



# Papillon House School Newsletter

Summer Term 1 - Friday 17th April 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It was great to welcome everybody back to Papillon and I hope you all had an enjoyable Easter break. It's been a very busy start to the term with our new summer topics underway. Admiral and Emperor Classes enjoyed a visit to London this week linked to their topics of Graffiti and Tate Modern. Admiral Class pupils had the opportunity to visit London Southbank to observe, study and compare the graffiti they could see whilst Emperor visited the Tate Modern where students explored the range of modern and contemporary art on display. Our community visits have also resumed with classes starting swimming, horse riding and cycling sessions. A full overview of this half-terms topics and off-site activities are at the bottom of this newsletter.

## Primary Department News

**Caterpillar Class** started our new topic of 'Dinosaurs', creating some fantastic diplodocus' for our display. We've enjoyed reading '10 Little Dinosaurs' together and had lots of fun encouraging the children to roar like dinosaurs! In science, we explored a variety of vegetables using our senses of touch and smell, and some of the children had a go at chopping them up. This week, our core word is "want," and during our literacy RISE sessions we took part in a range of activities to help deepen the children's understanding of its meaning.

**Meadow Class** started their topic of "A Pirate's Life for Me" and have enjoyed some topic, English and attention circle sessions based on this so far. Additionally, in making on Tuesday, the class started making pirate hats with the skull and crossbones on the front. Also, the whole class travelled to RDA Epsom for horse riding on Thursday and Sutton Library on Friday to look for pirate-themed books! Lastly, the class all enjoyed using the racquets and balloons in PE on Thursday as part of their badminton activities.

**Peacock Class** visited the garden centre on Monday to smell the rainbow of flowers and had a fantastic swimming session on Tuesday, where we played catch and swam through hoops. We also went on a springtime walk to see the new shoots and blossom on the trees. Our maths learning has been focussing on numbers up to 20, using different equipment to represent the amounts. In Topic, we flew around the world using Google Earth, to different beaches in different countries and found the upside-down house in Brighton and in ICT we created beach scenes using Paint program.

## Class Topics - Summer Term 1

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

**Caterpillar Class** – Dinosaur Rock

**Meadow Class** – A Pirates Life for Me

**Peacock Class** – The Seaside

**Swallowtail Class** – Machine and Robots

**Monarch Class** – Pets

**Admiral Class** – Graffiti

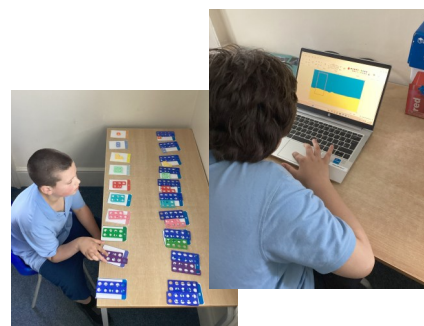
**Emperor Class** – Tate Modern



## Reminders & Requests

We look forward to seeing our primary parents and carers at our **Papillon coffee morning** on Wednesday 22nd April from 10.30am. Please let the office know if you would like to attend.

## Photo Gallery



## Secondary Department News

**Swallowtail Class** had our first tennis session on Monday at Ebbisham Sports Club. Everyone had a good time and were able to remember a lot of the basics from their previous sessions. We started our topic in English, which for this half term is 'Machines and Robots'. We played a brilliant round of 'Hedbanz' on Tuesday, with people guessing what they were, from a horse to ketchup! Everyone was laughing and taking part. We have also started our new science topic for the term, which is 'Plants', and had an extend PE lesson playing badminton which everyone participated in. We have continued to build on our phonics knowledge through comprehension and practicing our reading skills. For our community visit this week, we visited Bourne Hall in Ewell where walked around the small museum and also watched the ducks, geese and swans in the pond area outside.

