



Papillon House School Newsletter

Summer Term 1 - Friday 22nd May 2026



Dear Parents/Guardians,

It has been a very busy first half of the Summer Term packed full of learning, exciting off-site visits, some new adventures and lots of great achievements! I would like to say a huge well done to the whole school for their trip to the Leatherhead Miniature Railway this week. Our children and young people showed great enthusiasm and enjoyment whilst riding the miniature trains. Some asked questions about what made the trains move on the track and all followed instructions carefully. Please enjoy the photos of the trip at the end of this newsletter.

I am looking forward to meeting with some parents and carers on Wednesday 10th June for our Secondary coffee morning. This is a great opportunity for us to share advice, guidance and offer training if this would be beneficial to you. Please do let the office know if you haven't already done so if you are able to join us. I hope you all have a lovely half-term break and I look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 8th June.

Primary Department News

Caterpillar Class all had big smiles on their faces at the miniature railway and wanted to keep going round the track! They participated in some lovely fine motor activities to strengthen their hands and finger muscles, searching for the marbles in the Theraputty was a huge hit. We have been learning the word 'no' in our RISE core word sessions which has been successful and lots of fun! They also had a great time swimming and it was lovely to see so many of them moving around the pool independently.

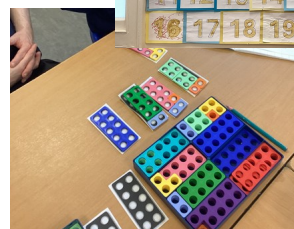
Meadow Class enjoyed cooking jellyfish bowls using blue jelly, fish sweets and crushed digestives in their cooking lesson on Wednesday, painting pirate ships in making on Tuesday as well as choosing their favourite pirate-themed story in English on Friday to complete their topic of "A pirate's life for me". All of Meadow Class loved dressing up in their swashbuckling best for our 'Pirate Day' on Tuesday and they also thoroughly enjoyed the whole day trip to Leatherhead Miniature Railway.

Peacock Class have had a wonderful week, starting with a visit to Leigh Park and then swimming at Dorking Leisure Centre. There has been lots of progress this half term, with faces in the water and some jumping in. In English we have been ordering the story of 'Sharing a Shell', using word cards to form sentences to describe what is happening. Some pupils were finding 2 numbers that add to make 10 in maths using Numicon to reinforce our learning. In Science this week we enjoyed I-spy in the grounds, looking for wild flowers, and in topic we created a sensory sun to finish off our wonderful display in the classroom. We all loved our trip on Wednesday to the Miniature Railway and had great fun trying out the different trains in the park.

Reminders & Requests

A little reminder that we start back after the half term break on **Monday 8th June at 9.25am.**

Photo Gallery



Secondary Department News

Swallowtail Class finished off our topic of 'Robots and Machines', and completed a comparison review of the 'Wild Robot and the Iron Man,' in which the students said which they preferred and why. We also did a bit more art inspired by both books, with the students picking a character, drafting a rough sketch and then painting over it. In food tech this week, we made sausage rolls and cheese and onion rolls to take with us on the trip to the Miniature Railway. They all did really well, even with mixing the sausage meat which was a rather interesting sensory feel. Swallowtail class had a great trip to the Miniature Railway, spending the majority of the time on the trains and mixing with all the other classes. The students and staff both really enjoyed the sausage rolls/cheese and onion tarts to go along with their lunch.

Monarch Class explored exotic and unusual pets, and enjoyed learning about different rules when we care for these animals. In maths, the children worked hard using whole-part models to partition numbers into tens and ones. In science, we identified different bones in animals and explored how animal skeletons can differ from our own. We had a fabulous trip to Leatherhead Miniature Railway, which was enjoyed by everyone. In cooking, we made cheesy puff pastry snacks and practised our measuring and kneading skills. Yesterday, we had a lovely celebration for Gabriellus' birthday!

Admiral Class have been out in the community a lot this week enjoying many trips, and have been lucky with the weather! Some of Admiral Class enjoyed a trip to Preston Park to use their outdoor gym equipment including the rowing machine and cross trainer. All of Admiral Class went cycling for our last session before the half term break and completed many laps in the sun. We also enjoyed our yearly trip to the Miniature Railway in Leatherhead, and everyone had a great time. In maths we have continued with our topic of time, reading clocks to the nearest minute. In topic we have finished our work on graffiti and used spray cans to create a picture of a city.

