



# Papillon House School Newsletter

Autumn Term 1 - Friday 4th September 2026



Dear Parents/Guardians,

It was lovely to welcome all our Papillon pupils back to school this week after the summer break and hope all our families enjoyed the holidays. Pupils settled back in really well and adapted to the changes positively. We welcome five new pupils this academic year to Woodland, Meadow and Peacock classes; Lucie, Lana, Reece, Dominic and Viktor and are looking forward to getting to know them over the next few weeks. We also welcomed Melissa (Speech & Language Therapist) who joined us this week. I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome all our new pupils and staff and wish them an extremely happy and successful journey at Papillon.

## Primary Department News

**Woodland Class** have settled in well and enjoyed exploring coloured macaroni during our RISE sessions, with some children independently finding and selecting tools from around the classroom to enhance their play and learning. The children also enjoyed visiting soft play and were excited to be back on the playground. The swing was a particular favourite!

**Meadow Class** have had a great two days and settled back into school brilliantly. We have been busy with PE in the big hall, OT and our woodland walk, exploring the grounds and meeting the chickens. We found lots of brown and orange leaves which we used in our autumn pictures. We have also been singing about 5 speckled frogs and using Numicon and tweezers to count pom poms.

**Peacock Class** have settled in nicely into the new academic year. Although a few of our young people had a bumpy start to the day on Thursday, by the end of the day, they were all joining in with our art session and had a good day. In the morning, we had small Maths and English sessions, with time in between for the students to settle, explore and get used to the new room. We completed a mixture of PE, reflection, going into the library and some ICT today with free time in the afternoon.

## Reminders & Requests

If any parents/carers have any **unwanted books** and are able to donate any of the following books it would be much appreciated.

- Rise up and Sing by Andrea Warner and Louise Raimer
- Know your rights and claim them: a guide for youth by Amnesty International
- South Asian Myths and legends by Sarah Shaffi
- Amazing Asia: An encyclopaedia of an Epic Continent by Rashmi Sirdeshpandi
- Lands of belonging: A history of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Britain by Donna Bhatt
- The Six Queens by Lydia Monks
- Eye Witness: Tudor
- Sensory Story - All about me by sensory Classroom
- Marvelous Me by Lisa Bullard

Thank you!

## Photo Gallery



### Secondary Department News

**Skipper Class** have managed to fit lots in, and the children have coped brilliantly with all the new changes. Yesterday, we enjoyed sensory story massage and cooking, where the children did a fantastic job cutting and exploring different foods and tasting a variety of textures from our new weekly snack options. Today, we had lots of fun exploring time during our sensory maths session and enjoyed some fantastic PE work, focusing on dance. This afternoon, we got creative with some lovely *'This Is Me'* artwork, using our handprints and photographs to create our own special pictures. A fantastic start to the new school year!

**Monarch Class** have been very busy completing some science, English and maths work. They enjoyed a lovely trip to Preston Park on Thursday and did some badminton in PE on Friday! On Thursday they decorated their own pencil cases using a variety of different materials in making, and organised different words in phonics to make sentences. They've had a great start to the new term and are getting to know their new peers. Well done to Bailey for making a delicious pumpkin soup!

**Admiral Class** have been speaking and writing about our Summer holidays and what we have all been doing during our break. We have enjoyed taking part in a PowerPoint activity where there were clues to 'get to know the adults in your class'. This year we will be learning to care for the school garden and start to grow vegetables, so we spent some time preparing the area.

**Emperor Class** have had a fantastic start to the new school year! We have really enjoyed catching up with one another and sharing news about our Summer holidays. The students have also been busy designing posters to advertise Emperor Café, which they will be running every Friday. Today, we had a trial run of the café, where the students made delicious pizza baguettes and, of course, got to enjoy tasting them too.

### Class Topics Autumn Term 1

(A full overview of this half term topics is at the end of this newsletter.)

**Woodland Class** – Incredible Me

**Meadow Class** – Incredible Me

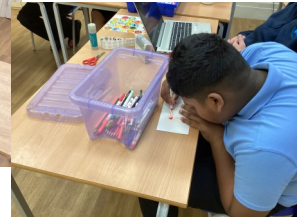
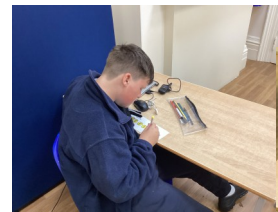
**Peacock Class** – Our School History

**Skipper Class** – Ourselves

**Monarch Class** – Tudors

**Admiral Class** – Asia

**Emperor Class** – Universal Human Rights



There were no primary birthdays this week.

