February half term on Thursday 12th February at 3pm/3.15pm and reopens on Monday 23rd February at 8.35am. Wishing you all a relaxing half term break.

Picture News stories are discussed in Mrs Beaumont's Monday morning Assemblies. Picture News shares current issues with our pupils and helps to make British Values relevant and meaningful and develop links between personal, school and community values. These are the following questions we have explored this half term:



- **What role will reading play in our future?**
  - The National Year of Reading 2026 is designed for everyone to enjoy exploring all different kinds of stories, comics, books, magazines and websites
- **Does how we behave matter as much as how well we play?**
  - The Football Association wants to ensure football practice and matches are safe and fair and enjoyable for everyone
- **Introducing the Trust Passport**
  - Pupils all introduced to the Trust passport and discussed some of the activities the pupils can take part in .
- **Does seeing yourself in a toy or story help you to feel like you belong?**
  - Mattel have released a Barbie doll designed to represent people who are autistic
- **Should children have social media?**
  - The government is considering new rules to keep children safe online



## Key Dates - Feb/Mar/Apr

12th February	School closes for half term 3pm/3.15pm
13th February	INSET day - school closed to pupils all day
23rd February	School reopens for Spring term 2 - 8.35am
25th February	Y6 watching Macbeth (in school)
27th February	Non uniform for Easter Egg donation
3rd March	5CP to Macclesfield Academy for science workshop
4th March	5LM to Macclesfield Academy for science workshop
5th March	World Book Day
9th - 13th March	Science Week
12th March	Aspire Trust Public Speaking competition
20th March	Red Nose Day
20th March	Y6 Crucial Crew trip (morning only)
20th March	Reception visit to Glebe Farm
27th March	School closes for Easter holidays - <b>1.15pm</b>

### Updated term dates

Our final INSET training dates for 2025-26 are included in the dates list on page 18 of this newsletter.

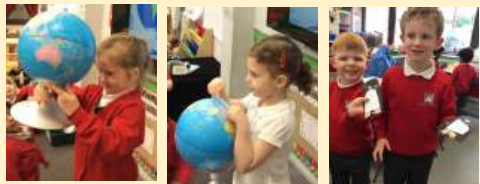
## Cheshire East Wraparound Care Review

Are you a parent who uses, or wants to use, early years childcare? Or do you have a school-aged child who uses, or may use, a before-school or after-school club or holiday club? Cheshire East wants to hear your thoughts on early years childcare and wraparound childcare for any of your children aged 0-14 years old, or up to 25 years old if they have a special educational need or disability (SEND). To tell the council about your childcare needs, simply complete this survey before Friday 20 February 2026: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/CheshireEast-CSA2026-Parents/> If you have any questions about the local authorities' responsibility to provide sufficient childcare, or the purpose of this survey, you can contact: [Earlyyearsandchildcareteam@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:Earlyyearsandchildcareteam@cheshireeast.gov.uk) Any feedback received will be gratefully appreciated.

# Reception



This half term, we learnt all about rhyming couplets, inspired by the fabulous Julia Donaldson and her well-loved, familiar stories. 'The Gruffalo's Child' inspired our science learning: the children explored how shadows are formed by making shadow puppets, and the snowfall in the first week brought our learning about animal footprints to life!



Our Frozen topic has been an exciting adventure in geography! The children loved locating the polar regions on a map and comparing them to where we live in the United Kingdom. They have been fascinated by polar habitats and how animals are specially adapted to survive in snowy environments. The amazing vocabulary they have remembered and used has completely blown us away!

Science & Geography

Julia Donaldson  
Rhyming Rampage!

This half term, as part of our Talk for Writing unit, the children learned the story Lost and Found by Oliver Jeffers. They followed an S-plan with pictures and created their own actions to help them remember the story. They did an amazing job learning the story off by heart and even went on to innovate it by changing the main character to an arctic fox. We are incredibly proud of their hard work and enthusiasm!

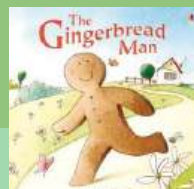


Talk for Writing -  
Lost and Found



The children have also dived into learning all about marine animals. They discovered how sea creatures are specially adapted to survive in the ocean and talked about how plastic pollution can cause harm. The children loved using tweezers to remove plastic from our 'ocean habitats'. Working together in their house teams, they also created bright, beautiful under-the-sea scenes, showing fantastic teamwork and creativity!

