



PALACE WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

It's been another busy week of learning at Palace Wood. The children have been continuing their fantastic efforts in school and we are really seeing their hard work pay off.

Learning is a marathon, not a sprint. To an extent, we are always learning and always developing. The teachers continue to evaluate our curriculum to ensure that it will best suit the current needs of our children and this is vital to ensure that we build strong learning foundations for them to develop and grow together.

COVID updates

Thankfully (he says crossing his fingers and touching wood!) we have not had any positive COVID cases on returning to school. Although we know that there is an element of luck involved there, we also know how important your role is in that. We have asked a lot of you regarding the additional guidance for keeping school safe and I wanted to say thank you again for all that you have done. By working together we can continue to avoid disruption and keep our children in school.

As you no doubt know, I am very COVID aware and try to read widely about the subject so that I can keep everyone safe. Research from the last two weeks, unsurprisingly, shows an increase in the number of positive cases in children aged between 4 and 15. With schools

going back and with secondary age pupils subject to more testing, this was always going to be the case, but it is still worth bearing in mind that we need to continue to be vigilant. On Monday, unless something significant happens, the next phase of the relaxation of measures will come into place. I am sure you are all looking forward to this as it means that there is an opportunity to see family again – I have a 3 month old niece who I am yet to meet!

In addition, from 12th April, which will still be in the Easter holidays, there are further restrictions to be lifted. Again, this is very exciting news and hopefully paves the way for a return to a more normal way of living.

I would ask that, as you have been throughout the pandemic, you are respectful of these guidelines and continue to follow them so that we can all continue moving forwards. Staying safe, not taking undue risks or breaching the rules will continue to enable schools to remain open and avoid the words that no one wants to read – your child's bubble has been closed!

PoetsIN

Thank you to everyone who came in own clothes today to support Charlotte, one of the staff in Whales class, who will be running the marathon for PoetsIN. It's so wonderful that we can support friends and colleagues in this way and I know the charity will be very grateful for your donations. Thank you also to Charlotte who painstakingly organised individual goodie bags for everyone in a COVID secure way (I'm not sure I could have quarantined all the goodies without eating some of them!)

Easter Holiday Club

We are still running our Holiday club over the Easter Holidays, with the exception of the Bank Holidays on Friday 2nd and Monday 5th April. You can book on for the whole day, or a morning or afternoon session, using the SchoolsBuddy system.

Red Nose Day

Thank you to everyone who donated via our Just Giving page to Comic Relief's Red Nose Day. We raised an amazing: £580 + £102 gift aid. This is a record for Palace Wood!

And finally

It is the anniversary tomorrow in 1898 of the first international transmission of a radio message. It was sent by Marconi across the English Channel - from France to England. The message was to 'The Times' newspaper from a correspondent in northern France. This was the message that was broadcast:

"Communication between England and the Continent was set up yesterday morning by the Marconi system of wireless telegraphy.... Signor Marconi is here conducting the trials and is very satisfied with the results."

It's amazing to think how far we have all come in that time. Things like Zoom, Teams,

WhatsApp, FaceTime and many others have become part of our daily lives and helped us to stay connected when obstacles were put in our way. As hard as everything has undoubtedly been, I for one am grateful that we have had the technology around us to be in the position that we have been in, able to see and hear from the people around us.

Have a great weekend

Mark Chatley

Dates:

7 June	INSET day
15 June	Class Photos

Letters sent home (parentmails)

All	Non-uniform day reminder
	School Dinner on 1 st April
Elep'	Snacks & Drinks
Yr6	Mobile Phones
	Transition Tips