## Therapy

The therapy team would like to say a big welcome to all the new and returning pupils. We look forward to engaging the pupils in a variety of different therapeutic activities to support their continued learning this year. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries or questions regarding your child.

## 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 the first week back is Jigsaw 'Changing Me'.

| DAY      | DATE          | TIME     | EVENT                                   |
|----------|---------------|----------|-----------------------------------------|
| Monday   | 5th October   | am       | School photographer (individual photos) |
| Monday   | 12th October  | 3.30-7pm | Parents' Evening                        |
| Friday   | 16th October  | 3pm      | End of half term                        |
| Monday   | 2nd November  | 9.25am   | Start of Autumn Term 2                  |
| Thursday | 12th November | 12.15pm  | Mexican themed lunch                    |
| Thursday | 10th December | All day  | Christmas jumper day for Crisis         |
| Monday   | 14th December | 12.15pm  | Children's Christmas lunch              |

## Papillon 'Food Shout-Out'

Well done Gabrieli for trying a variety of different fruits and snacks during snack time including grapes, cucumber, rice cakes, cream cheese, pitta and carrot sticks!

## Key Contacts

*Office Team*

*admin@papillonhouseschool.co.uk*

*Therapy Team*

*therapyleads@papillonhouseschool.co.uk*

*Anne Mackey - Head Teacher and Lead DSL*

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*Head of Therapy and Deputy DSL*

*heather.dilks-hopper@papillonhouseschool.co.uk*

## WOODLAND CLASS



Welcome to Woodland Class. We are really looking forward to this half term, we have lots of fun activities planned. Our new classroom is set up and ready to go! Our topic this half term is **Incredible Me**. We will be learning about ourselves and the world around us.

Our literacy focus' will be a poem called 'I am me' and the story 'Incredible You' by Rhys Brisenden. We will learn about how incredible we are and make books about ourselves, our school and our wider worlds that we can share with our friends. We will be developing our sound awareness and sound discrimination skills as well as playing alphabet games. In PSED, the topic is '**Being me in our world**' we will be looking at ourselves in mirrors and exploring different emotions and how they present. We will make playdough faces and learn to work together and take turns in the classroom. In PSED sessions there will be plenty of opportunities to enjoy shared experiences and explore new activities together.

In Maths, we will explore the concepts big and small, more and few and the same. The classroom will be set up with a range of activities to engage with, including sensory activities that will incorporate the key words. The children will make big towers and knock them down, use different sized containers in sand and water and join in with repetitive number rhymes.

In Food Technology, the children will have the opportunity to explore and taste a variety of foods, including some that are familiar and others that may be new to them. We will encourage them to express their preferences using simple language such as "yummy" or "yuck." The children will also follow simple instructions to create recipes, using a range of kitchen utensils and equipment. During our weekly music sessions, they will explore different musical instruments, develop their listening skills, and practise taking turns while playing larger instruments.

Our knowledge and Understanding of the World (Science) sessions will be learning about the human body and how it works. We will also be looking at different animals and discussing our favourites.

Our physical activity is swimming. We will be heading to Aqua pups at Headley on a Monday. We are looking forward to seeing how they progress through the term. Please remember to send in swimming stuff every week.

On a Tuesday afternoon, we will be exploring our local community. We will visit local parks and woodlands, supermarkets, garden centres and the local library.

P.E will be on Fridays where we will be developing our throwing and catching skills.

In Creative sessions we will be creating self-portraits, pictures of others and other faces. We are looking forward to a very fun and busy term!

Lauren and the Woodland Class Team

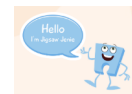
## MEADOW CLASS



Welcome Meadow Class! It's going to be a fun half term with lots of new learning to look forward to. We will be starting the term with our topic 'Incredible Me', learning all about ourselves, the things we like and what we are good at.



In English, we will be listening to poems about how incredible we are and finding ways to express ourselves. We can use mirrors to look at our faces and see if we can change them to show different emotions. We will be using our whole bodies to make big displays of everyone in Meadow Class and use different resources to decorate them with things that we like. In science, we will learn about our senses and use 'feely boxes', magnifying glasses and listening walks to understand the world around us.



Our PSHE lessons will focus on 'Being Me in My World', where we can show others how we are feeling and help everyone to feel welcome in our school. We will learn about gentle hands and how to work alongside others in our happy classroom.

In phonics we will be learning about letters and the sounds they make, starting with S, A, T. Once we've practised the sounds, we can then blend them to make words. Linda loves reading stories, so we can find the sounds in the classroom books; please do use the stories you have at home to do the same if you can.