Under the Sea DT



Year 1 loved their trip to RHS Bridgewater Gardens. Even though it is winter, we learnt so much about plants and changes through the seasons.



We potted our own pea seed and gave it a funny name!



On our walk around, we identified evergreen and deciduous trees.



## Buddy Time!



Year 1 have been learning the story of the Gingerbread Man off by heart with actions - ask them to show you!

Then we 'innovated' a new story with a different biscuit man. We had stories about The Jammy Dodger Man, The Bourbon Man and even The Custard Cream Man!

Year 1 worked really hard on editing and then presenting their work for display.



# In Year Two this half term...



This half term, we went on our very first coach trip to **Peak Wildlife Park** to support our Science curriculum.. It may have been the coldest trip ever...to see polar bears, penguins and arctic foxes! We spied a huge range of animals including **lemurs** and **wallabies**, even on such a cold day and learned about habitats.

29  
AIME OF EDUCATION

17  
ACCESS TO INFORMATION



Peak Wildlife Park

In **Design and Technology** this half term we have been designing, making and evaluating a '**healthy wrap**'. Firstly, we tasted wraps, chose our ingredients, learnt how to **peel**, **slice** and **grate** safely using a bridge or claw grip. Then we made and of course tasted our healthy wraps!



Here are some of the final pieces...



Healthy Wraps



We visited **All Saints Church** to learn a little bit more about **baptism** from Martin, Bev and Dot, to consolidate our work in **RE**. We helped in the baptism of Charlie, the doll, and learned why **water**, **candles** and **family** are important to Christians.

14  
TRUTH IS THE LIGHT AND KNOWLEDGE

29  
AIME OF EDUCATION



Christian Baptism

# Year Three

## DT - Structure

In D&T we have learnt about **structures** and built our own roundhouse inspired by the Stone Age. We have learnt about the features of a roundhouse and how to use different joins to attach materials, such as, **slot, fold** and **tabs**.



## TTRS

We will be introducing the 4 and 8 times tables after half-term, so please continue to practise on TTRockstars as frequently as possible.

We have set up a class tournament and will be giving certificates to the children who work the hardest, so get ready to rock on! 🤘



**TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS**

**BATTLE OF THE BANDS**

**3PS VS 3EM**

FEATURING

**3EM, 3PS**

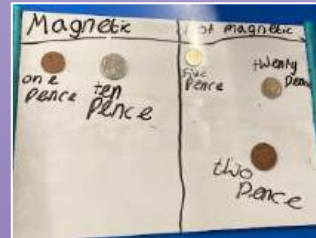
**08:45 11 FEBRUARY 2026 - 18:00 1 MARCH 2026**

- ANSWER AS MANY QUESTIONS AS POSSIBLE
- PLAY IN ANY GAME TYPE
- WINNING GROUP WILL HAVE THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CORRECT ANSWERS PER PLAYER
- ARE YOU TRAINED AND TRY TROUBLE AND BLISS

## Science

In Science we have been learning all about different forces and the effects that magnets can have.

We have performed several experiments in this module including racing toy cars on different surfaces to see which has the least and most amount of friction. Here we are experimenting with magnets and coins.



## Reading

The children have thoroughly enjoyed our text; Viking Longship. From re-enacting roles on a Viking Longship, to exploring the Viking world, their traditions and beliefs, the children have really engaged with the topic and have become more familiar with the features of a non-fiction book, such as the endpapers, the contents, index and glossary pages.

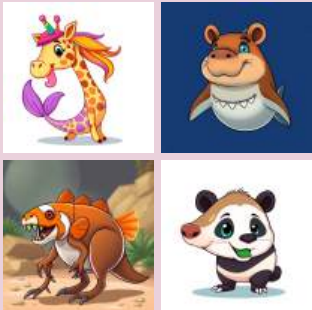


# Year Four

## Writing

In English we explored some wonderful free verse poems. The children created their own pre fabulous animal and wrote a free verse poem based on its appearance and habitat.

We then used our mythical creatures and wrote a non-chronological report on them; followed by presenting our information in the style of David Attenborough.



## Electricity

We have been exploring electricity in Science this half term. From discovering when the lightbulb was first invented to building our own circuits using wires, bulbs and even motors! We have loved learning about how electricity has evolved over the years and had some exciting ideas about where it might take us over the next few decades!



