



Park Mead Post

Happy March to everyone! Spring is beginning to emerge and our Park Mead community have made a super start to term 4.

We have several exciting events planned for this term as well as new topics for our pupils to explore and enjoy.

Parents evenings are next week; Monday 7th, Tuesday 8th and Thursday 10th March. This will be a good opportunity for parents/carers to discuss your child/ren's progress and well being. A 'Book Look' will be arranged for week 6 of this term with feedback forms available.

Recent Events

Swimming Gala at Bedes

A group of our children were invited to take part in a Swimming Gala at Bedes last Friday.

They all enjoyed themselves and achieved some great results—well done to you all!!



World Book Day

We had a great day celebrating World Book Day. A big thank you to all staff for making this a fun filled day. Our afternoon story telling carousel gave our pupils the opportunity to listen to four different stories read by different



teachers. We also produced a whole school finger painting mural.

Awards

These children have impressed their teachers and peers this week

Willows

Lacey—Creativity and Positivity

Chestnuts

Layla and Florence—Teamwork, Problem Solving and Staying Positive

Brynly—Staying Positive and Leadership

Maples

Evi – Aiming High– Brilliant Times Tables Practising

Cody – Problem Solving and Teamwork – Fabulous History Enquiry Work

Oaks

Kyle - Leadership

Charley - Problem Solving

Emma Pg—Staying Positive

Tommy— Problem Solving

Well done!



Attendance

At Park Mead we strive to improve the attendance of our students. Every school day provides opportunities for learning, as well as social and emotional development so it is noticeable when students miss school as it impacts their progress.

Attendance Whole School: 93.94%

	Last Week	Year
Willows:	96 %	96.33%
Chestnuts:	90 %	94.21%
Maples:	89.8%	92.76 %
Oaks:	91.38 %	93.73 %

*Less than 94.9% - Red
95—96.4% - Amber
96.5—99.9% - Green
100% - Gold*

Please support us and your child to ensure that attendance is a priority.



Attendance Matters



Executive Head Teacher: Mr James Procter

Chair of Governors: Mr Alan Brundle

Head of School: Mrs Heidi West

E-mail: office@parkmead.e-sussex.sch.uk Website: <https://pioneerfederation.co.uk/parkmead/>

News from Willows

In Willows we have excitedly embraced our new topic 'The Great Outdoors' and have started to think about why and how things grow. We have enjoyed looking for signs of Spring and found buds on trees, daffodils peeping up and a few birds returning. We have also noticed that it is starting to get a little warmer and lighter- a very welcome sign!

Our two focus texts over the past two weeks have been Jasper's Beanstalk and Jack and the Beanstalk. We have enjoyed listening to the stories and in particular, we have been learning about what a seed needs to grow and even planted some of our own in our class allotment. We built our own really tall beanstalks and experimented with the paints to find out how to make the colour green and various shades of green so we could paint our own beanstalks.



News from Chestnuts

We have had a great start to this term continuing our work on dinosaurs. The children really enjoyed making their own pinecone bees and planting daffodils at Forest School.

We had an amazing world book day, it was great to see you all dressed up in such fabulous costumes!

As we are continuing to progress our learning please make sure you are reading with your child 3 times a week and keep practicing counting in 2's, 5's and 10s or your timetables!!



News from Maples

In maths, Maples have been learning their tables brilliantly with most getting full marks with their 4 and 8 times table.

We had a lovely world book day making paper dolls, writing riddles, making mini books, creating cave paintings and talking about our favourite books.

As scientists we created a volcano using food colouring, water and baking soda and watched it explode when we added vinegar!



News from Oaks

We have been having lots of active learning in Oaks over the passed two weeks. We have really enjoyed listening to Wolf Brother and learning about Torak's survival in the clan territories. We have developed some simple drama techniques using dialogue and using 'role on the wall' to imagine how the character's feel.

In music we have been learning to play 'Hedwig's Theme' using the glockenspiels, linking to World Book Day this week. All the children looked wonderful and I really enjoyed challenging my inner Trunchbull! In science we have been using our measuring skills in scientific enquiry to see if *'The pupil with the largest femur can jump the furthest'* - we even used the language of median and mean to find the average measurement. Finally, in geography, we have learning about the compass points and how to read an OS map using the grid references.



