



# PALACE WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers

Sports week has been a great success. The children have loved the opportunity to compete in different activities and come together as a year group. Spreading the events across the week has meant that each year group has had plenty of space and this had led to a calm and enjoyable atmosphere. I've popped out and spoken to children every day and they have all been very positive about the day. A big thank you to Miss Horne, Team Theme and our Year 6 sports leads who have all been busy making sure the week has run smoothly.

## **Parent Working Party**

The first parent working party meeting took place on Tuesday and it was great to spend time with parents to get their views on different aspects of school life. We discussed the following –

- 1) Staggered start and end times - this led to the questionnaire being sent out to all parents. I will send out the confirmed school times for September early next week.
- 2) PE kits being worn on PE days - this led to a great discussion and the positives for continuing with this outweighed the negatives. Therefore, in September we ask that children continue to wear PE kit on their PE day. We will aim to keep PE days the same and not change them as regularly as has happened this year.
- 3) School lunches – there was a discussion around portion size and that this is sometimes not adequate for the older children and those who are more active. I will be meeting with our school dinner provider in the near future to discuss those points raised. We also discussed healthy packed lunches and the need for this to be revisited in September.
- 4) Use of school grounds – this led to a great discussion about the endless possibilities for developing the school grounds and what children and parents would like to see. A dialogue on a possible forest school area has already started because of this meeting. More details to follow.

Thank you to those parents who were able to join the meeting. I will send out dates and times of the next meeting early in September.

## **Transition**

Children have continued with their transition activities this week including visits to Oaks for the new Year 3 children and all class teachers have now seen and said hello to their new classes.

Have a lovely weekend  
Mrs Cairns

# Congratulations to Sheeran who were the overall winners of Sports Week



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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	School open as normal, but football fans may arrive up to 10.30. (Book school lunch by 9.30 am please)
	Year 6 Activities Week
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 BBQ 6-7.30 pm
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Reports to Parents
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Farmers' Market 9-12 am (children only)
	Teddy Bears' Picnic for New Entrant Children 2-3 pm
	Book Look, Years 3 & 5 @ 2.45 pm
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Teddy Bears' Picnic for New Entrant Children 2-3 pm
	Book Look, Years 1, 2, 4, 6 @ 9 am
	Break Up – normal time

## INSET DAYS FOR NEXT YEAR

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021,  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021,  
Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022,  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022

## UPDATES, REMINDERS AND NOTICES

Danny Smith's named Next coat, beige and blue, age 7/8 has gone missing from Leopards. Please could everyone check that it hasn't come home by accident?

Children moving to Year 1 in September may now have a backpack if they wish. The correct size bags are available through your parentmail account (£10); please see the Year 1 letter sent on Wednesday.

### SEN: Additional Assessments to inform Teaching and Learning

Following settling back into school life after the partial school closure, teachers have been working with their classes to identify any gaps in learning. This information will be passed on to the next teacher, too. As part of our usual practice, we sometimes supplement reading, writing and maths assessments with non-verbal reasoning, vocabulary and language screeners. These are usually done on a 1:1 basis with a teaching assistant who the child knows well. The scores can be helpful to inform next steps for the child's learning, or to identify gaps that other tests do not show. If it is felt that your child needs additional support that is significantly above what is considered 'universal teaching', either myself or your child's class teacher will discuss this with you so that you are fully informed and perhaps provide some extra help in certain areas at home too.

As always, please get in touch if you have any questions or concerns about your child's academic support or their emotional wellbeing. My working days are Monday-Wednesday and I will get back to you as soon as I can. Mrs Root (AHT/SENCO) [amy.root@palacewood.kent.sch.uk](mailto:amy.root@palacewood.kent.sch.uk)

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This week in **EYFS**, the children have continued their Minibeast investigations, learning all about bees. The children were amazed to find out just how important they are to us and the environment.

Today we had a visit from 'Perform'. The children had a wonderful time going on an undersea adventure to hunt for the Magic Pearl!





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This week in **Year 1** we have been starting a new text in our English lessons, 'The Train Ride'. We have looked at lots of experience days to see what the journey's might look like in the city and in the country. In our written work we have been focusing on using repetition, onomatopoeia and the use of questions. In maths we have been continuing on our work with number. In History we looked at what goes on in a castle. The children were especially excited by the jousting and ferreting! In Music we have used the glockenspiels to help us with our composition. We thoroughly enjoyed our sports day with the archery being many of our favourites.



**Year 2** have continued their DT learning this week, by learning how to sew using over stitch. They are learning new skills by making a sea turtle. The children are enjoying their work, though sometimes tricky, but they are very proud of it.



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This week, for DT, **Year 3** have started to produce their 3D models of the water cycle using recycled materials. Firstly, they drew the background designs on to their box, making sure that every stage of the cycle was shown. Next week, they will be painting and adding 3D elements to help bring to life the fascinating journey that a drop of water takes.



This week **Year 4** have really enjoyed Sports Week. We had a great time on the field competing to gain points for our houses. We also enjoyed completing different activities based on the Olympics in class. We found out about different Olympians and designed our own Olympic T-shirts and medals. We have been lucky enough to have Mrs Jenner help plant some flowers in the flower bed outside Year 4. Thank you to other parents that have brought in flowers and compost it is much appreciated.





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**Year 5** had a wonderful time at the science workshop all about forces. We learned about mass and how it affects the pulling and pushing of gravity, air resistance and water resistance. We saw how friction affects the speed and mass of objects while measuring in Newtons. We also learned how pulleys, levers and cogs can help solve problems. We had a great time investigating and learning!



**Year 6** have been busy creating instructions and packs for the younger children to make items for their farmers market. We have also had a very successful sports day, many thanks to the sports helpers who did a grand job. In our Art lessons we have been looking at perspective and used these skills to create our own book jackets for our English text 'The Graveyard Book'.

(Please see Twitter for photos this week.)

At **After School Club** this week's theme was 'The Greatest Showman' one of the activities the children made top hats. They all were very proud of their hats. Today (Friday) they were able to watch the film. They are big fans of the songs and joined in.



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SUPER  
STAR

SUPER  
STAR

SUPER  
STAR

SUPER  
STAR



Menaal has just started gymnastics at a new place and she has done really well settling in and has received her level 1 award.

Amelia from Zebras has achieved her yellow belt in Taekwondo and been enrolled in 2nd Allington Brownies.



Benjamin had his investiture at Beavers on Monday. He was very happy to become a full member of Allington Beavers.

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Rowling achieved the most team points again this week.

## This Week's Always Children

Elephants: Matty	Penguins: Scott
Bears: Forence	Giraffes: Arijus
Pandas: Ben	Zebras: Elena
Crocodiles: Lucas	Monkeys: Sulli
Leopards: Mason	Panthers: Aiden
Lions: Mustafa	Tigers: Ethan
Hippos: Poppy	Rhinos: Kate

At Palace Wood we  
Give it our best  
Respect one another  
Overcome obstacles  
Work together

**Mrs Cairns' Special Mention Children:**  
Freddie, Noah H, Olivia, Poppy, Tristan, Caitlin and Oliver in Hippos  
Noah C, Henry, Kyle, Kate, Emilia and Srinika and Jessica in Rhinos,  
for their help with Sports this week.