## Library

We loved going to Macclesfield Library and exploring the vast majority of books they had on offer!

The lovely ladies from the library read us a story and some of us even got to loan a book out!

**Return books by:**  
**4ML: Fri 27th February**  
**4KD: Mon 2nd March**



## TTRS

It has been great to see the improvement of our times table knowledge over the past few weeks!

Please ensure to keep up the practise by regularly going on TTRS!



# In Year Five, this term...

## Comics - Mr Cowlin

Earlier in the year, Year 5 had a visit from Mr Cowlin who works at Staffordshire University as a lecturer on the Cartoon and Comic Arts course. Mr Cowlin's students at the university have now finished designing the children's comic characters and have created some fantastic comic stories with them in. Each child also got their own bookmark with their comic character on. We were very impressed with the detail and designs and have been very keen to start writing some of our own comics!



## Bikeability

Also this half term, some of the children have taken part in Level 2 of Bikeability. They have been out on the roads, learning how to keep themselves safe and developing their cycling skills.

### Bikeability Level 2 teaches you to:

- Start and stop with more confidence
- Pass stationary vehicles parked on a road
- Understand the road: signals, signs and road markings
- Negotiate the road: including quiet junctions, crossroads and roundabouts
- Share the road with other vehicles



## Design and Technology

As part of our Design and Technology unit, the children have been learning about different mechanisms within a pop-up book. We researched different features within a range of pop up books to create our design specification. From there, the children have been very busy creating their own fiction/non-fiction pop up books which we then went and shared with our Year 1 reading buddies.



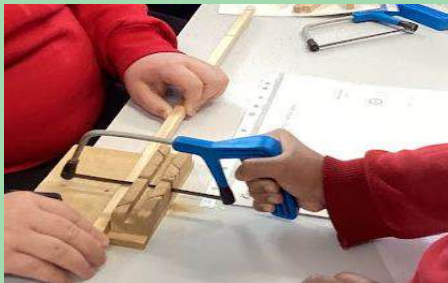
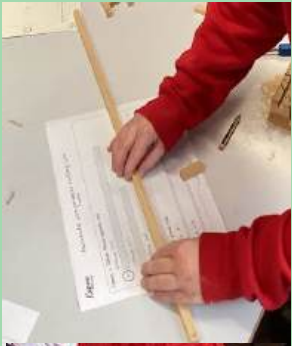
## Writing - Speech Festival

This half term in our writing lessons, we have been preparing for the annual Aspire Trust speech festival. We have spent time watching different inspirational speeches, discussing key topics which we are passionate about and then researching these topics to write a speech. We will soon be sharing our speeches with Year 6 and practising our presentational oracy skills.

# Year 6

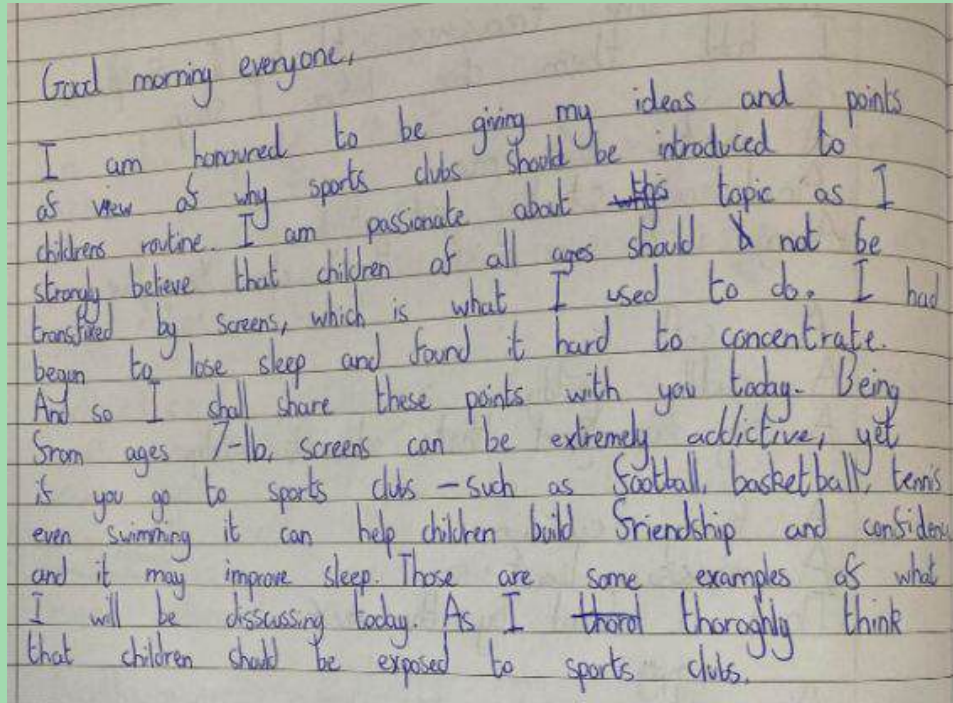
Alongside working hard in our Core subjects, we have been busy designing and **making automata toys**. This has involved sawing, hot glue gunning and lots of great teamwork!

