



Papillon House School Newsletter

Spring Term 1 - Friday 9th January 2026



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a lovely Christmas break, it has been great to welcome all our pupils and young people back to Papillon this week. We start the New Year thinking about our dreams and resolutions, setting goals and new challenges for the year ahead. Classes will be completing Jigsaw lessons based on this topic which also links to their PSHE lessons.

A Papillon 'shout-out' goes to the seven pupils who achieved 100% attendance during the Autumn Term. Good school attendance supports our children to feel confident and happy about school, and statistics show a direct link with pupils who regularly attend school finding school routines, school work and friendships easier to cope with. Thank you to all parents and carers for your support in maintaining your child's attendance.

Primary Department News

Caterpillar Class enjoyed a trip to Lidl to buy our cooking ingredients to make sandwiches. The children were then encouraged to make a choice during the session for what they wanted in their sandwich. In 'Food is Fun' we explored some new foods and also enjoyed a TACPAC session. In making, they used different materials to make teddy bears and liked completing the different mark making activities. Some of the pupils went horse riding, which they seemed to enjoy.

Meadow Class enjoyed completing some work based on the New Year as well as our PSHE Jigsaw topic of 'Dreams and Goals'. They also loved cooking cheese straws in cooking with Teresa on Monday and enjoyed a trip to Jubilee Woods with Lauren on Tuesday. Some children started their horse riding sessions this week and did incredibly well after a long period away from the RDA stables. Meadow Class have thoroughly enjoyed their new class topic book called 'The Story Machine' by Tom McLaughlin.

Peacock Class visited ASDA this week to do some shopping and also Priory Park to feed the ducks in the frozen pond. Peacock Class also went to Beddington Park and played on the play equipment. We listened to our new topic story 'The Emerald Forest' and thought about the poor monkeys who lost their homes. We have been reading words with the 'er' phoneme in phonics and using cubes in maths to build numbers from 14-20. The children made ham or jam sandwiches and worked hard to spread the butter carefully.

Class Topics - Spring Term 1

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

Caterpillar Class – Bears and Teddies

Meadow Class – Tell Me A Story

Peacock Class – Rainforests

Swallowtail Class – Our Solar System

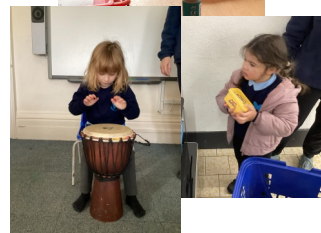
Monarch Class – The United Kingdom

Admiral Class – Oceans and the Water System

Emperor Class – Media Literacy

Reminders & Requests

A Papillon 'shout out' to the 7 children who achieved **100% attendance** overall during the Autumn Term. Well done to you all! With the cold weather upon us, please can we ask that all children and young people come to school with a **named coat**.



Secondary Department News

Swallowtail Class went to Tesco Gatwick on Monday and visited the café for a drink. We then went shopping and bought a class special snack of which Uncle Bens rice proved quite a popular choice! We started our new Science topic this week of 'natural and man-made light', looking at images that were either created by man-made light or natural light. On Wednesday, Swallowtail Class started to explore our Solar System and thought about the distance between the planets and the sun. The class visited Beddington Park yesterday with Peacock Class and had fun on the play equipment. We also enjoyed playing our first badminton session this academic year in our PE session.

Monarch Class enjoyed a trip to Tesco on Monday to have a hot chocolate to warm us up in the cold weather. On Tuesday, the children did some fantastic maths work, starting their new modules in their streamed sessions. On Wednesday, we did some fantastic PSHE work, identifying what we would like to achieve this year and identifying our steps to success. On Thursday, we did some lovely phonics work, taking the next steps in our individual phonics programmes and today, the children enjoyed P.E. and exploring their new focus for the half term, badminton.

Admiral Class has welcomed everyone back after the Christmas break and are looking forward to working towards completing our dreams and goals for the new year. This week Admiral Class started their new topic of 'Oceans and the Waterways', thinking about why plastic in the ocean is harmful and the effect that it has on wildlife. In maths we have started to learn about fractions and how to add fractions together. We also went to Chessington Garden Centre. Some learners went to ASDA to buy the ingredients for this week's lesson. In English some learners made a poster informing people how to care for the oceans.

