



Papillon House School Newsletter

Autumn Term 2 - Friday 7th November 2025



Dear Parents/Guardians,

It was great to see everybody back in school on Monday for the 'Christmas Term'. We have lots of activities planned during the term including marking Remembrance, supporting Children in Need and anticipate having lots of fun practicing for our Christmas performance! (More details to follow.) Classes will also be starting their new Autumn Term 2 topics, of which a full overview is at the end of this newsletter.

Our children and young people have been incredibly patient whilst the playground was being refurbished, and they finally got to try it out this week. We have had lots of positive feedback from pupils and staff, the swings and climbing frame have both proved quite popular! Thank you to Ahiyan and Archie for cutting the ribbon at the 'grand opening' this week!

Primary Department News

Caterpillar Class have enjoyed the new playground this week, using the new equipment to swing, climb and bounce! In science, they explored different activities involving lemons and were encouraged to smell, touch and even taste the lemons! Our attention circles have focussed on fireworks, and in cooking they made sparkler biscuits. We had a lovely trip to Jubilee Woodlands yesterday and they all loved exploring and climbing on the equipment. In music, Caterpillar Class explored a selection of instruments, in particular they enjoyed playing the keyboard.

Meadow Class have started their new topic of 'Circus School' and have listened to the story "You See a Circus, I See..." by Mike Downs. The children enjoyed learning about Bonfire Night and have made some beautiful firework paintings in making as well as fruit rockets and bonfire apples in cooking. On Thursday, all children started a new fine motor session with the OT therapists and really enjoyed this.

Peacock Class have been learning about seasons in science and went on a nice autumnal walk in Jubilee Woodlands. We have enjoyed listening to the story 'The Boy, The Troll and the Chalk' in English and then in making we used chalk to create our own art work. In Maths we have been looking at shapes and printing shapes using paint. On Friday we visited Redhill and chose some party food in Poundland and then had hot chocolate in Costa. We had lots of fun at Erin's birthday party in the afternoon.

Class Topics - Autumn Term 2

(Please see a full overview of this half terms topics at the end of this newsletter.)

Caterpillar Class – Reach for the Stars

Meadow Class – Circus School

Peacock Class – Exploring Art

Swallowtail Class – Christmas Songs and Poems

Monarch Class – Christmas Around the World

Admiral Class – Plays

Emperor Class – Modern Music

Reminders & Requests

Friday 14th November is 'Children in Need' day. All our children and young people are invited to wear a 'fitness-themed' outfit and bring in a £2 donation which will go directly to Children in Need. Papillon will be organising a sponsored exercise class, differentiated for all abilities. An optional sponsor form is attached to this newsletter if you would like to ask family and friends to sponsor us!

Photo Gallery



Secondary Department News

Swallowtail Class had great fun in cooking this week making edible sparklers, bacon sandwiches and egg sandwiches. The pupils attended swimming on Tuesday morning and all continue to improve every week. Well done Aiden who swam an entire length of the pool and to Logan who jumped in the deep end and managed to touch the bottom of the pool! Mia and Aahil have both been working hard in their maths sessions and have moved up into a new group! Swallowtail Class enjoyed a music session yesterday beating drums to rhythm to music and took turns to choose songs.

Monarch Class were introduced to our new topic, 'Christmas Around the World', focusing this week on celebrations that are happening at this time of the year such as Halloween, Bonfire Night and Dia de los Muertos. We enjoyed making traditional Greek biscuits and did lots of fantastic phonics work throughout the week. In making this week, we decorated pictures of sugar skulls for Dia de los Muertos and we also learned about the Gunpowder Plot and how we can keep ourselves safe on Bonfire Night before making our own firework pictures. The children also enjoyed exploring our newly refurbished playground and have had a lot of fun using the new equipment.

Admiral Class have been learning about our new topic 'Plays'. We discussed that we will be reading Macbeth and how this links to our topic. Some learners continued with tennis, learning to volley the ball when returning a pass. In our Jigsaw lesson we discussed being an individual and the importance of thinking for ourselves. Also, in White Rose Maths we have continued with the topic of mass and capacity. Some learners made bonfire pictures using paint and blowing straws to make the fireworks, and in cooking we made mac and cheese and scrambled egg on toast. Yummy!