Excitingly, we have had Wency and Jessica from China teaching us **Mandarin** this term. We have learnt how to introduce ourselves, numbers up to 20 and the different strokes used to create Chinese letters.



# Year 6

This term in our writing lessons we have been preparing for the annual Aspire Trust speech festival which takes place in March. We worked collaboratively to decide on some key topics which we are passionate about and interested in. We researched our topics and and wrote impassioned, well informed speeches on topics which matter to us. Here are just a few extracts from some of the fantastic writing in Year 6.



Good morning everyone,

I am honoured to be giving my ideas and points of view as to why sports clubs should be introduced to children's routine. I am passionate about ~~this~~ this topic as I strongly believe that children of all ages should not be transfixed by screens, which is what I used to do. I had begun to lose sleep and found it hard to concentrate. And so I shall share these points with you today. Being from ages 7-11, screens can be extremely addictive, yet if you go to sports clubs - such as football, basketball, tennis even swimming it can help children build friendship and confidence and it may improve sleep. These are some examples of what I will be discussing today. As I ~~thor~~ thoroughly think that children should be exposed to sports clubs.

Speech on the importance of sports for young people by Demi 6RJ

# Year 6

Speech on why gaming should be on the National Curriculum by Felix

6RJ

Not about the game, gaming should greetings students and teachers, I am delighted to talk to you about why I think gaming should be a subject at school. This is because children love gaming.

Firstly, gaming is an efficient way to make money because some games host tournaments with a cash prize like Fortnite and brawl stars just to name two of the many games.

Secondly, strategy games can enhance thinking, help solve puzzles and help with maths and other subjects. Now, have you thought that more children would play educational games outside of school if it was part of homework. More children could be better at subjects like maths and english.

Lastly, some games teach children to use coding programs like Python, Unreal Engine, Blender and Unity which can make you money. At parkroyal we have Purple Mash that has Python in pieces, yet has never been used in a lesson which is a missed opportunity.

In conclusion I strongly believe that if gaming became a subject it would help children in education. Improving a child's thinking skills and problem-solving.

Good afternoon everybody! My name is Phoebe and I would like to thank you all for coming today.

I am standing here on this fine evening to present to you how I feel about a certain topic - differences. We are all different. It's important to be different, but they are not anything to make fun of. I will now answer a question...

Why is being different beautiful?

I would like to begin with explaining that being different inspire others to be themselves. Standing out can encourage all kinds of creativity because children will see unique people, that will make them feel brave to be themselves around others. Alarmingly 70% of bullying is caused by being different from each other. Well some day different people could change the world for the better if we embrace them more.

Secondly, differences help people work together. Teams and communities are stronger when everybody contributes, as different skills can help solve problems faster. I truly believe that respecting each other's differences can make everybody - tall, short, disabled, young and old - feel valued. You should always be kind and open-minded to everyone.

Lastly, differences make the world fun. Everyday you will see someone different. If you have a friend with a different idea they could teach you something new! (all people do activities, solve problems and live their lives differently!) wouldn't you be bored if everyone was the same?

Speech on embracing individuality by Phoebe L  
6UW.

## Zones of Regulation



Supporting our pupils' emotional wellbeing is central to our school's ethos and this term Parkroyal has introduced the '*Zones of Regulation*' as a whole-school approach to support children's emotional development and wellbeing. Each Newsletter we will share updates and information about this approach and how you can support your child/ren.

