



Park Mead Newsletter

As the Autumn half term approaches, we reflect on all our amazing achievements this term at Park Mead Primary.

In week 1 of next term, we would love you to have the opportunity to see all your child's learning at our 'Book Look' sessions. More information is in the diary section of this newsletter.

Our valuable 'Friends' (PTA) are looking for volunteers and support. With only a few dedicated members left on their committee, they desperately need your help if they are to remain a functioning group. As a school we benefit hugely from the contributions they make to our school community, financially and through fun events. Their fundraising impacts positively on your child's environment and learning.

We would really appreciate if you could give them some of your time to support this worthwhile cause. Please contact Debbie www.facebook.com/groups/1618708518394475

Parents evenings are coming up on Tuesday 8th November and Thursday 10th November. More information regarding booking a time will be emailed next week.

Wishing you all a lovely October half term when it comes.

Heidi West
Head of School



Diary

October

- 20—Harvest Festival Assembly
- 21—Year 5/6 High 5 Netball Tournament
- 21—Last Day of Term 1
- 31—1st Day of Term 2
- 31—Secondary School Applications Close

November

- 1—KS2 Parents Book Look (Maples/Oaks)
(2.45-3.15pm)
- 3—Chestnuts Parents Book Look (2.45-3.15pm)
- 4—Maples First Swimming Lesson
- 8/10—Parent Consultations
- 14—Anti Bullying Week
- 18—Children in Need
- 21—Fun Run (details to be confirmed)
- 25—Flu Vaccinations
- 30—Individual School Photos

December

- 7/8—EYFS Nativity Play
- 16—Last Day of Term 2

January

- 3—Inset Day
- 4—1st Day of Term 3
- 6—Chestnuts First Swimming Lesson

February

- 8—Safer Internet Day
- 10—Last Day of Term 3
- 20—1st Day of Term 4
- 24—Willows First Swimming Lesson

March

- 2—World Book Day
- 7—Parent Consultations
- 9—Parent Consultations
- 17—Red Nose Day
- 31—Last Day of Term 4

April

- 17—1st Day of Term 5

May

- 1—Bank Holiday
- 15—Mental Health Awareness Week
- 26—Last Day of Term 5

June

- 5—Inset Day
- 6—1st Day of Term 6
- 13—Year 5 Bikeability

July

- 7—Sports Day
- 14—Reserve Sports Day
- 14—School Reports
- 18—Leavers Assembly
- 20—Last Day of Term 6
- 21—Inset Day

Weekly Events:

- Monday—After School Sports Club 3.15-4.15
- Wednesday—Drumming Lessons
- Thursday—Piano Lessons
- Thursday—Drama Club 3.15-4.15pm
- Thursday—Golden Assembly
- Friday—Guitar Lessons



News from Willows

This week Willows have been learning about the number '5' and they have practiced their number formation.

They have looked at baby photos of themselves and described what they were like as babies.

They also made a leaf kebab in Forest School which they really enjoyed.

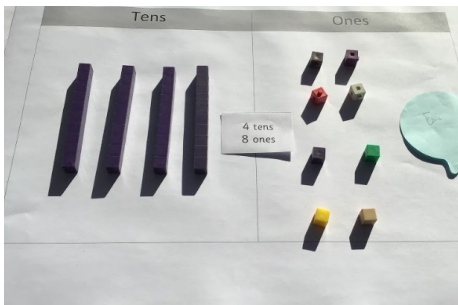


Huge congratulations to Mrs Mateides, Willows learning mentor, who will be having a baby in the new year.



News from Chestnuts

We've had some wonderfully creative lessons in Chestnuts these last few weeks; in maths we have been looking at representing numbers in their partitioned forms (tens and ones) and counting one more and less than a certain number.



In Science we have continued to explore "Materials," sorting and grouping objects into different categories and then building on this to decide how we might plan a fair test to pick which fabric would make the best curtains!

In English our focus has been on the text "Traction Man" - a superhero who saves animals from

Evil Pillows and fights the Poisonous Dishcloth in the sink! The children have worked very hard to create their own villains and I must say, I'm a little terrified of some of them! We've had naughty ladders, evil coffee pots and some horrid Hoovers!



Some other highlights from the past few weeks have been the parachute game in PE and making Victorian toys in History. Keep going Chestnuts, I know you're all looking forward to half term and you really deserve it!