Emperor Class have had a great first week back after the half term break. We all thoroughly enjoyed our trip to Chessington Garden Centre where we looked at all the wonderful Christmas products for sale, had a snack in the cafe, and looked at all the interesting fish and reptiles. The class have also enjoyed learning about Evelyn Glennie and experimenting with body percussion, making some fantastic sounds.

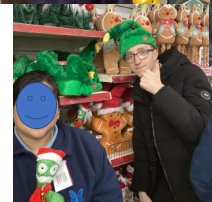
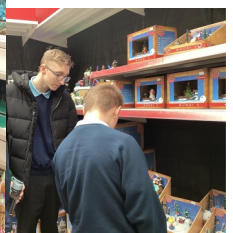
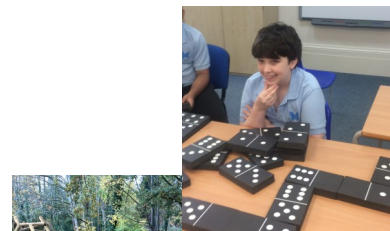
Stars of the Week

Our "Stars" this week are:

- Caterpillar** Matilda for "exploring different instruments and taking turns with the keyboard."
- Meadow** Tiana for "amazing cooking this week, cooking a fruit rocket and making bonfire apples."
- Peacock** Cruz for "enjoying the new playground and using it sensibly."
- Swallowtail** Aiden for "swimming the length of the pool using a float to support him."



Photo Gallery



Birthdays

Aiden (Swallowtail Class) celebrated his birthday this week and received some Lego. They all enjoyed a party with lots of white chocolate!

Erin (SNA in Peacock Class) celebrated her 'big' birthday this week and received a hot water bottle, chocolates and socks.

Therapy

Joshua has been doing very well with his AAC device. He linked a complex 3-part sequence to request his favourite activity – dance. Whilst dancing, Joshua spontaneously made a comment: “awesome dancing!”. He has also really enjoyed singing songs using a microphone.

Monika Persechino - Speech and Language Therapy Assistant

A huge well done to Tommie in Meadow Class for great engagement in his first 1:1 OT session of the half term. Tommie enjoyed exploring movement using the apparatus and the frog swing, as well as making movements in front of the coloured mirrors. *Claire Messom, Occupational Therapist.*

Amberley is continuing to improve her communication and interaction skills. Recently, she has shown good understanding of turn taking and enjoyment from shared attention and interaction with an adult. *Monika Persechino - Speech and Language Therapy Assistant*

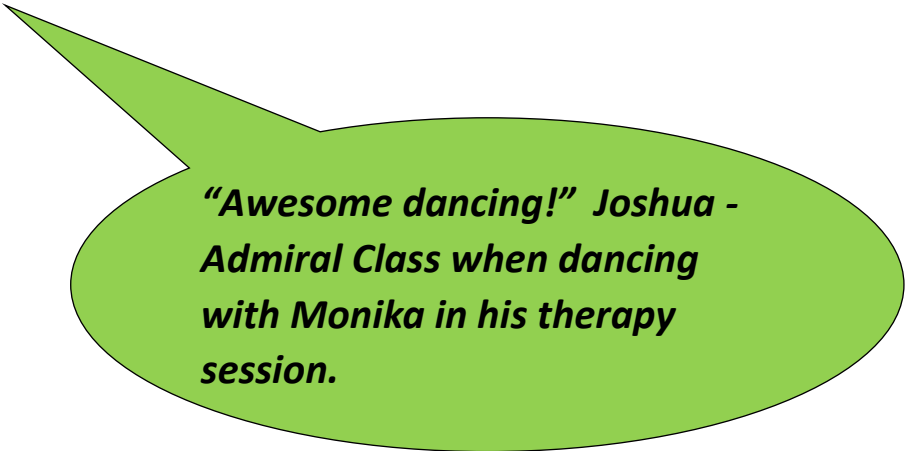
Important Dates

Diary Dates

Below is a list of events taking place in the Autumn Term. Further information will be sent nearer the time. The assembly theme for next week is ‘Remembrance.’

