

A learning community unified by
ambition and individuality

PALACE WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

On Monday this week, we held the first of our Open Mornings for prospective new parents. This is always an exciting time for new parents, but for us, it gave us the opportunity to look around our school and share with them the pride we have in the journey that we have been on, and continue to go through.

Since the start of this year, we have been working on the next phase of that journey and it is one that we are very excited about. You will have seen in the newsletters and perhaps in other areas, a few phrases appearing that perhaps hadn't been there before. The main one is 'A learning community unified by ambition and individuality'.

This is our vision. This is what we want for Palace Wood Primary School. We recognise that we are all learners: children, staff, governors and parents. We need to embrace and share this with each other. One of my favourite things about the school is the community spirit that surrounds it. We want to develop this even further so that the children feel part of and responsible for their community and the people in it. We continue to have high expectations for your children. We are ambitious in our goals and hope that we can look forward to even more success, academically and beyond. Finally, we respect individuality and difference, supporting others by developing empathy so that our children are well prepared for being excellent citizens in the wider world.

We believe very strongly in this vision. It is something that we think underpins the core values we have. This forms part of our wider, long term vision for the school. We will share this later in the year, but we hope that it will help us go from strength to strength in a way that is unique and specific to and for our school.

Diversity celebration

Starting the Monday after half term, the children will be celebrating diversity as a themed whole school topic. The aims are to celebrate diversity, understand what it means to be unique, promote friendships and an understanding of the positive impacts of diversity and also challenging stereotypes. It will also be a fantastic learning opportunity as there are so many exciting opportunities planned, such as yoga workshops, goal ball PE lessons, Spanish taster lessons and disability awareness lessons. On Wednesday 30th October, we are holding our first multi-cultural fair. Thank you to the parents who have signed up to run a stall at this event. Following on from what I am sure will be an exciting multi-cultural fair, the children will have our first House Day of the year (Thursday 31st October). Each child will be given a passport for the fair and the House Day. On the House Day they will be moving round in house groups to learn about different countries. Children are invited to wear their house colours on 31st October.

Throughout the week, the kitchen will be cooking one option per day from a different country to join in with our diversity celebrations. The menu for this is attached to the newsletter.

On Friday 8th November from 2:45pm, we would like to invite parents in to have a look at the work we have been doing. More details will follow.

Extended School Club

The Extended School Club has been up and running for this half term, and we have hopefully worked through the teething problems we had with the booking system. We thank you for your patience with this. We also have our first holiday club this half term, starting on the school INSET day – Friday 18th October. Please make sure you

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have booked on this by the end of the weekend. We may not be able to accept bookings after this time. If you have any feedback on the club, including suggestions, please email me –

headteacher@palacewood.kent.sch.uk

Parent Forum

Unfortunately, we had to cancel the Parent Forum scheduled for this week due to lack of numbers. We listened to the feedback you gave from the survey so tried to organise it for the best time for you and with the best focus. We will rearrange for next term.

Please could you email

parentforum@palacewood.kent.sch.uk to let us know if there is anything specific you want to cover. Please be aware, that this is an open session to discuss techniques we can all apply. It is something we can then hopefully share more widely after the meeting. If you have something specific about your child, please see your child's class teacher.

Half Term Approaches!

With half term fast approaching, you may be planning on some days out with the children.

Klook is your new one-stop destination for incredible days out across the country and beyond. Via its website and award-winning app, you can discover and book an eclectic range of experiences for up to 60% off.

Jam-packed with thoughtful features like weather forecasts, maps and immediate, in-app booking confirmations, with Klook there's no need to faff around with multiple browser tabs or print-outs. What's more, the Klook Price Guarantee means that if you find a cheaper ticket elsewhere, Klook will refund you double the difference.

With over 30 million users, 5 million user reviews, and availability in 350+

destinations worldwide, Klook is rapidly becoming one of the most trusted booking platforms in the world.

Klook wants to make half term as easy and affordable as possible and is partnering with schools across the country to give parents instant access to discounts on thousands of activities. Klook has agreed on a money-back scheme with our school so that any bookings made through the unique link will provide revenue for our school.