**Monarch Class** have had a great first week back after the Easter break, and the children have worked very hard throughout the week. On Monday, we introduced our new topic of 'Pets' and had fun guessing different pets from the clues given. On Tuesday, we enjoyed a science experiment exploring how materials can be bent, stretched and squashed. Wednesday afternoon was lots of fun with badminton in PE, and on Thursday we enjoyed a cycling session in Epsom. Today, we looked at pet care guides for dogs and rabbits and began writing our own leaflets about how to care for animals.

**Admiral Class** started our new topic of 'Graffiti' this week and have completed the background for our display board in the style of Jackson Pollock by dripping and flicking paint onto our paper. Some of Admiral Class enjoyed a day trip to London Southbank on Wednesday to investigate graffiti and great discussions were had as to whether it is seen as art or vandalism. We enjoyed our lunch sitting under the London Eye, watching the boats along the Thames. This week we have started our off-site physical activity for this term and every Thursday we will be cycling.

**Emperor Class** had a fantastic trip to Tate Modern this week. The journey itself was part of the excitement, with a train ride into London followed by a relaxed walk along the river to reach the gallery. Once there, we explored a range of incredible artworks that really captured the students' attention. They showed great enthusiasm and shared how different pieces made them feel. We left feeling inspired and eager to create our own artwork this term.

### Our "Stars" this week are:

- Caterpillar Class** Shelbie for "engaging with our RISE sessions and exploring the sensory tuff trays."
- Meadow Class** Tommie for "travelling on the bus to horse riding and watching his friends ride."
- Peacock Class** Kuba for "great listening and following instructions."
- Swallowtail Class** Zachary for "great classroom engagement and excepting of changes to staff."

## Photo Gallery



There were no Primary birthdays this week.

## Therapy

Well done to Mila for engaging so well for the whole of her first TACPAC session. *Fran Byrne-Occupational Therapist*

This week's Makaton stars are Alfie, Tiana, Nevaeh, and Aidan who correctly guessed the mystery sign, which was 'chocolate'. *Monika Persechino-Speech and Language Therapy Assistant*



Jenny, Mia and Tegan agreed a new name for our girls club, since it's been moved outdoors and "Nature Club" got the most votes. In this weeks Nature Club, all three girls engaged in making nature mandalas. They have independently collected all the resources and arranged them to create these beautiful mandalas for others to admire. *Monika Persechino-Speech and Language Therapy Assistant*

*Our Nature Mandalas*



## Important Dates

### Diary Dates

Below is a list of events taking place in the Summer Term. Further information will be sent nearer the time. The assembly theme next for next week is Earth Day.

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Wednesday	22nd April	10.30	Primary parents coffee morning
Monday	4th May	All day	<b>BANK HOLIDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
Wednesday	20th May	am	Whole school visit to Leatherhead Miniature Railway
Friday	22nd May	3pm	End of Summer Term 1
Monday	8th June	9.25am	Start of Summer Term 2
Monday	6th July	3.30pm-7pm	Parents' Evening

### Papillon 'Quote of the Week'

**"Yee-haw!" Tiana (Meadow Class) when her and her horse were approaching the start line at horse riding.**

### Key Contacts

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## CATERPILLAR CLASS



Our topic this half term is **'Dinosaur Rock'**. We will share a range of engaging stories, including *Ten Little Dinosaurs* and *There's a Dinosaur in My Book*. The children will be introduced to new topic-related vocabulary, alongside the appropriate Makaton signs to support their communication and understanding.

Our attention circles will be sensory and linked to our dinosaur topic, as well as other areas. They will be sensory based and will encourage the children to take turns with their peers. In our weekly rise sessions, we will focus on our core words, which include 'want, yes, no, I, like and help'. These sessions will focus on the children's engagement.

In Science, we will focus on the topic 'Happy and Healthy'. The children will explore different fruit and vegetables through play. We will be encouraging the children to move in different ways and talk about how it makes our bodies feel.

In maths, we will have a session dedicated to music maths, where the children will be encouraged to sing along to some of their favourite counting and number rhymes. In our maths free flow session, the children will have a variety of activities to access linked to number, shape and patterns.