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Friday	14th November	All day	Children in Need ‘fitness-themed’ mufti day
Monday	17th November	am	Hairdresser visiting
Wednesday	10th December	All day	Primary visit to Hobbledown Adventure Farm Park
Thursday	11th December	All day	Christmas jumper day
Wednesday	17th December	pm	Papillon Christmas performance
Friday	19th December	2pm	End of Autumn Term 2

Papillon ‘Quote of the Week’



“Awesome dancing!” Joshua - Admiral Class when dancing with Monika in his therapy session.

Key Contacts

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CATERPILLAR CLASS



Our topic this half term is **'Reach for the Stars'**. Our book focuses will be 'Whatever Next' by Jill Murphy and 'Tiny Little Rocket' by David Fickling. There will also be two weeks where we focus on Christmas. The children will learn new topical vocabulary, which will include the appropriate Makaton signs.

The children will have regular opportunities to participate in attention circles and will play turn taking games with their peers. The attention circles will be sensory based and linked to our topic and other areas of learning.

When in the library, the children will be encouraged to explore different books and share their books with an adult or on their own. In phonics, they will focus on a different sound each week. They will then complete activities linked to the letter. The children will explore a variety of instruments and listen to different sounds. Caterpillar Class will experience lessons from our 'Charanga' music scheme. The children complete different mark making activities and will attend to a fine motor session each week to strengthen their hand and finger muscles.

In Maths, we will be listening to different number songs and learning about different numbers. The children will be encouraged to join in with the songs and given time to explore the different the number rhyme props. Each week we will focus on a different number, and we will look at different ways that the number is shown.

Our science topic is 'senses'. We complete activities that involve us using our senses. Each week we will focus on a different scent, texture and sound. The children will then explore different activities at their own pace with encouragement from us.

Caterpillar Class will be cooking every Friday. They will be encouraged to use different utensils and will explore different foods to touch and eat. They will be making edible sparklers, sandwiches, Christmas biscuits and pizzas.

During making we will be exploring space. The children will be encouraged to make stars, planets, space rockets and the moon. We will use a range of materials and colours to complete the activities.

Every Thursday we will continue to go cycling. The children will be encouraged to wear a helmet and use the bikes around the track. On our community visits will be heading to local woodlands, supermarkets and local parks. We are also looking forward to our day trip to Hobbledown to see Father Christmas.

It's going to be a lovely half term!

Lauren & the Caterpillar Team

MEADOW CLASS



Meadow's topic this term is '**Circus School**' where we will be looking at the different types of circus skills as well as the various acts that you can see when you're at the circus! In the first week, we will be focusing on Bonfire Night and fireworks. The children will be making fruit rockets and breadstick sparklers and creating firework pictures in making as well as taking part in some firework-themed sensory activities. Then, in the second week, we will be thinking about our favourite circus acts and characters as well as reading a story "You See a Circus, I See..." by Mike Downs. We will be using this book to refer back to in topic sessions. In the third week, we will be continuing to extend our learning about the circus by considering famous circus performers and ringmasters such as P.T. Barnum (from The Greatest Showman!) We will look at where they lived and what their special acts were. Additionally, in the fourth week we will be focusing on carrying out some circus skills in class such as juggling and performing. We will also start reading our next story, "If I Ran the Circus" by one of my favourite authors, Dr. Seuss!

As we move into the fifth week the class will be looking at combining our favourite circus acts and characters, seeing if we can carry out some role play in class. As we move into the last few weeks of the half term, Meadow Class will be doing some writing and drawing about the circus at Christmas time, thinking about why the circus is so popular with families and children. The last story related to this topic, "Circus Girl" by Jana Novotny Hunter will be read to the class. The last few lessons will be based on what we have learnt about in this topic and will ultimately conclude "Circus School". The class will also be carrying out many Christmas and winter-themed lessons throughout the term, concluding with a whole-school performance!

