

PALACE WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Houses continue...

This week was an exciting week. We launched the new houses at the start of this term, but we always said that we wanted them to be much more than they were before. We have had lots of ideas of things that we want to do, and we are sure the children will too. One of the things that all of the staff wanted to instigate was House assemblies and House captains. This week saw these two ideas come together as one.

As you know, all staff (except me!) are in one of our four houses, so all of the children and staff went to the location of their house assembly. The Year 6 children had been asked about standing as House Captains and many had prepared speeches, detailing why they felt that they would be the perfect candidate for the job. They then presented to the rest of the children and staff in their House in the assembly.

The whole thing was a huge success. The children presented incredibly well, with many staff coming to tell me directly of how passionately, eloquently and confidently the children had spoken. Supporting our fundamental British values, we then conducted a vote to elect our new House captains. Upon finding out the results, there was obviously joy from some, but disappointment from others. However, the children should yet again be praised for their conduct, as everyone was gracious and humble when they found out the result.

Such was the excitement and buzz around the whole thing, the new House Captains immediately wanted to know when the next House assembly was going to be, and they have already started planning the content of it.



Our House Captains are:

Rowling – Billy and Abi

Hawking – Flynn and Freya

Sheeran – Zach and Lois

Yarnold – Finn and Mollie

We have also given all children a house badge, so that they can identify other children in their house. We hope that this will help instil the team spirit across the houses. The badges are not a formal part of school uniform, but if you lose your badge, replacements can be purchased from the school office for 10p.



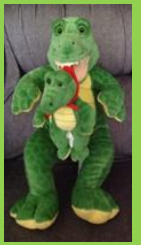
Superstar Corner

Tilly (Panthers) competed in her second Sports Hall Athletics event at the weekend for Paddock Wood Athletics Club Under 11's, her team came 3rd out of 28 teams! Tilly was the youngest in her team and one of the youngest taking part. She competed in 2 relays, triple jump, vertical jump, speed bounce, high steppers and chest push throw.

Alfie the Attendance Alligator - weekly attendance



Rhinos	97.7%	Panthers	93.8%	Bears	95.0%
Hippos	96.6%	Monkeys	96.3%	Giraffes	98.7%
Tigers	94.8%	Crocodiles	97.0%	Elephants	97.2%
Lions	96.1%	Pandas	93.4%	Penguins	95.6%
Leopards	95.0%	Zebras	98.0%		



Overall weekly Attendance - 96.1%



Kent School Cross Country Event

On Saturday 17th November, me, Henry, Ewan and Kate went to the Kent Schools Cross Country Championship at the Detling Showground. We got there an hour early so we could put on our timing chips and race numbers. We also walked the course so that we would know where to go.

Finally, it was time for our first race, Year 4 boys, my race. I lined up with the other boys for the race to begin. When the starting horn sounded, we all set off. I finished 9th out of 170 children.

After my race, it was Kate's turn to race with all the other Year 4 girls. Kate finished a very good 73rd out of 164.

Henry and Ewan's race was a little later on. Henry came 21st and Ewan 74th out of 156. It was a good day and we all had fun.
Report by Freddie – Leopards



Road Safety Week

Next week, we will be supporting road safety awareness week. I'm sure you will all agree that this is a hugely important campaign. We will be using the THINK website to support our teaching. The children will be learning about topics such as the importance of seat belts, road crossing using the Green Cross Code, being seen in the dark and for our older pupils, the impact of wearing

headphones or being distracted by mobile phones. **Next Friday (30th November)** all children are invited to wear either red, orange or green coloured or stripy clothing to represent safe crossing at traffic lights or a zebra crossing to raise awareness of safe road crossing. There is no donation for this.

Also, keep your eyes peeled for our children in the morning, as we will be coming to make sure that parents are parking safely!

And finally

I don't know if anyone has been watching the documentary on BBC2 about schools – called School. If you haven't seen any of it, I would urge you to watch it on catch up if you can, and the remaining episodes. I am not usually a fan of school programmes, as I find them awkward to watch, but this paints an excellent reflection of the challenges we face in education at the moment.

Mr Chatley

Letters sent home this week:

All	Parent Governor Election Christmas Lunch booking form
EYFS	Extra Christmas Performance
KS1	Maths Vocabulary
Yr2	Toys from the Past
Yr5	Kingswood Meeting

Dates for your Diary: (new dates in red)

Fri 30/11	Wear traffic light colours/zebra crossing clothes
Wed 28/11	YrR & Yr6 Height & Weight check
Weds 5/12	Yr4 Christmas Show 2.30
Thurs 6/12	EYFS Christmas Show 2.30
Fri 7/12	EYFS Christmas Show 2.30
Fri 7/12	Oaks' Disco 6.30 – 8.00
Tues 11/12	Year 2 Christmas Show 2.30
Weds 12/12	Christmas Lunch Christmas Jumper Day
Weds 19/12	INSET Day

Term Dates:

Christmas holiday 20 December – 2nd January
Children return to school on Thursday 3rd January