Our maths learning will be starting with matching, sorting and comparing objects. We will use lots of different resources and a variety of sensory learning techniques to practise this; using language of match, same, different and set. The children will be setting the table for snacktime, so may be able to show you what they can do, at home. The second topic is measuring, where we will be comparing sizes, lengths and mass and using vocabulary of smaller, bigger, longer, shorter, heavier and lighter. Then we will move onto numeracy and understanding numbers with language including counting, more, less, how many.



Our topic will incorporate learning about small world environments, like toy farms. This will enhance our learning in Food Tech, where we start to explore simple foods and where they originate from. The children will be encouraged to use all their senses with the different foods and then create some artwork. We will also be exploring our grounds, seeing what grows in the woodland, how the garden changes throughout the season and what the chickens are up to!

Our enrichment programme this half term involves horse riding every Thursday, when your child will need wellies (to be left in school if possible) and a change of trousers. We will also have community visits each Tuesday afternoon, which will be different each week. These will involve trips to woodland walks, supermarkets, cafes, libraries and playparks. We will also have a day trip in a few weeks - more information will follow nearer to the time.



Linda and the Meadow Class Team

## PEACOCK CLASS

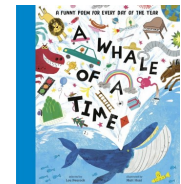


In English this half term, our topic will be “Our School History”. We will be exploring our school, looking at its history and finding out more about how it has changed over time. We will be developing our reading, speaking and writing skills through a range of activities linked to our school and its history.

We will also be using two books to support our learning. These are *A Whale of a Time: Funny Poems* by Lou Peacock and Matt Hunt, and *I Wonder Where I Am?* by Shinsuke Yoshitake.

Through *A Whale of a Time: Funny Poems*, we will be exploring different types of poems and enjoying the humour and illustrations within the book. We will have opportunities to listen to, read and create our own poems.

We will also use *I Wonder Where I Am?* to introduce our work on maps and places. We will explore maps, think about different locations and develop our understanding of how places can be represented. This will provide opportunities for the children to create and explore their own maps.



In Maths, we will be focusing on matching, sorting and comparing. We will be developing the children’s understanding of how objects can be grouped and sorted according to different features, as well as learning to identify similarities and differences between objects. We will be incorporating the White Rose Maths scheme of work to help inform our teaching and learning, using practical and hands-on activities to support the children in developing their mathematical understanding.

In Science, our topic this half term will be ‘Me and My Small World’. We will be exploring ourselves and the world around us, developing our understanding through practical activities. We will be incorporating the White Rose Science scheme of work to help inform our learning, using a range of activities and investigations to encourage the students to explore, observe and talk about the world around them. It ties in quite nicely with our maths topic, and will feature some crossover between the two.

In PSHE, our topic this half term will be ‘Being Me in My World’. We will be exploring what it means to be ourselves and our place within our class and wider school community. We will develop our understanding of ourselves, our feelings and how we can work positively with others.

We will be using the Jigsaw scheme of work to support our learning, with a range of activities and discussions designed to help the children develop their confidence, relationships and understanding of themselves and the world around them.

Our art sessions will be linked to our topic of ‘Our School History’, as well as the two books we will be exploring in English. Everyone will have opportunities to develop their creative skills through a range of art activities inspired by our school, and the ideas explored within our books.

Tom and the Peacock Class Team

## SKIPPER CLASS



Welcome back to all our lovely families as we begin a brand new school year! We hope you have all had a wonderful summer and that the children are feeling refreshed and ready for another year of learning. This half term, our topic is 'Ourselves'. Through a range of music, sensory and practical activities, children will explore themselves, their bodies and what makes them unique. They will have opportunities to explore and create self-portraits using a variety of colours, textures and materials, as well as developing their awareness of facial features and different parts of the body. We will also use songs, sensory experiences, props and sound buttons to support children in exploring and retelling stories. Our focus books will include sensory stories such as *All About Me* by Sensory Classroom, *Marvellous Me* by Lisa Bullard and *Super Duper You* by Sophy Henn.

For our White Rose Maths sessions this half term, children will develop their understanding of number, counting and quantity through practical and hands-on activities. They will explore recognising and matching numbers, counting objects, actions and sounds, comparing quantities and developing an understanding of 'one more' and 'one less'. Children will also begin to explore sequencing and ordering events using everyday language such as 'first' and 'then'. Some children will also explore 2-D and 3-D shapes, including recognising, naming and sorting shapes, before moving on to comparing and measuring length and height using a range of practical resources.