The Zones of Regulation is a framework designed to help children gain a better understanding of their emotions, develop self-regulation skills, and learn strategies to manage their feelings in a healthy and productive way. It uses four colour-coded "zones" to represent different states of alertness and emotions:

**Blue Zone** – low states of alertness (e.g., sad, tired, bored, sick)

**Green Zone** – calm, focused, and ready to learn

**Yellow Zone** – heightened alertness (e.g., excited, worried, silly, frustrated)

**Red Zone** – extremely heightened states (e.g., anger, panic, rage)

Children will be taught to recognise which "zone" they are in, understand that it's normal to move between zones throughout the day, and learn strategies to help themselves return to a zone that supports learning and positive behaviour.

### How can you support your child at home with the approach? \_\_\_\_\_

We encourage you to talk to your child about the Zones and ask them what they're learning.

# Pastoral Support for parents and carers



Visyon offer a number of in person and online workshops aimed at providing information and advice to parents and carers to help you support your child with understanding their emotions and wellbeing.

<https://www.visyon.org.uk/parentworkshops>

<https://www.visyon.org.uk/parentwebinars>



The Government's new campaign, Best Start in Life, is aimed at helping parents navigate online misinformation about early childhood development. The initiative brings together NHS and government-backed guidance.

To access this information please click on the following link [BestStartInLife](#)

## Togetherness

Cheshire East Family Hubs are delighted to share some helpful resources for parents experiencing all the big emotions of growing Children.

**Togetherness** - the NHS emotional health digital learning hub funded in your area. Your family has free access to expert learning about childhood development, wellbeing, brain changes, and much more to help you to connect with your children.

Link: <https://togetherness.co.uk/mul/cheshire-east/?scrlybrkr=82811770>

## Just Drop-In



Just Drop-In is a registered charity that supports children and young people aged 11-25 who live in the north of Cheshire East (Macclesfield, Bollington, Wilmslow, Knutsford and Poynton.) Their expertise and operating model is embedded in Early Help and Prevention. All of their services are free of charge.

They are there to help and support children and young people who are finding life hard, to improve their mental health and wellbeing and help them to find their feet.

<https://www.justdropin.co.uk/resources-for-parents-and-young-people/>



Netball matches...

We took two brilliant teams to play a match against Gawsworth Primary School. Everyone played with ambition and perseverance!

### Scores-

Match 1 - score 13-1 to Gawsworth

Match 2- score 8-0 to Gawsworth

A note from the coach at Gawsworth ' *They played with passion and smile! They were always honest about balls going out etc and we are rooting for them!*



Mrs Roberts and Miss Davies took a group of the netball team to play some netball skill games at Macclesfield Academy. They completed a range of carousel activities to develop new skills to bring back to our tournaments!



## Quicksticks Hockey Tournament

Hockey is a sport that over the last couple of years we have become very good at and on Wednesday 28th January we took two teams (consisting of 12 pupils from Year 6) to compete in a Quicksticks Hockey tournament.

Once again we demonstrated our strength in this sport with both teams playing some fantastic hockey. Our B team finished 3rd overall, receiving a bronze medal, after a tournament record of 4 wins, 1 draw and 1 loss. Our A team finished in 5th place, with a tournament record of 2 wins, 1 draw and 3 losses.

We praised the determination and strength of our play, but we were also really proud of the pupils for their cooperation, teamwork and sportsmanship throughout.

We really hope the pupils that attended use the experience to continue to play hockey in the future.



## Chance 2 Shine Cricket



Year 1 has had a brilliant time learning new skills each Monday. Carys and Nigel have taught us how to bowl, catch and bat, all whilst playing fun games. We have learnt how to be part of a team too.

We definitely have some great cricketers!



## Football

The football season has returned after our customary winter break. We returned to training on Thursday 5th February and we played and are due to play a fixture on Thursday 12th February- final day of the half term (result to follow Spring 2 edition)

Remaining Fixtures:

Ivy Bank

Puss Bank

Kings

Upton Priory

Match reports and results to follow.