Each week, the children will take part in a range of fine motor activities designed to strengthen their hand and finger muscles. These will include posting, cutting, moulding, threading, screwing and unscrewing activities, all are aimed at developing control, coordination, and early writing skills.

Over the next few weeks, the children will participate in different making activities, where they will explore colour and texture. During our cooking sessions, we will continue to encourage independence when using different utensils. They will make, sandwiches, trifle, pizzas and fruit kebabs.

This term we will be swimming every week on a Monday afternoon. Please send swimming kits in. Our weekly community visits will include trips to local parks, supermarkets and garden centres. We will also be having a day trip this term, details will be sent soon.

It's going to be a lovely half term!

Lauren and The Caterpillar Team

## MEADOW CLASS



This term, Meadow class's topic is "A Pirate's Life for Me" where the class will be exploring a variety of pirate characters as well as different aspects of a pirate's life. The children in Meadow Class really love having a topic book read to them, so in the first week, we will be focusing on the first of our topic books in this area; "10 Little Pirates" by Mike Brownlow. The class will learn about the different scenes from the book in their other lessons such as making and English too. In the second week, we will be thinking about the different types of pirates we may have met or seen in books and TV such as Captain Hook, Jack Sparrow and Captain Underpants. We will be using "10 Little Pirates" to refer to in topic sessions. The class will also use real world toys and sensory materials to reenact different parts of the story as well as beach and general pirate scenes such as digging for treasure.

In the third week, Meadow Class will move onto our next story, "Pirates Love Underpants" by Claire Freedman, learning about the themes and locations of the story. We will be copying different pages from this book to support the pupil's understanding of characterisation as well as letter formation, writing for purpose and word/sentence building.

Then, as we move into the fourth week the class will be looking at the last story for the topic which is "The Pirates are Coming!" by John Condon. As we move into the last few weeks of the half term, Meadow Class will be doing some writing, role play and drawing about different stories and tales from pirate life such as Treasure Island and Moby Dick. The last few lessons will be based on what we have learnt about in this topic and will ultimately conclude "A pirate's life for me". The class will also be carrying out some exciting pirate-themed lessons throughout the term which I'm sure they will enjoy.

This half term, we will be aiming to visit LIDL supermarket, Banstead Library (to visit the amazing Magic Table) as well as Priory Park (with the pirate ship in the playground) on our community visits. This half term, Meadow Class will also have the exciting opportunity to continue visiting Epsom RDA this term for horse riding on Thursday mornings, and the children will also be going on a whole day class trip later in the half term based on our topic of "A pirate's life for me". After the half term break, Meadow Class will be taking part in swimming sessions at Dorking Leisure centre on Tuesday mornings, which I know the class are very excited about so please send in swimming kits on Tuesdays after the half term.

In our maths lessons, Meadow Class will continue to explore 3-D shapes, building numbers beyond 10 and taking away. In the English sessions, some children are continuing to trace words, write independently using a pencil grip, match words to each other as well as use the pirate-themed topic books as stimulus for role play experiences. Additionally, other children will be focusing on communicating with peers (familiar and unfamiliar), choosing from two/three options and using their own words to name unknown objects. We will also continue to carry out our exciting phonics sessions each week using the Twinkl scheme of work which I know the class will enjoy. We will continue to send new books home every Friday with each child's reading records as these have been very successful this year so far.

The class will continue to carry out the Jigsaw PSHE sessions in class and our topic for PSHE this half term is 'Relationships' where the children will be looking at making new friends and falling out with friends. For science sessions, Meadow class will be starting some animal and physics-based sessions and our topics for these sessions this half term will be 'Animal detectives' and 'Pushes and pulls'.

Additionally, the class will be cooking different foods in cooking sessions on a Wednesday based on our "A pirate's life for me" topic with Teresa, which will include pirate ship hot dogs, jelly seas and pirate cookies.