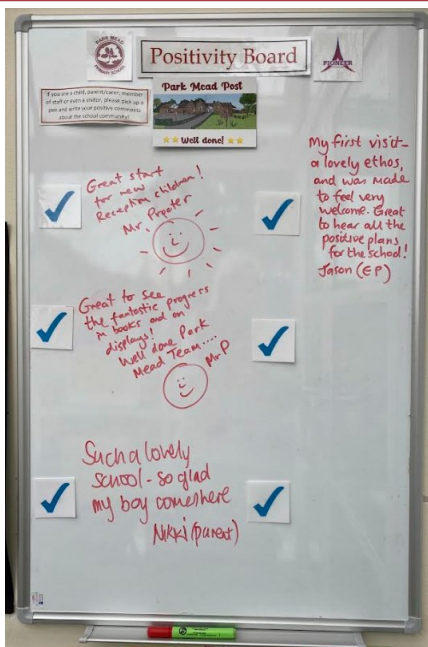
Mrs Hudd



News from Maples

Maples had a wonderful trip to Herstonceux this week; the children were amazing and loved being scientists and engineers! We are also coding during ICT lessons.

As musicians, we have been exploring samba music using instruments, which has been a lot of fun.



Please feel free to write on our Positivity Board in the school entrance



Mr Elphicks amazing Active Mile board shows the current progress.



News from PGL

Oaks have been having the best time at PGL, 4 nights away!

They have been superstars, trying new and challenging activities. They really enjoyed the high ropes and worked as teams in many different situations.

We also love to shop and the sales assistant couldn't believe 28 children took an hour to spend their money! They have all been amazing and have all pushed themselves in different ways!

Go Oaks. Miss Taiclet and I are so proud of you all.



Thank You!

We would like to give a big *shout out* to Mrs Laker for spending her volunteer day from work giving the Oasis a much needed coat of paint.

It looks fantastic and is a really nice space for the children to use.



Vacancy

We are looking for dedicated Site Manager(s) to help keep our East Hoathly, Chiddingly, St Mary's and Park Mead premises looking their best. (Park Mead site from January 2023).

Applicants are welcome to apply for one or more of our schools. The hours are approximately 12.5 hrs per week per school, therefore hours could be part-time or full-time.

For more details please visit the information tab on our website.



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—Academic Year: 94.25%

	This Year	This Week
Willows:	95.39%	98.81%
Chestnuts:	94.83%	93.10%
Maples:	92.97%	92.20%
Oaks:	94.54%	91.67%

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 their attendance is a priority.



Oaks Forest School

Wednesday 5th October 2022

Oaks Class started their afternoon with a game of 'fox and rabbit'. They worked really well as a class, and were good at noticing which members of the class had had a go and were very agile with their running!



Some of the class showed great perseverance when using the fire strikers to light the fire. They practised being patient in taking turns to use the tools and with the strong wind, which

threatened to put out the fire as they were lighting it! They then used sticks to toast marshmallows and sandwiched them between biscuits to make smores, which were delicious on a cold, windy day!

The whole class then explored the Forest School area and chose to follow their own interests.

There was lots of drilling into conkers and acorns with palm drills. The children showed a developing independence in using tools to carefully drill holes on them, then threading them onto string and adding details of colour and design with pens.



Some children created with clay. Creating small sculptures and adding details of textures and

features using clay tools and autumn finds such as blackberries and hawthorn berries.

There was lots of industrious moving of branches and logs to create a den with a trampoline in the overgrown fallen tree area.

A group of children were really involved in digging in the clay rich soil. They then discovered they could ram the soil into the 'frog' of a brick to create their own bricks. *"We just need to make 100,000 more, then we can use it to build walls of our den"*



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 seasons and the skills involved in learning how to play Forest School games.

Oaks ended their session by working in pairs to discuss what they had done, enjoyed and achieved during the afternoon. They each wrote a series of words on reflection stickers after discussing together.



Willows Forest School

Wednesday 12 October

To start the afternoon, Willows shared their knowledge about autumn and how the leaves fall from the trees. Each child had a stick and went and collected lots of different types of leaves and put them onto the stick to make a leaf kebab. We talked about looking closely at the shapes of the leaves as a way of identifying them. We found many different colours— curvy oak leaves, yellow birch leaves, red cherry leaves and some heart shaped leaves.