This half term, we will be aiming to visit ASDA supermarket, Redhill Memorial Park, Preston Park in Tadworth, Priory Park, Banstead Library as well as LIDL supermarket on our community visits. We will also be visiting Epsom's Harrier Centre again this term with Meadow children going cycling on Thursday mornings.

In our maths lessons, Meadow Class will continue to follow White Rose Maths this term where some of them will be looking at time and comparing larger numbers whereas others will be focusing on beginning to order number names and hearing/saying number names. In their English sessions, some children are continuing to match pictures to some short words as well as learn how to hold pencils correctly, some using a grip, and trace over letter formation words. Additionally, other children will be focusing on improvising short drama pieces and making contributions to group writing tasks. We will also be carrying out our exciting phonics sessions each week using the Twinkl scheme of work which I know the class enjoy very much. Thank you to all parents who have been reading with their children at home, it has been lovely to see this recorded in their reading records and we will continue to send new books home every Thursday.

The class will also be continuing to carry out the Jigsaw PSHE sessions in class which mix different songs, discussion points and games to make for a fun and interactive lesson. Our topic for PSHE this term is 'Celebrating Difference'. For science sessions, Meadow Class will be starting some physics-based sessions and our topics for these sessions this half term will be 'Changes in Winter' and 'Night and Day'. Additionally, the class will be cooking different foods in cooking sessions on a Monday based on our 'Circus School' topic with Teresa, which will include fruit salads and circus tent cakes.

The class have all been extremely patient waiting for the new playground to open, and this week they have been enjoying exploring all aspects of the new equipment. I would encourage you to come and see this when you're next visiting school – it is quite impressive!

Alex and the Meadow Class Team

PEACOCK CLASS



Our topic this half term is '**Exploring Art**'. We will be exploring all sorts of the different types of art and different ways to be artistic. We will explore different materials, tools and resources that can be used to create art! We will use chalk, charcoal, paint and collage materials to create a variety of art. We will think a little about symmetry and finishing off a half started painting/drawing. We will look at colour mixing and use the primary colours to create some secondary colours. We will also look at mistakes and how we can turn accidental drips and smudges into new creations!

In **English** we will continue with our regular phonics sessions using phonemes to blend and read words. We will also be focusing on a range of texts based on our topic. We will read 'The Boy the Chalk and the Troll', we will look at 'Beautiful Oops' and 'Aaron Slater, Illustrator' as well as 'The Pencil'. These stories will help us to develop our vocabulary and in turn support our topic learning.

During our off-site visits we will be visiting some local shops to find some art supplies and maybe even get to see some art work displays.

Our off-site **physical activity** this half term will continue to be horse riding on a Thursday. Please ensure the children have jogging bottoms and wellies with them. In school **PE** will be on a Friday, please ensure PE kits are in school and named.

In **Maths** we will continue to follow the White Rose Scheme. We will begin by looking at 2D and 3D shapes, spotting where we see these shapes in our everyday lives. Then we will be making and continuing patterns using shapes. We will aim to then start looking at our numbers from 10 to 20, building them using manipulatives and part whole models to see the different ways these numbers can be made.

During **cooking** we will be making art with food! We will use shaped cutters to create shapes out of sandwiches, biscuits and icing. Towards the end of the half term we will be thinking about some Christmas treats too!

For **Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education** our focus will be 'Celebrating Difference'. We will be thinking about all the ways in which we are unique! In **ICT** we will be continuing to learn about the internet.

We will also be participating in the usual Papillon Christmas festivities. These include learning about the Nativity Story and why it is important for Christians, our Christmas performance and making Christmas crafts and yummy treats.

We are looking forward to another fun filled half-term!

Natalie & the Peacock Class Team

SWALLOWTAIL CLASS



Swallowtail Class have come back into school after half term with lots of enthusiasm and excitement for our new playground! It has been great to see them enjoying the new equipment.

This term, our topic is **'Christmas Songs and Poems'**.

In English we will start the half term by looking at 'The Firework Poem' by James Carter and looking at descriptive words and how they can be used. Then look at the story of 'The Snowman' and how the music makes the story more emotive. We will then look at the classic Christmas poem 'Twas the Night before Christmas' and writing our own versions.