Emperor Class took another trip to That Retro Place in Caterham - this time to celebrate Thomas' 19th birthday. Wednesday's trip to the miniature railway was a huge success - it was so lovely to see all the students enjoying themselves together.

Our "Stars" this week are:



- Caterpillar Class** Teddy for "being brave at the miniature railway and having a go on several trains."
- Meadow Class** All of Meadow Class for "a great end of the half term."
- Peacock Class** LJ for "going on every train on Wednesday and making great sound effects."
- Swallowtail Class** Mia for "great work preparing sausage rolls in food tech."



Aidan (Meadow Class) celebrated his birthday this week and received a Star Wars magazine and sensory toys.

Therapy

Well done to Cruz, who did very well in his speech and language therapy this week. Cruz consistently requested more of his favourite objects and used two words to communicate this, i.e. “more ball” and “more pig.” Cruz also verbalised multiple objects from the communication board and paid attention to what the therapists were modelling. He also did amazingly well in his OT session this week, listening and following instructions. Cruz had a great time using the swings and then completing lots of fun gross and fine motor tasks. It was such a fun session! *Claire Messom, Occupational Therapist and Monika Persechino, Speech and Language Therapy Assistant Practitioner*

Well done to Thomas Hudson and Yara for a great half-term of work in our transition skills sessions! They thought a lot about what might help them when they go to college. *Lilian Prince (Therapy Assistant) & Emma Kennington (Speech & Language Therapist)*



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 for the first week back is Jigsaw ‘Changing Me’.

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Monday	8th June	9.25am	Start of Summer Term 2
Wednesday	10th June	10.30	Secondary Parents Coffee Morning
Monday	22nd June	All day	Class and whole school photos
Monday	29th June	1.30pm	Primary Sports Day
Wednesday	1st July	1.50pm	Secondary Sports Day
Monday	6th July	3.30-7pm	Parents’ Evening
Thursday	16th July	All day	Papillon Summer Fun Day
Monday	20th July	am	Transition morning
Monday	20th July	5-7.30pm	Papillon Family BBQ
Tuesday	21st July	3pm	End of Summer Term 2

Papillon ‘Quote of the Week’

“This is the best birthday ever!” Anne (Head Teacher) celebrating her birthday today.

Key Contacts

Office Team

admin@papillonhouseschool.co.uk

Therapy Team

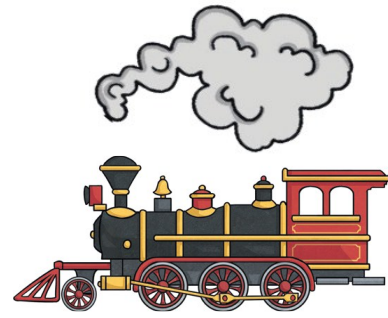
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Anne Mackey - Head Teacher and Lead DSL

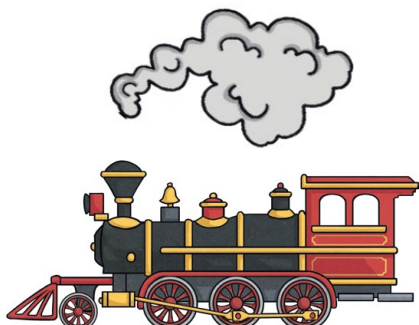
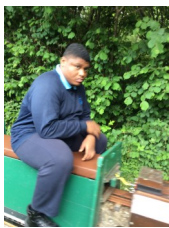
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Papillon House visits
Leatherhead
Miniature Railway



Student Council

Secondary School Council

Attendees: Yara, Louis, Mila and Aahil, Connor

Agenda: Community Visits & Trip Organisation

Class Reps' Ideas:

Students gave very positive feedback on the new organisation of community visits and said they have really enjoyed visiting a wider range of engaging locations such as Tate Modern, South Bank, Mercedes-Benz World, Brooklands Museum, and Tilgate Park. All students agreed that topic-based trips are a strong improvement, as they make visits more meaningful and interesting. They commented that more routine trips, such as supermarkets and parks, can feel less engaging in comparison.

The student council requested more of the current style of trips and suggested several future destinations, including museums, leisure attractions, and educational venues (e.g. Natural History Museum, Chessington, Brighton Sea Life, and IKEA). They also proposed new learning topics such as Titanic, video games, pets, and cars.

Additionally, students suggested a small timetable change, moving lunch earlier by 15–30 Minutes, to allow more time for afternoon visits and improve the overall experience.

Closing note:

Connor thanked all pupils for attending.