## School Term Dates 2025-26

Start of school year	School reopens on Wednesday 3rd September 2025 8.35am
	School will be <b>closed</b> to pupils on the following dates:
October Half Term (including Trust training day)	SCHOOL CLOSED - Friday 24th October 2025 - Friday 31st October 2025
Christmas holiday	School will close at 1.15pm on Friday 19th December 2025
	SCHOOL CLOSED - Monday 22nd December 2025 - Friday 2nd January 2026
INSET	SCHOOL CLOSED - Friday 16th January 2026
February Half Term (including INSET)	SCHOOL CLOSED - Friday 13th February 2026 - Friday 20th February 2026
Easter holiday	School will close at 1.15pm on Friday 27th March 2026
	SCHOOL CLOSED - Monday 30th March 2026 - Friday 10th April 2026
May Day	SCHOOL CLOSED - Monday 4th May 2026
May Half Term	SCHOOL CLOSED - Monday 25th May 2026 - Friday 29th May 2026
End of school year	School will close at 1.15pm on Friday 17th July 2026
Summer holiday (including INSET)	SCHOOL CLOSED - Monday 20th July 2026 - Monday 31st August 2026
<p><b>Provisional staff INSET training days</b> (SCHOOL CLOSED ON THE FOLLOWING DAYS)  Monday 1st September 2025, Tuesday 2nd September 2025, Friday 24th October 2025 (Trust training),  Friday 16th January 2026, Friday 13th February 2026, Monday 20th July 2026</p>	
PLEASE ENSURE ALL FAMILY HOLIDAYS ARE BOOKED OUTSIDE OF THESE TERM DATES.	

## Term Time Absence

Please may we remind all parents and carers that Headteachers may only grant leave of absence in term time **in exceptional circumstances**. All requests for absence **MUST** be put in writing to the Headteacher at least one month before the required date. If your request is not agreed it will be marked as unauthorised.

**Please note that 10 or more unauthorised sessions of absence (i.e. 5 days) may result in the issue of a Fixed Penalty Notice**

NEW FROM  
19/8/24

**Please refer to the new parent/carers guidance regarding changes to Fixed Penalty Notices**

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Christmas holiday	School will close at <b>1.15pm</b> on Friday 18th December 2026
	SCHOOL CLOSED - Monday 21st December 2026 - Friday 1st January 2027
February Half Term	SCHOOL CLOSED - Monday 15th February 2027 - Friday 19th February 2027
Easter holiday	School will close at <b>1.15pm</b> on Thursday 25th March 2027
	SCHOOL CLOSED - Friday 26th March 2027 - Friday 9th April 2027
May Day	SCHOOL CLOSED - Monday 3rd May 2027
May Half Term	SCHOOL CLOSED - Monday 31st May 2027 - Friday 4th June 2027
End of school year	School will close at <b>1.15pm</b> on Wednesday 21st July 2027
Summer holiday	SCHOOL CLOSED - Thursday 22nd July 2027 - Tuesday 31st August 2027
<p><b>Provisional staff training days</b> (SCHOOL CLOSED ON THE FOLLOWING DAYS)            Tuesday 1st September 2026, Wednesday 2nd September 2026, Friday 23rd October 2026 (Trust training),            3 further dates to be arranged</p>	
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## Fixed Penalty Notices – New Guidance for Parents and Carers

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force on 19 August 2024.

### Penalty Notices will be issued for:

**Term time leave:** Penalty Notice fines will be issued for term time leave of 5 or more consecutive days.

However, we retain the discretion to issue a Penalty Notice before the threshold is met. For example, where parents are deliberately avoiding the national threshold by taking several term time holidays below the penalty thresholds i.e. 3 days followed by a further 2 days later in the academic year.

**10 Sessions of Unauthorised absence in a rolling 10 week period:** A Penalty Notices may be considered when there have been 10 sessions of unauthorised absences in a 10 week period. Unauthorised absences include being late after registers have closed on 10 or more occasions.

### Per Parent/Per Child

Penalty Notice fines will continue to be issued per parent per child. For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

#### First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for term time leave or irregular school attendance the fine will be charged at:

£160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days of the issue, reducing to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

(Unpaid penalty notices may result in a parental prosecution)

#### Second Offence

Where it is deemed appropriate to issue a second penalty notice to the same parent for the same pupil within 3 years of the first penalty notice, for either term time leave or irregular attendance the second penalty notice will be charged at:

£160 if paid within 28 days. (Unpaid penalty notices may result in a parental prosecution)

#### Third Offence

On the third time that an offence is committed within 3 years of the first penalty notice for either a term time leave or irregular attendance a penalty notice will not be issued.

The case may proceed to Parental Prosecution under the Single Justice Procedure. If found guilty of the offence of 'Failure to send a child to school' the Magistrates can impose a fine up to £1000 or legal proceedings under Section 444 (1a) can include a fine of up to £2500.