<https://www.klook.com/en-GB/about/>

Friends News

A few notices from the Friends:

- Don't forget to save/collect those 5ps for the 5p bottle challenge in each class.
- Don't forget Cyril the Squirrel!
- Thank you to everyone who came to the AGM on Monday. We now have a new committee in place for this academic year.

Standing down from the committee are Mrs Gibbons, Mrs Davies and Mrs Hartley. Their passion, drive and enthusiasm has been invaluable to the school and we are so grateful for everything they have done to support Palace Wood and the children. Please make sure you thank them if you see them on around the school.

Open Mornings

Do you, or anyone else you know, have a child due to start school in September 2020 (born between 1.9.15 and 31.8.16). If so, we have good news! Our open mornings to come and visit the school are:

- Wednesday 16th October
- Monday 4th November
- Friday 22nd November

Please contact Mrs Smith in the school office (office@palacewood.kent.sch.uk or 01622 750084) if you would like to book to come and see us.

Alfie and Percy - Attendance and Punctuality

Percentage Attendance		No. of Lates	
Sheeran	96.06	Sheeran	13
Yarnold	95.43	Yarnold	2
Hawking	97.70	Hawking	4
Rowling	97.30	Rowling	2

Overall weekly Attendance 96.62%

Attendance

This week **Hawking** have had the highest attendance, and **Yarnold** and **Rowling** share the best punctuality.

Oakwood Park Maths Competition

Yesterday saw the annual Maths Competition at Oakwood Park Grammar School. As reigning champions, expectations were high. After gruelling rounds of maths, lots of mathematical thinking and a fantastic attitude, we are delighted to tell you that we retained our title. The children were amazing, winning every round on their way to victory! Well done Palace Wood!



Cross Country

The cross country event took place on the 26th September. Children were selected to represent our school. So we left school and we went to Mote Park because that was where the cross country race was. We all went to meet at the café and then we all went up the hill and warmed up and got ready. It was the year 3 and 4 girls first so the girls got on the line ready to start. The girls started to run and they went around curves and up hills and back round. The girls came 1st and 3rd.

Now it was the year 3 and 4 boys, it was very popular. The boys lined up for the race and the boys got ready. The boys went and some children from Palace fell over but we were so determined we got up and carried on. The boys went around corners and hills and we got 3rd, 7th and 10th. The year 5 and 6 children also represented our school and

showed such resilience it was great to watch them.

At the end we were sweating and our legs were moving less and we needed water. When we got to the end we had to take a number and give it to Mr Boyce and Miss Horne. We are all so proud of our selves as it was a long track, we all completed it and congratulated each other. Even though some of us found it hard we all enjoyed it. It was a great atmosphere having people watch us and cheer us on.

Report by Evan – Panthers

And finally

Thank you to all of our parent helpers who we really couldn't do without. This week you helped our children experience the Harvest celebration at the church as well as accompanying our children on a Writers' Day. We are so grateful for your support of Palace Wood

Mr Chatley

Letters/Parentmails home this week:

All	SchoolsBuddy, Online Safety, Parent Forum
Cross	Swimming
EYFS	Reminders
Yr6	Science Club Cancelled
Yr5/6	Blogging Club Cancelled
Yr3	Musical Performance

Dates for your Diary (new dates in red)

16 Oct	Open Day 9.30 am
18 Oct	Holiday Club until 25 Oct
28 Oct	Diversity Week
30 Oct	Multi-Cultural Fair
	Yr R & Yr 6 Height & Weight Checks
31 Oct	House Day
	Deadline to apply for secondary school
4 Nov	Open Day 9.30
5/6 Nov	Consultations (bookings open next week)
8 Nov	Flu immunisation – whole school
	2.45 Parents invited to view work
22 Nov	Open Day 9.30

INSET Days, when school is closed to children, are:

1. 18 October 2019
2. 18 December 2019
3. 16 April 2020
4. 17 April 2020
5. 1 June 2020