WORLD
BOOK DAY
3 MARCH 2022
25 YEARS



Pioneer Updates

Behaviour Policy

Please click below to view the updated Pioneer [Behaviour Policy](#)

General Kitchen Assistant Vacancy

General Kitchen Assistant required
Chiddingly Primary School
12.5 hours Monday to Friday
Please contact Alex for more information Alex.newbigging@compass-group.co.uk

Congratulations!

A huge congratulations to Mrs May who is expecting her first baby!

Mrs May will continue to teach Chestnuts until the end of this academic year.

We will keep you posted of staff developments for Autumn 2022.



Upcoming Events

March 2022

3rd World Book Day
7th, 8th & 10th—Parents Consultations
8th Maples Sports Morning at Bedes
8th Yr 5/6 Netball Tournament at Chiddingly
14th Science Week
15th Oaks Sports Morning at Bedes
18th March Red Nose Day
23rd March Oaks Visit to Parliament
28-1st Grounds Week

April 2022

1st End of Term 4
4th Easter Fun Run
19th Start of Term 5

May 2022

2nd Bank Holiday
27th End of Term 5

June 2022

6th Inset Day
7th Start of Term 6
15th Year 5 Bikeability
16th Year 5 Bikeability
22nd—Group Photos

July 2022

8th Sports Day
15th Reserve Sports Day
21st End of Term 6



This year Red Nose Day is on 18 March!!



Red Nose Day - Comic Relief

Red Nose Day is back on Friday 18 March and this year it's never felt more important to have some fun and raise money to support people living incredibly tough lives.

We need the power of funny to turn laughs into last change.

So whatever you can do, please join us. www.comicrelief.com

To celebrate and raise money for such a worthy cause, we would like the children to come to school on Red Nose Day wearing mufti, (maybe something red?), with a voluntary donation of £1.00. Please visit ParentPay to make your donation.

<https://www.comicrelief.com/rednoseday>

Willows Forest School

Wednesday 23rd February 2022

Willows class new topic this term is 'How does it grow?', so we set off to the school garden.



After explaining about how *"plants need soil, and water and sun to grow, and rain, that is water and plants grow from seeds you know? and they grow in mud"*. The children set about digging over the school

garden patch. They found the roots of the plants and were very excited to explain their knowledge about how the roots give the plants their food.



Whilst digging they found lots of worms, and some ants eggs and tiny centipedes. It was so good to see such engagement and enthusiasm for their learning along with great working as a team.



Once the plot was cleared, they planted some bulbs leftover from the autumn and took great care to think about how deep the holes needed to be, how

they had to cover them and pat down the soil.

With a wheelbarrow full of weeds, they set off down the Forest School area to tip them on the ground.

"The worms will like them down here"

"Other animals might come and eat the weeds here"

Willows joined in with the rhythms and words of a song and then used tapping sticks to make up new rhythm patterns to take turns in leading the class with.

The Impact of Forest School for the children is the knowledge the children have gained from the Forest School experience.

The impact can be seen through the skills, tools used, art and craft activities, observations and knowledge of the fruit, plants trees in relation to the fruit, plants and trees in relation to the seasons and the skills involved in learning how to play Forest School Games.

The children kept themselves very busy with clearing any fallen twigs and small branches from the recent storm.

"This will be really good to make a fire!"

"Look at how big this branch is, it is taller than me!"

Some of them then used some of the wood to rebuild the den in the corner of the site. They worked together to build and balance and help each other carry larger bits of woods.

Other children returned to climbing in the large ivy bush today, where they had spent lots of time last session making a den.



They then passed 'Stick Man' around the circle to share what they enjoyed about the session.

"I likes planting and digging"

"I like building the den with my friends"

"I like finding worms, mine was massive!"

"I like going on the swing and pushing my friends on it"



Chestnuts Forest School

Wednesday 2nd March 2022

The class started their afternoon by learning a song about Spring with actions.