In Maths, we will continue with the Streamed White Rose sessions, this term will be focused on place value, with some of us learning about addition and subtraction.

Science lessons will focus on nutrition and diet, with some pupils looking at the different food groups and what they do for the human body and others looking at and tasting different types of food. This will of course include some Christmas treats!

Our Jigsaw PSHE topic is 'Celebrating Difference'. This will include exploring what 'normal' means and identifying and celebrating difference. This will also be taught in assemblies.

Topic work will be focussed on Christmas poems and songs, as well as music from our 'Charanga' music scheme. Pupils will be creating model fireworks and learning about snow.

Swallowtail Class will of course be enjoying the usual Papillon Christmas festivities with Christmas crafts, baking and our usual events such as Christmas fair and dinner, finishing with our Christmas show 'Merry Poppins!'. We are looking forward to a fun and full half term!

Swallowtail Class Team

MONARCH CLASS



Our topic for the next seven weeks is **'Christmas Around the World'**. This week, we introduced our topic and started by identifying different countries on a map of the world, where we live on our planet and introduced some current festivities happening around this time including Halloween, Bonfire Night and The Mexican celebration Dia de los Muertos. In week 2, we will learn about Remembrance Day and the celebration of Loy Krathong (Thailand). In week 3, we will learn about the American holiday, Thanksgiving and the Jewish celebration Hanukkah. From week 4 onwards, the children will be learning more specifically about Christmas celebrations around the world, and how this is celebrated in different countries such as Norway, Mexico and the Philippines. We will also learn about different traditions around gift giving and Father Christmas, such as the Yule Goat who delivers presents at Christmas and The Spanish tradition of Caga Tio. The children will also participate in their own self-directed research projects, choosing a country and learning about how Christmas is celebrated there. Our focus books for this half term are *The Australian Twelve Days of Christmas*, *Christmas Around the World* by Lesley Sims and *Joy to the World!* By Kate DePalma.

We will be continuing with our off-site activity, swimming, for the remainder of the term. This will take place every Tuesday morning so please do remember to keep sending your child in on this day with a swim kit inside a named bag. This should include swim clothes and a towel. You can also send in shower gel if you would like to.

For our White Rose Maths sessions, some of us will be moving on to a new area of focus; mass and capacity and will explore standard units of measurement, whilst others move on to building their understanding of addition and subtraction.

For our White Rose Science sessions, we will continue with our biology focus on animals and what they need to survive, before moving on to our new 'humans' and what we need to live a healthy lifestyle (exercise, hygiene, having a healthy diet etc.).

In our Jigsaw PSHE sessions, we will be focusing on our new topic 'Celebrating Difference'. We will learn about discrimination and prejudice, judging by appearances and how to identify bullying behaviours and how this can impact on the people being bullied.

Our ICT focus this half term is the Twinkl Scheme of work, 'Programming Toys' where our pupils will be introduced to the principles of programming and algorithms through the use of Bee-Bots (or similar programmable toys). We also have some pupils exploring 'Kodu Programming', a programming language made specifically for creating games.

Our R.E. focus this half term is The Bible and The Nativity and why these are important for Christians. We will spend the first half of this term learning about the Bible, the different testaments and learning some of the important stories within it, before moving on to learning about the Nativity, who Jesus was and the events surrounding his birth.

If there is any other information you would like me to provide you with or if you have any questions, please do get in touch.

Nikki and the Monarch Class Team

ADMIRAL CLASS



This half term our topic is **'Plays'**. We will be investigating how plays are created- from someone having an idea to the first day of the show. We will be looking at the different parts of the theatre and its history of development. As part of this topic, we will learn about Shakespeare's Globe Theatre.

This term we will be continuing with our physical activity playing tennis. This will be on a Monday at the Ebbisham Sports Centre. Please send your young person in with the needed items (including warmer clothing) to be able to access this activity, especially as the weather turns more unpredictable.