In our Science sessions this half term, our focus will be on hygiene and looking after our bodies. Children will explore the importance of keeping ourselves clean through a range of practical and sensory activities. They will have opportunities to practise hand washing, face washing, brushing teeth, brushing hair and blowing their noses, as well as exploring how exercise affects our bodies. Children will also investigate reflections and light through mirrors, foil and other reflective materials. We would be grateful if families could send in a small toiletries kit for their young person to use during these activities, including items such as a toothbrush, toothpaste, flannel, soap and hairbrush.

In our PSHE sessions, we will be focusing on the Jigsaw theme 'Being Me In My World'. This will be presented in an attention circle style with pupils watching at adult present then completing their own activity. It will follow the Jigsaw theme so in line with rest of school.

Our World Views learning, our theme will be Christianity and current celebrations including Harvest. This will link in with our themed assemblies which will be happening in the classroom this term.

Additionally, Skipper class have the exciting opportunity to take part in a new session 'RISE' which is to enhance pupils' communication and regulation development. RISE was designed by Sensory Classroom and follows a four-part process to include a co-regulation experience, an invitation to learn, a shared experience and an ending. Naomi will be leading RISE sessions this term.

In Cooking, our themes this half term are 'Taste and Texture' and 'Serving and Sharing'. Children will explore a wide variety of textures through practical and sensory activities, developing their awareness of descriptive words such as soft, hard, rough, fluffy, scratchy and spiky. We will also explore how food can be presented and served in different ways depending on the time of day, occasion and people we are sharing it with. Children will develop their understanding of sharing food with others and the importance of appropriate portion sizes, while continuing to build their confidence and independence in the kitchen.

Our off-site physical activity this half term is cycling. Please ensure your young person has appropriate clothing for these sessions, particularly a **named** warm or waterproof coat during colder or wetter weather.

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 Skipper Class Team

## MONARCH CLASS



Over this half term, Monarch Class will be learning about the topic of "Tudors". Again, this year we have topic books for each of our half-termly focuses, so in the first week, we will be focusing on the first of our topic books in this area; "My Friend Walter" by Michael Morpurgo. The class will explore the messages mentioned in the story as well as research different characters and think about their points of view in the book! In the second week, we will be thinking about the different types of feelings that Walter has as well as the historical aspects in Walter's story that can be referred to this in topic sessions. The class will also use their imaginations to reenact different parts of the story to understand it in more depth while carrying out some role play.

Moving on into the third week, Monarch class will continue reading our topic story and think more deeply around "friendship" and what makes a good friend and the class will complete some story writing based on this story. We will be focusing on what we have learned from the book to support the story writing as well as thinking about why it is important to tell stories. We will also be using our topic lessons to aid our learning on "Tudors" where the class will be researching into some prominent figures in that historical period including Henry VIII and his six wives.

Then, as we move into the fourth week Monarch class will be finishing our learning using the topic book and thinking about the morals and learning from the story. We also have two other topic books for this half term's topic however these are non-fiction books, and we will be using these to facilitate our learning in both English and Topic lessons in class over the last few weeks of the half term. I believe that the class will thoroughly enjoy learning about the Tudors in school and they will learn lots about that time period including what the Tudors did for leisure as well as what they ate!

This half term, we will be aiming to visit Knights Garden Centre in Betchworth, London, Banstead Library as well as Preston playpark on our community visits. This half term, Monarch class will also have the exciting opportunity to visit Dorking Leisure Centre for swimming lessons on Tuesday mornings which I know the class are very excited about so please send in swimming kits on Tuesdays. Additionally, the children will also be going on a whole day class trip in the half term based on our topic of "Tudors".

In our maths lessons, Monarch class will be taught in streamed maths groups, working within their ability groups to ensure that all students are suitably challenged and supported to reach their full potential.

The class will continue to carry out the Jigsaw PSHE sessions in class and our topic for PSHE this half term is 'Being Me in My World' where the children will be thinking about their year ahead and how they fit into their peer group.

Additionally, the class will be starting a new Food Tech curriculum this term through the "Food A Fact of Life" scheme of work and Monarch class will be focusing on planning to cook, ingredients, cooking for health and hygiene and safety before cooking foods like fruit salads and vegetable kebabs.

Alex and the Monarch Class Team

## ADMIRAL CLASS



We have lots of exciting learning planned for this half term and I wanted to share a little bit about what we will be getting up to in class.

In PSHE, we will be looking at becoming a class team and what it means to be part of our school community. We will be learning about being a school citizen, rights, responsibilities and democracy, as well as rewards and consequences. We will also be looking at being 'me' in a group, expectations and perceptions of relationships, peer pressure and grooming.