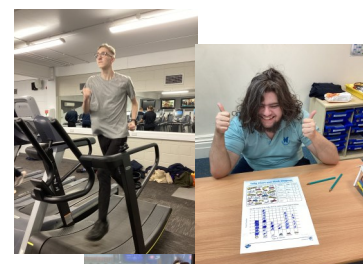
Emperor Class have had a great first week of term. We had three trips this week - one to Asda to get our weekly cafe shopping, one to the gym at the David Weir Leisure Centre and one to The Retro Cafe in Caterham which was lots of fun. We enjoyed having a snack in the cafe and playing some of the games they had on offer including Monopoly and Pacman.



Our "Stars" this week are:

- Caterpillar Class** Amberley for "great horse riding, getting on the horse confidently and completing the different activities."
- Meadow Class** Logan for "amazing first session at horse riding."
- Peacock Class** Jamie for "tasting Cheerios for the first time during sensory time."
- Swallowtail Class** Aahil for "playing the guitar during music."

Photo Gallery



Natalie (Peacock Teacher) celebrated her birthday with a party in class today. She received a scratch off world map and a giraffe.

Therapy

Well done to Amberley, for transferring skills learnt in her therapy sessions into the dining room and home. Amberley is now able to use visual boards to communicate her choices for motivating items and food. *Jess Mason, Highly Specialist Speech and Language Therapist*

A big well done to Teddy in Caterpillar Class who has made really good progress using the swing in the small hall this week. Teddy has demonstrated improved confidence and sat and laid on his tummy on our frog swing for the first time! - *Clara Boxall, Occupational Therapy Assistant*

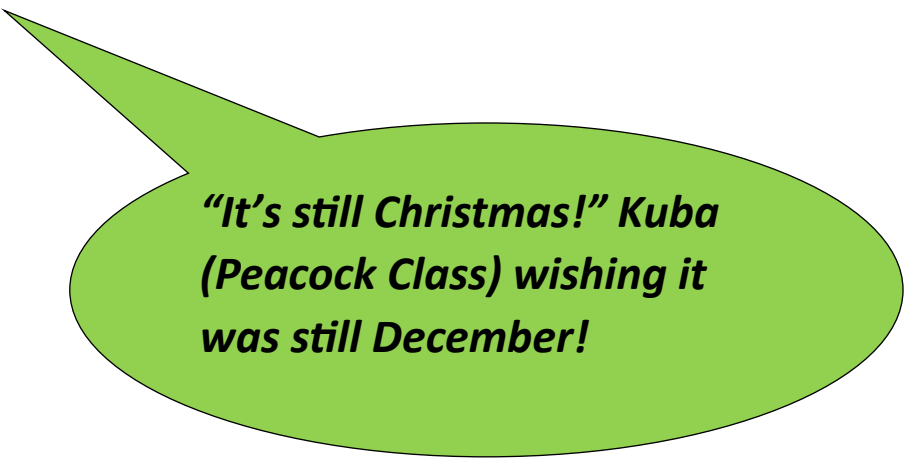
Important Dates

Diary Dates

Below is a list of events taking place in the Spring Term. Further information will be sent nearer the time. The assembly theme for next week is New Years Resolutions.

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Tuesday	10th February	All day	Safer Internet Day
Friday	13th February	3pm	End of Spring Term 1
Monday	23rd February	All day	INSET day—school closed for staff training
Tuesday	24th February	All day	INSET day—school closed for staff training
Wednesday	25th February	9.25am	Children return for Spring Term 2—Secondary Pentathlon
Thursday	5th March	All day	World Book Day (mufti day)
Monday	16th March	am	Primary Cinema Trip
Monday	23rd March	am	Secondary Cinema Trip

Papillon 'Quote of the Week'



"It's still Christmas!" Kuba (Peacock Class) wishing it was still December!

Key Contacts

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CATERPILLAR CLASS



Our topic this half term is 'Bears and Teddies.' Our book focuses will be 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' and 'Paddington Bear'. 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.

We will continue with our senses topic in science. All the children previously enjoyed the different activities, and we have lots more smells, textures and sounds to explore. Each week we will focus on something new, and they will get time to participate in different activities.

The children will go to the library each week to look at different books. We will look at the story sack of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. We will continue to complete different fine motor activities to help strengthen their hands and finger muscles. They will all be given the opportunities to explore mark making and tracing shapes and letters.

In Maths, we will continue to listen to number songs and learn to recognise different numbers. We will also look at size and complete activities to help support our understanding on this.