Alex and the Meadow Class Team

## PEACOCK CLASS



### Topic

Our topic this half term is *The Seaside* in which we will be building up to a summer trip to the beach – more details to follow! In topic sessions we will be learning about rockpools, sea life and water. Peacock Class will discover what types of animals live in or near the sea and how their bodies help them to survive.

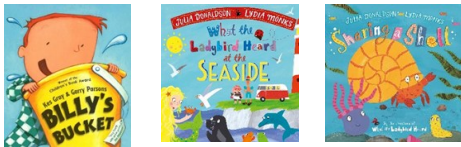
### Off-site activities

In our off-site activities the children will be accessing the community through the church, shops, parks and local businesses. This term our off-site physical activity is swimming, which will be every Tuesday morning.

### Literacy

Our phonics learning will continue with reading tricky words and learning trigraphs (3 letters that make one sound).

In English lessons, we will be reading books to reinforce our topic work:



'Billy's Bucket' is a story about a boy with a marvellous imagination, which will help us to create our own stories of the worlds in our buckets.

'What the Ladybird Heard at the Seaside' has beautiful descriptions and will inspire us to use adjectives in our speaking and writing.

'Sharing a Shell' is a classic Julia Donaldson story which promotes teamwork and friendship.

### Maths

Peacock Class will be developing the skills they have learned so far this year and applying them to numbers to 20. We will be learning about place value and what each digit means in a teen number. We will use different resources to help us count, order, add and subtract these numbers and know why this is important in everyday life.

### PSHE, World Views and ICT:

For Personal, Social and Health Education, Peacock Class will be thinking about relationships. We will learn about families and the people who work with us. We will also be learning about how we can make friends and be a good friend to other people.

In World Views we will be thinking about what makes a good leader and reading stories about people who have helped others.

Our ICT sessions will be based around computer art, where we will draw pictures using technology.

### Creative Development

We will be creating some masterpieces this half term, based on seaside images and sea creatures. Peacock Class will be using different materials to collage, print and paint.

### Science

We will be looking at seasonal changes in our science lessons, then focussing on how we care for our planet by recycling and saving water where we can.

We look forward to fun half-term!

Linda and The Peacock Class Team

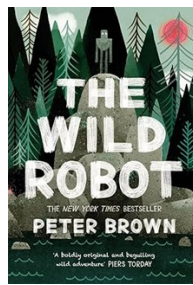
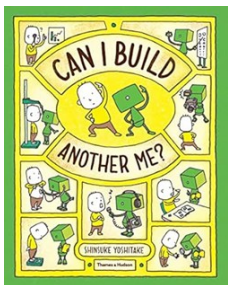
## SWALLOWTAIL CLASS



In Swallowtail, our topic for this half term will be 'Machine and Robots'.

In English, we will be exploring robots and machines. We will be looking at both fictional and real-world examples and comparing the two, seeing what the differences and similarities are. We will be making use of three books to help us with our learning. These are, *Can I Build Another Me?* by Shinsuke Yoshitake, *Iron Man* by Ted Hughes, and *The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown.

*Can I Build Another Me?* follows a child's wild imagination as he clones himself into a robot and then starts to ponder what makes him, him. *Iron Man* follows a giant iron figure on the loose in a farming community, explores themes of friendship, kindness and isolation in an imaginative way. *The Wild Robot* follows Roz, a robot that awakens in the wild and begins to explore the world around her, knowing not how she came to be there or what her purpose is. We, as a class, will be creating a display board that will contain work, information and art based on our topic.



In Maths, we will continue with our streamed White Rose curriculum, which for this half term we will be looking at measuring length and height.

For Science, we will be looking at plants and will be exploring things from the different parts of plants and their functions, to pollination and the life cycle of a plant. We will be utilising White Rose resources to assist in our learning.

Our PSHE topic, making use of Jigsaw and its resources, will be finishing the topic of 'Healthy Me', and then starting the topic of 'Relationships'. Through this, we will be exploring what makes a healthy relationship, and what different kind of relationships exist.