Within Music this term we will be exploring the music of Asia. We will use maps to look at different countries and regions, including India, Japan, China, Indonesia and Korea. We will be listening to different types of music and beginning to identify the instruments and musical features that we can hear. We will be thinking about rhythm, melody, tempo, dynamics and timbre. This will give the children the opportunity to explore the many different cultures and musical traditions across Asia.

In Phonics, we will be continuing with individual phonics sessions and building on the reading skills that the children have already developed. The sessions will continue to be based around individual needs, helping each child to develop their reading skills and confidence.

In Reading, we will be exploring South Asian myths and legends. Our topic related books will be *South Asian Myths and Legends* by Sarah Shaffi and *Amazing Asia: An Encyclopaedia of an Epic Continent* by Rashmi Sirdeshpandi. These books will help us to learn more about the different cultures, stories and traditions found across Asia.

As part of our cooking activities, we will be exploring a variety of fresh ingredients, including lemongrass, root ginger, fresh basil, lime and fresh coriander. The children will have the opportunity to smell, touch and taste the different ingredients and talk about their flavours, textures and smells. We will also be learning how ingredients can be combined to create different dishes and how to follow simple recipes and instructions. This will help the learners to develop their confidence and practical skills when preparing and cooking food, while also learning about the importance of food hygiene and safety.

In Science this term, Admiral Class will be learning all about rocks. The children will explore different types of rock and investigate their properties by looking closely at their appearance and texture. We will be finding out how rocks are formed and how fossils occur within sedimentary rock, as well as learning about soil and how it is made from rocks and organic matter. The children will have the opportunity to take part in some hands-on investigations, comparing and grouping different rocks based on what they observe.

In Maths this term, Admiral Class will be split into streamed groups based on ability, allowing us to tailor teaching more closely to each child's current level of understanding. This approach ensures that every child is appropriately challenged and well supported, with lessons pitched to help them build confidence, consolidate key skills and continue making strong progress towards their next steps in learning.

This term our off-site physical activity will be tennis. Admiral Class will be taking part in tennis at Ebbisham Tennis Club on Mondays. Please remember to send your child into school with their P.E kit on these days.

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



We are starting the new school year by exploring the important and thought-provoking topic of Universal Human Rights. Throughout the term, students will develop their understanding of what human rights are and why they are important in ensuring that everyone is treated with dignity, fairness and respect. Students will explore the difference between wants and needs, considering what everyone needs to live a safe, healthy and fulfilling life.

In Maths, we will focus on developing Functional Skills. Students will build their confidence in key areas such as number, measure, money, and problem-solving, helping them to apply their learning to everyday situations.

In Science this term, we will be exploring the human body, with a particular focus on our bones and skeleton. Students will learn to identify and name some of the major bones in the human body and develop an understanding of the important functions of the skeleton, including providing support, protecting vital organs and helping us to move. We will also investigate animal skeletons, comparing different animals and considering how their skeletons are similar to or different from our own.

English skills will continue to be developed through our Functional Skills lessons, as well as across all areas of learning throughout the school day. Students will have opportunities to build their reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills through a range of activities linked to our class topics and real-life experiences.

In PSHE this term, we will be exploring the topic “Being Me in My World”, focusing on what it means to understand ourselves, our rights and our place within the wider community. We will explore the important themes of liberty and safety, which link closely with our Universal Human Rights topic. Students will consider what it means to feel safe, have choices and express themselves, while also understanding the responsibilities that come with these freedoms.

This term, students will have the opportunity to develop their tennis skills through weekly sessions at Ebbisham Tennis Club, working with coach Callum. Alongside our tennis sessions, students will also take part in weekly PE lessons at school with Charlene. These sessions will provide opportunities to develop a range of physical skills, promote fitness and wellbeing, and encourage students to work together and participate positively. Please ensure P.E kits are brought into school.

Throughout the school year, students will take part in a range of enterprise projects designed to develop important employability skills and prepare them for the world of work. These projects will encourage students to build confidence, communication, teamwork, organisation and problem-solving skills, while giving them opportunities to take on different roles and responsibilities. This term, we will be running our Emperor Café every Friday, where students will plan, prepare, cook and serve lunch to staff.

Students will also be busy creating a range of products to sell at our Enterprise Fair before Christmas. They will be involved in the planning, making, pricing and selling of their products, giving them valuable experience of running a small business and developing their entrepreneurial skills.

We are looking forward to a fantastic first term with the new Emperor Class.

Mary and the Emperor Class Team