We will continue to follow the 'Charanga' Music Scheme, which the children all enjoy. We will play different wooden instruments, symbols and drums. We will explore the contrast between the different sounds, and the children will all get to take turns to have a solo during each lesson.

Caterpillar Class will be cooking. They will be encouraged to use different utensils and will explore different foods to touch and eat. They will be making cheese straws, Valentines biscuits and trifle.

On a Thursday, some of our pupils will be going horse riding and the others will visit a play park as part of their physical activity. On our community visits we will be heading to local woodlands, garden centres, supermarkets and parks. The children will be encouraged to push the trolley round the supermarket and scan the items that we are buying. At the woodlands and parks they will be encouraged to move in different ways.

It's going to be a lovely half term!

Lauren & The Caterpillar Class Team

MEADOW CLASS



Meadow's topic this term is 'Tell Me A Story' where we will be reading some new and exciting books in class. The children in Meadow Class really love having a topic book, so I know that they are going to love this topic! In the first week, we will be focusing on the winter weather, our new Jigsaw topic of "Dreams and Goals" as well as the New Year and resolutions and taking part in some New Years-themed sensory activities, then in the second week, we will be thinking about our new topic as well as reading our first topic story 'The Story Machine' by Tom McLaughlin and we will be using this book to refer back to in topic sessions. The class will also borrow a typewriter to imitate some of the writing in the story. In the third week, we will be continuing to extend our learning about stories by thinking about some famous writers and the types of stories they have written. Additionally, in the fourth week we will move onto our next story, 'The Bridges' by Tom Persival and think of the themes and characters of the story.

As we move into the fifth week the class will be looking at the last story for our topic of 'Tell Me A Story' which is 'The Pencil' by Allan Ahlberg; an amazing author. As we move into the last few weeks of the half term, Meadow Class will be doing some writing and drawing about different stories they love and really delving into why books are so important. The last few lessons will be based on what we have learnt about in this topic and will ultimately conclude 'Tell Me A Story'. The class will also be carrying out some Valentine's Day and Chinese New Year-themed lessons at the end of the term, concluding with a class party to celebrate these!

This half term, we will be aiming to visit Jubilee Woods, ASDA supermarket, Priory Park, Banstead Library as well as Chessington Garden Centre on our community visits. Meadow Class will also have the exciting opportunity to visit Epsom RDA this term on Thursday mornings, and the children will also be going to tennis on Monday mornings with Teresa and Monarch Class.

In our maths lessons, the class will continue following their White Rose Maths where some of them will be looking at pattern and shape, space and measure whereas others will be focusing on more and less as well as bonds to 10 and doubles to 10. In their English sessions, some children are continuing to match short words as well as continue to hold pencils correctly, some using a grip, and trace over letter formation words or write independently. Additionally, other children will be focusing on communicating with peers and choosing from two options. 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 as well as taking part in daily phonics catch up sessions. A big thank you to all parents/family members who continue 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 with their reading records.

The class will continue to carry out the Jigsaw PSHE sessions in class on Wednesday afternoons and our topic for PSHE this half term is 'Dreams and Goals'. For science sessions, Meadow class will be starting some physics and biology-based sessions and our topics for these sessions this half term will be 'Let it flow' and 'From Desert to Jungle'. Additionally, the class will be looking at similarities and differences between themselves and their family members using photographs. Please could you send in any family photos for us to use in these sessions by emailing myself or Teresa. The class will be cooking different foods with Teresa on a Monday based on our topic which will include cheese twists, book-themed cupcakes and a Chinese New Year selection of tasting foods.

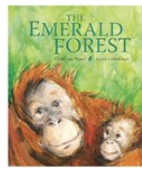
Alex and the Meadow Class Team

PEACOCK CLASS



Our topic this half term is '**Rainforests**'. We will be learning about the different animals you find in the rainforest and some of the plants. We will look on a globe to find out where some of the world's rainforests are. We will be making lots of artwork focused on the rainforest and the animals within.

In English we will continue with our regular phonics sessions using phonemes to blend and read words. We will also be reading a selection of books about the rainforest. Some of these will be fiction - **The Emerald Forest**, and **What the Macaw Saw**. We will practise retelling and re-enacting parts of the story, sequencing pictures to support this. Some of our books will be non-fiction; **The Amazon Rainforest** and **Where on Earth? Rainforests**. These will help with our topic focused vocabulary.