In our Jigsaw PSHE sessions this half term, we will focus on the new topic 'Celebrating Difference'. Admiral Class will be discussing individuals who have made a positive contribution to society despite prejudice and discrimination. As part of this topic we will be describing what inequality means in the modern UK. Some pupils will be learning about what it means to be different from others.

For Maths, we will continue with our streamed 'White Rose Maths' groups across the secondary department which have been highly successful.

In cooking we will be making a range of different delicious recipes that pupils will work towards completing independently, such as scrambled eggs on toast, mac and cheese and Christmas cakes.

In our outdoor learning lessons we will be preparing the school grounds for the winter. Each week we will focus on a different area to sort out before the cold weather arrives.

This term we will be reading 'Macbeth' by William Shakespeare. *A brief synopsis: A brave Scottish general, encouraged by his ambitious wife, makes a fateful choice to murder the King and claim the crown for himself. Shakespeare's Macbeth explores the powerful pull of temptation, the corrupting nature of power, and the heavy burden of guilt. As Macbeth's ambition grows, it leads him down a dark path of paranoia and tyranny, ending in his own tragic downfall.*

We hope the pupils will enjoy exploring a classic text with an eventful plotline!

In science, we are investigating plants and what the plant needs to be able to grow in the different settings, using plants in and around school as examples. Our worldviews sessions will focus on the Nativity story and why it is important to Christians. We will also be participating in the usual festive activities.

Admiral Class continue to work hard on their ASDAN accreditations and pupils also have some self-directed projects to continue.

If there is any other information you would like me to provide you with or if you have any questions, please do get in touch.

Gavin and The Admiral Class Team

EMPEROR CLASS



This term, Emperor Class topic is '**Modern Music**'. We'll be exploring how music has changed over time and learning about different styles and instruments. A highlight of our topic will be discovering the inspiring story of Evelyn Glennie, a world-renowned percussionist who is deaf. Students will learn how Evelyn experiences music through vibrations and how she overcame challenges to become a successful musician. We'll also be listening to different types of music, experimenting with rhythm and beat, and trying out percussion instruments ourselves. We will be using the sound studio, part of our 'Charanga' music scheme to create our own music.

In Maths, our focus is on Time. Students will be learning how to read both analogue and digital clocks, understand daily routines and schedules, and measure time in seconds, minutes, and hours. We'll use practical activities and visual supports to help build confidence and independence with these important life skills.

Science lessons this term will cover two key areas: Movement and Joints, and Nutrition and Diet. Students will learn how our bodies move and how joints help us in everyday activities. We'll also explore the different food groups, what makes a balanced diet, and how animals eat differently.

In PSHE, our theme is Celebrating Difference. We'll be talking about what makes each person unique, learning about equality and fairness, and exploring the power of kind and positive language. Students will also learn how to recognise and respond to bullying and discrimination. These lessons will help build empathy, self-awareness, and respectful communication.

Our PE sessions will continue at Ebbisham Tennis Centre, where students will develop their tennis skills in a supportive and structured setting. They'll work on coordination, racket control, and movement around the court, while also practising teamwork, turn-taking, and following rules. Please ensure pupils have the correct kit on this day, as well as PE kits for our in school sessions on Fridays.

English skills will be developed across all areas of learning this term. As part of our Modern Music topic, we'll be reading books such as 'Listen – How Evelyn Glennie, a deaf girl, changed percussion', along with other music-themed stories. Every Friday, students take part in a Reflection Session, where they look at photos from the week, talk about what they enjoyed, and choose one photo to write about. This activity helps them practise descriptive writing, punctuation, and sentence structure, while also encouraging self-expression. We will also be looking at non-fiction books about modern music.

Our Enterprise Projects will continue this term, giving students the opportunity to develop vocational and life skills. They'll help run the Thursday Café, taking on roles such as serving, setting up, and handling money. This term we will be preparing delicious bacon, lettuce and tomato baguettes for the staff to enjoy! Students will also design and create handmade items to sell in the lead-up to Christmas.

As we approach the festive season, we have lots of enjoyable activities planned, including Christmas crafts, seasonal cooking, and the Christmas show at the end of term. We're really looking forward to an exciting few weeks ahead.

Mary and the Emperor Team