'Spring is here' said the bumblebee

'How do you know?' said the old oak tree

'Because I saw a daffodil,

Dancing with the fairies on the windy hill'

The children then split into two groups and one set off to weed their school garden beds and plant daffodils ready for next year. They worked brilliantly together and were very excited to find worms and small beetle larvae in the soil. They had also saved some apple pips from their snack and planted these in small pots.

"If we grow these into apple trees, we can plant them at Forest School and always have something to eat here!"

The class then made some tiny bees with alder cones and yellow string. They developed their fine motor control, by carefully winding the string around the cones, attaching a small pair of wings to them. Chestnuts took their bees to the vegetable garden to let them feed on the nectar of daffodils and even found a real bumble bee resting inside a daffodil trumpet!

Once the daffodils were planted the class set off to the Forest School area with a wheelbarrow full of weeds to compost and lots of tiny bumble bees.

The Impact of Forest School for the children is the knowledge the children have gained from the Forest School experience. The impact can be seen through the skills gained, tools used, art and craft activities, observations and knowledge of the fruit, plants trees in relation to the seasons and the skills involved in learning how to play Forest School games.

The rest of the afternoon saw Chestnuts following their own ideas. They really wanted to continue with the den area and spent lots of time moving large pieces of wood to place them as walls for the den. They climbed a part of the den next to the fence to look over at the surrounding fields and saw lots of crows.

This afternoon the lady bird board game was back and the children spent a long time trying to win the game, like noughts and crosses, to get three matching ladybirds

in a row and block their opponents.



There was also lots of tree climbing, swinging and playing in the mud kitchen.

Some of the children found what they thought was a giant dinosaur footprint in the mud! They got very excited and went off to find some trowels to dig around it to uncover it more.

It is great to see the confidence in self-chosen activities at Forest School developing in all of the children.



Understanding Anxiety:

What is it and how can you support your child?

Anxiety is a normal and healthy human reaction. When anxiety is mild to moderate, it can often improve performance but sometimes anxiety can become a problem when it interferes with everyday life.

- Me & My Mind provides an **online** 1.5 hour workshop on understanding anxiety and what it might look like for a child (behaviours and physical signs).
- The workshop includes strategies to help Parents and Carers to manage anxiety at home.
- Including resources and activities ideas that you can do at home with your family.

Tuesday 22nd March 2022, 1:00pm to 2:30pm

[Click here to book](#) or email us

Me & My Mind is a Children's Mental Health service working in your school.

We can be contacted on:

Email: mhst.info@eastsussex.gov.uk

Call: 01273 335585



or scan the QR code for a short film about our team.



A helping hand with your mental health
me & my mind
East Sussex Mental Health Support Team

Understanding Sleep:

What is it and how can you support your child?

Sleep plays a central role in our learning, emotional regulation, behaviour, and how we interact with others – all of which might help to explain the vital role that sleep plays in our ability to interact and cope with the world around us.

- Me & My Mind provides an **online** 1-hour workshop on understanding sleep and what may cause sleeping difficulties.
- The workshop includes strategies to help Parents and Carers to promote good sleep habits at home.
- Including resources and activities ideas that you can do at home with your family.

Monday 28th March 2022, 4pm to 5pm

[Click here to book](#) or email us

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Understanding **Low Mood**:

What is it and how can you support your child?

For many children and young people, low mood and low self-esteem are closely connected, and low mood can impact on a person's sense of self and their self-esteem.

- Me & My Mind provides an **online** 1-hour workshop on understanding low mood and what it might look like for a child.
- The workshop includes strategies to help Parents and Carers to manage low mood at home.
- Including resources and activities ideas that you can do at home with your family.

Thursday 5th May 2022, 10am to 11am

[Click here to book a space](#) or email us

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- The workshop includes strategies to help Parents and Carers to manage anxiety at home.
- Including resources and activities ideas that you can do at home with your family.

Tuesday 7th June 2022, 1:00pm to 2:30pm

[Click here to book](#) or email us

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Call: 01273 335585



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