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 be cycling on a Thursday, whilst the weather is still very cold and potentially icy, we may not be able to cycle every week so we will plan alternative off-site activities when this is the case. 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 be moving on to building numbers from 14-20, looking at the 10's and how many ones alongside this. We will then build upon this by looking at 'how many now?' focusing on 1 more or 1 less.

During cooking we will be developing our spreading and cutting skills. We will be making various sandwiches, encouraging the correct grip and action for the knife when spreading. We will also be making tropical fruit salads and kebabs developing our knife skills further by using the correct grip to cut fruit appropriately.

In Science we will be looking at different materials, organising objects according to their materials and thinking about their properties.

For Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education our focus will be 'Dreams and Goals'. We will be thinking about our successes and how we overcome challenges! In ICT we will be looking at online safety.

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

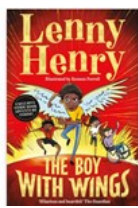
Natalie & the Peacock Class Team

SWALLOWTAIL CLASS



This term, our topic is 'Our Solar System' - something that a number of pupils are already very interested in so we are looking forward to a fun and motivating topic.

In English we will start the half term by reading 'Luna and the Sky Dragon' by Bethan Woollvin which is an inspiring story that introduces the wonders of the sky. The narrative follows Luna, who loves exploring the stars and sharing her knowledge with the villagers who fear a mythical sky dragon. Through her observations and storytelling, Luna aims to reassure the villagers that the sky dragon is nothing to be afraid of, blending science with storytelling. The book features real constellations and facts about the Milky Way, eclipses and comets.



As a class, we will be reading 'The Boy with Wings' by Lenny Henry. The main character, Tunde, must save the world from a ferocious enemy. At school, Tunde has a close-knit group of friends but often finds it hard to stand up to the school bully. Then one ordinary day he soon becomes extraordinary when Tunde suddenly spouts wings! School soon becomes the least of his problems as, equipped with his new superpower and his rag-tag group of pals, Tunde must save the Earth from total destruction.

We will also be looking at solar system information books.

In Maths, we will continue with the streamed White Rose sessions, this term will be focused on geometry and learning about shapes.

Science lessons will focus on light, and link into our Solar System topic by learning about the sun as a light source. It will also include learning about how we use our eyes to see and discovering what causes shadows.

Our Jigsaw PSHE topic is 'Dreams and Goals'. Pupils will be considering their own personal learning goals as well as recognising their own achievements.

Topic work will be focussed on the Solar System, with pupils choosing a planet to research and present facts on. Some pupils will be exploring the Solar System in an exploratory way. Pupils will also make model representations of planets using plasticine and then papier-mâché. Swallowtail Class will be cycling on Thursdays this half term which will start in February, due to the icy weather in January.

In cooking we will focus on making a variety of snacks, focussing on the pupils' independence skills. We will also be continuing our ASDAN programmes.

We are looking forward to a fun and full half term!

Swallowtail Class Team

MONARCH CLASS



Our topic for the next 6 weeks is 'The UK'. This week, we introduced our topic and started by looking at different countries that make up the UK, identifying their flags and touching on popular things each country is famous for. In week 2, we will learn about some of our famous landmarks such as The London Eye, Big Ben, Snowdonia National Park and Loch Ness. In week 3, we will learn about UK coasts, coastal features and, more specifically, the Jurassic Coast and World Heritage Sites. In week 4, we will learn about famous people in the UK including politicians, actors and athletes. In week 5, we will look back in history and learn about British inventors and some their inventions. In week 6, we will learn about British music and listen to some popular songs and artists from recent history. Our focus books for this half term are 'Dolphin Boy' by Michael Morpurgo, 'The Big Book of the UK: Facts, Folklore and Fascinations from Around the United Kingdom' by Imogen Russell Williams and 'A Kind of Spark' by Ellie McNicoll.

Our off-site physical activity this term will be Tennis at Ebbisham Sports Centre. For this activity, your child will need trainers, a P.E. top and some tracksuit bottoms in a **named bag** that can be kept at school for the duration of the term. As the weather is very cold, it would also be helpful if you could please provide some warm clothing such as a hat, scarf and gloves for your child to use this half term.

For our White Rose Maths sessions, we will be moving on to our new modules, introducing the mathematical operations multiplication and division, whilst others move on to building their understanding of fractions.

In our White Rose Science sessions, we will be moving to our chemistry modules and focusing on materials, identifying different materials and their functions/uses, whilst others move to learning about rocks, identifying different types of rocks based on their appearance and testing rocks using a variety of methods to determine their properties.