Our art sessions will reflect our topic of 'Machines and Robots', and each week we will be making art inspired by our topic, and the three books we will be using to aid in our learning. For example, we will be making a class robot as part of our display board.

For food tech we will be cooking a different dish each week and practicing the basic skills needed to cook and be safe in a kitchen.

We are all looking forward to a fun and eventful half term.

Tom and The Swallowtail Class Team

## MONARCH CLASS



This half term, our topic is 'Pets'. We have introduced our topic this week by thinking about which animals make good pets and writing about our own pets that we care for at home. In week two, we will learn about caring for our pets and identifying their needs and how we can meet these needs. In week three, we will look at different pet products that are on the market and match different foods/toys/homes to the animal (s) that may use them. In week four, we will learn about the costs of having pets, including pet health and trips to the vets. In week five, we will learn about more unusual/exotic pets and any additional requirements for having pets in this category (such as having licences). In week six we will journey around the world and learn about different countries and cultures and the different animals they keep as pets.

Our focus books for this half term are *The Guinea-Pig Party* by Holly Webb; *Dogs in Disguise* by Peter Bently and John Bond; *Hamster Heroes* by Peter Bently; *Peanut, Butter and Crackers: Puppy Problems* by Paige Braddock.

Our off-site physical activity for the rest of this academic year is cycling, and the children will be going to King George Cycling Centre in Epsom on Thursday's. As the weather improves, it would be helpful if you could provide your young person with suncream (if this needs to be different to the suncream we use at school). In addition, if your young person would benefit from a sun hat/sunglasses that can be kept at school for outdoor activities throughout the term, this would also be very helpful.

For our White Rose Maths sessions, we will be learning about applying our place value knowledge to partition numbers into tens and ones and compare numbers with the same number of tens, where the ones change. Those following a different pathway will be learning about money – solving money problems using addition and subtraction as well as converting pounds and pence.

In our White Rose Science sessions, we will be finishing our chemistry module focusing on materials, before moving on to our new module, 'skeletons'. We will be learning about different types of skeletons, functions of the skeleton and identifying and naming different bones in the skeleton. Those following a different pathway will be learning about states of matter, identifying liquids, solids and gases as well as changing states using different processes.

In our Jigsaw PSHE sessions, we will be moving on to our Jigsaw topic 'relationships' where we will focus on themes such as jealousy, developing and maintaining relationships and how we can keep ourselves safe when building relationships.

In ICT, children will be developing key computing skills through either word processing or spreadsheets. Some children will focus on typing confidently, editing text, and changing the appearance of their work using word processing tools. Others will be learning how spreadsheets can be used to organise information, carry out calculations, and solve simple problems.

In our World Views learning, our theme is 'Why do people use creative ways to express their beliefs?' We will explore how people from different faiths and backgrounds use art, music, stories, symbols, and other creative forms to share their beliefs, values, and traditions.

In cooking, we will be theming our sessions around 'perfect pastry'. During these sessions we will practice making different types of pastry and using them to make delicious treats such as fruit pies, samosas and savoury and sweet turnovers.

For our outdoor learning sessions, we will be exploring rewilding. We will focus on developing our understanding of the important role different insects play in our environment, while also helping to create and improve habitats for them by clearing and tidying the outdoor space and planting wildflower seeds.

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 'Graffiti'. Each week we will be learning about how graffiti impacts people and the environment. In week one, we will be learning about urban environments, and how graffiti can transform public spaces. In week two we will explore city life, buildings, roads and street signs whilst in week three we will be exploring artists & influence, focussing on Banksy and modern street art. Week four will involve learning about law & ethics, specifically anti-graffiti laws and their effectiveness. In week five we will look at deeper themes such as graffiti as a political protest. Week six is an opportunity to reflect on all our previous learning.

In English we will be looking at two main fiction texts, as well as non-fiction books about graffiti and street art.