In our Jigsaw PSHE sessions, we will be focusing on our new topic 'Dreams and Goals'. During these sessions we will think about long and short-term goals and objectives we would like to achieve and identify how we might take steps to making these dreams achievable.

Our ICT focus this half term is the Twinkl Scheme of work, 'Online Safety'. Over the next few weeks, we will learn more about some of the potential dangers in the online world and what basic steps we all need to take in order to have positive digital experiences and keep ourselves safe when engaging online.

In our cooking sessions, we will be learning to make a range of healthy meals and snacks based on the theme 'healthy winter warmers' including winter veggie pies, warm winter wraps and healthy apple crumble cups.

For our outdoor learning sessions, we will base our sessions around the theme 'winter landscapes' and will participate in a range of activities such as mapping & orienteering, winter sun and water & ice experiments.

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 'Oceans and the Water System'. Each week we will be investigating different aspects of our water systems and how we can care for them. In week 1 we will be learning about the importance of our water system. In week 2 we will be learning about clean and dirty water. In week 3 we will investigate the importance of caring for the oceans. During week 4 we will learn about ocean animals and the impact that poor water hygiene has on the oceans. In week 5 we will be investigating the course that water takes from its source to the ocean.

As part of our topic of 'Oceans and the Water System' we will be reading related books such as 'Song of the Dolphin Boy' by Elizabeth Laird & Peter Bailey which is about a lonely Scottish boy named Finn who feels at home being with dolphins; but must rally his village's outcast kids (the Lighthouse Crew) to save them from plastic pollution and a dangerous balloon release. This will be teaching themes of friendship, environmentalism and accepting differences, inspired by Scottish Selkie legends.

In PSHE Jigsaw we will be learning about our, and others Dreams and Goals. Within this unit we will be discussing what some of our long-term goals are and how short and medium term goals might help achieve them. We will also discuss money and understand some of the positive and negative roles that money can play in society.

In Science this half term we will be investigating physics and forces. We will carry out experiments to gain information as to how much force is needed to move an item. We will also discover what the surface of the item is on and decide if we would change the force needed to move the same item.

This terms ICT focus is online safety, and we will be learning how we can keep ourselves safe when using the internet.

This term we will be starting our swimming lessons at Dorking Leisure Centre every Tuesday. Please send in your young person with the correct **named** swimming kit needed for this activity.

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 & The Admiral Class Team

EMPEROR CLASS



This term, our topic is 'Media Literacy'. We will explore different types of media and examine how media has changed and developed over the years. Students will learn how information is created, shared, and consumed across various platforms. We will study news articles, listen to radio programs and music and analyse digital and social media content.

In Maths, our focus this term is on statistics. Students will be learning how to read, interpret, and record information using a range of methods, including timetables, bar charts, pictograms, and simple graphs. They will practise collecting data, organising it clearly, and answering questions about what the data shows. These skills will help students develop confidence in using numbers in real-life situations and improve their problem-solving.

In Science this term, lessons will continue with our study of nutrition and diet, where students will explore the importance of different nutrients, balanced diets, and how food affects our health and energy. After completing this unit, we will move on to learning about rocks, investigating different types of rocks, how they are formed, and their uses in everyday life.

In PSHE, our theme this term is 'Dreams and Goals'. Students will explore their personal strengths, talents, and interests and consider how these can help them achieve their aspirations for the future. Through discussions, activities, and reflective exercises, they will set short and long-term goals, learn strategies for overcoming challenges, and celebrate their achievements along the way.

On Wednesday mornings, we will be visiting the David Weir Leisure Centre gym, an activity that proved very popular with students last year. During these sessions, students will have the opportunity to use a variety of gym equipment to improve their fitness, strength, and overall wellbeing. The sessions also help develop confidence, teamwork, and healthy exercise habits. After working out, students enjoy socialising and relaxing with a drink in the café.

English skills will be developed across all areas of learning this term. As part of our Media Literacy topic, we'll be reading a variety of books such as 'The Dictionary Story', 'Learn the Language of Social Media' and others. This term, for reflection, students will have the opportunity to create their own newspaper articles, comics, or podcasts to document and share what they have been doing throughout the school week. This activity ties directly into our Media Literacy topic, as students will practise producing and presenting content for different types of media.

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 sausage and onion baguettes and trying out different dessert recipes for the staff to enjoy. Students will also design and create handmade items to sell at our next Enterprise fair.

We are all looking forward to another great term!

Mary and the Emperor Class Team