*Skellig* by David Almond is a mysterious and moving story about a boy named Michael who discovers a strange, fragile man living in the garage of his new home. As Michael and his new friend Mina try to help the mysterious figure who calls himself Skellig—they begin to uncover something extraordinary about him that blurs the line between reality and the supernatural.

*Rhythm and Poetry* by Karl Nova is a vibrant collection of poems that blends rap, spoken word, and traditional poetry. Drawing on his own life experiences, Nova explores themes like identity, growing up, school life, and self-expression with honesty and humour.

The topic for PSHE Jigsaw this term is 'Relationships'. We will be looking into different relationships each week and how they can affect us. Some of the key parts of this topic are: Being in control of myself, Being in control of my relationships, Being in control of personal space, Staying safe in the physical world and Staying safe in the online world.

In World Views we will be learning about why people use creative ways to express their beliefs, which lends itself well to our graffiti topic. In our art sessions we will be creating different graffiti name tags, bubble wrap graffiti prints, collage graffiti and emotion graffiti.

In Science this half term we will be continuing to learn about nutrition and diet before moving on to the next unit 'Sustainability and Food Waste'. We will be learning about what food supports and fuels our body, discovering a balanced diet. We will also be learning about different types of diets that people have around the world.

In P.E, the focus for this term is basketball. Within these sessions we will be learning to pass the ball and work on our ball control.

This terms ICT focus is Sketch 3D modelling. This program is a digital design process used to create three-dimensional objects and environments on a computer. It allows users to draw shapes, add depth, and build realistic models of buildings and interiors.

For the first two weeks we will be continuing with money in our maths lessons. We will then be starting the unit on the topic of time.

This term we will be cycling for our off-site physical activity on Thursdays.

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, our topic is 'Tate Modern'. We'll start with a trip into London to visit the gallery, where students will explore a range of modern and contemporary art. Back in class, we'll use what we've seen to inspire us to create our own works of art this term, including painting, collage, and photography.

In Maths this term, students will be focusing on functional maths skills such as telling the time, handling money, measuring, and working with simple data. They will take part in practical activities that help them apply these skills in real-life situations. Some students will be sitting their Functional Skills Maths exam this term, so these lessons will also help to prepare them, as well as build confidence and independence.

In Science this term, our focus will be on horticulture. Students will spend time in the school garden growing and caring for plants, as well as helping to look after the wider school grounds. They will learn about what plants need to grow, how to care for them, and the importance of looking after outdoor spaces.

In PSHE this term, our theme is 'Relationships'. Students will explore what makes healthy and long-term relationships, including friendships, family connections, and positive interactions with others. We will also look at topics such as love and loss, helping students to understand and talk about different emotions in a safe and supportive way.

On Tuesday mornings, Emperor Class will be going to a local pool for weekly swimming sessions. These sessions will give students the opportunity to build confidence in the water, develop their swimming skills, and improve their overall fitness.

English skills will be developed across all areas of learning, with a focus on reading, discussion, vocabulary development, and written communication. Students will have regular opportunities to practise expressing their ideas, building confidence in both speaking and writing. Some students will also be working towards their Functional Skills English exam, which will take place during the Summer Term. They will be supported with targeted practice to help them build the skills and confidence they need for the assessment.

Our enterprise projects will carry on this term, giving students lots of opportunities to develop vocational, communication, and independent living skills. They will continue to run the Thursday Café, this term preparing chicken wraps and trying out different dessert recipes for staff. Students will also be running their car-washing sessions, offering to clean staff cars in return for payment. This provides a great opportunity to practise work-related skills and responsibility, with the money raised going back into supporting the class.

In preparation for our Summer Enterprise Fair, students will be designing and making a range of handmade products to sell, including tie-dye tote bags and garden lanterns. These activities will help them develop creativity and teamwork, as well as an understanding of simple business skills such as pricing items, handling money, and thinking about customer needs.

We are all looking forward to another great term!

Mary and The Emperor Class Team