The children played a game of 'beetle tag' on the field. They took turns in being beetles and birds and had to try not being tagged, by showing agility and being able to run, turn, stop and dodge. When they got tagged the children had to lie on their backs like beetles with their arms and legs in the air! It was great to see teamwork and turn taking during the game. Well done Willows.

The children listened to the story of 'Leaf Man' who goes where the wind blows.

They then had a go at using palm drills to try to drill holes in conkers and acorns. The children showed good perseverance with drilling and then threading them onto pipe cleaners. Willows were good at counting how many they had drilled and threaded. They then hung them up in the Forest School shelter. The children were then inspired to put their drilled conkers on sticks which they put into a pumpkin. They found feathers and their leaf kebabs which they decorated the pumpkin with also.

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 seasons and the skills involved in learning how to play Forest School games.

Then the children had the chance to choose their

own exploration and play. They spent a long time playing in the mud kitchen with acorns. Lots of them enjoyed exploring the bug hotel and in the fallen tree area.

Willows ended their session by passing 'Stick Man' round the circle and sharing what they had enjoyed about the afternoon.

"I liked swinging on the hammock"

"I liked playing the beetle game"

"I liked playing in the mud kitchen"

"I liked drilling the conkers and making them to hang on the tree"

"I liked collecting leaves"





from the Friends of Park Mead Primary School

Dear Parents/Carers,

A warm welcome to all new parents who are joined Park Mead Primary School this September and welcome back to returning parents.

The Friends of Park Mead

The Friends of Park Mead is an independently registered charity who organise fundraising and fun events throughout the year. EVERY penny raised is donated to Park Mead to support or fund projects, mainly as part of the School's Development Plan. We meet socially once a month to organise our events and fundraising program.

As you are all aware 2021 continued to have its challenges and this restricted our opportunities to fund raise but as things began to open up more in 2022 some of the old favourites returned. We still managed to raise just under £1500 in the 2020/2021 school year. These events included the Hallowe'en Disco, Movie Night, Wreath Making Evening, a visit from Father Christmas, Easter Egg Hunt, Leavers Hawaiian disco, Cream Teas, and refreshments at Sports Day. The monies raised have paid for Jubilee Commemorative Coins, playground equipment, school trips, and we're working with the school for to fund some bigger projects. Thank you to all of you who worked hard in raising these funds.

Your Support

Every parent automatically becomes a member of the Friends of Park Mead (PTA) when their child attends Park Mead Primary School and it is up to the individual how involved they wish to be. I understand that we all have busy lives with other family members, work and generally just life, but as parents you have a direct influence on the experience your child has whilst at this school and as the Government cut budgets, Schools are becoming more and more dependent on their PTAs for funds.

We would like to continue to run events at school for the children this year and elsewhere for the wider community to raise more funds for the school, but we can't do this without your help! The number of Friends on the committee are now reaching the point where we can no longer run as an independent charity or events due to members leaving as their children move on the secondary and few new parents coming forward. Unfortunately, we haven't been able to run our planned summer music event and

popular Halloween disco due to limited support. We hope to hold future events such as a joint Christmas Fair with the school, Cinema night to name a few but only with support. We would love to hear of new ideas for events or fundraising. In 2020 we introduced the "Christmas Wreath Making Evening" which was a popular and sociable evening and was run using the skills of a couple of our parents. So, if you feel you have a talent or qualification that you think parents or children would love to learn and at the same time be a fun way to raise funds, please let us know. You can always post new ideas on our Facebook page.

We'd really love your support on the committee, but you don't have to attend our meetings to help out. We have sign-up sheets for the different events so even if you can help out at just one event during the year you would make a big difference.

AGM

The Friends of Park Mead AGM is on **Wednesday 2nd November at 8.00pm** at The Plough, Upper Dicker. All are welcome so please put the date in your diary and join us to see how you can support the school - whatever your talents.

The agenda is also attached, and we will be nominating and voting for a number of positions including Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, as well as starting to develop the 2022/23 fundraising and event plan. **Please try to support and help in any way you can as mentioned the committee needs new members to share the load otherwise we will struggle to continue to do the work we do!**

Other Ways to Fundraise

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofparkmead . Over the two last school years parents have managed to raise over £1100 just by spending on-line. Whether you're thinking about booking a holiday, changing energy suppliers, or simply doing your Tesco's shop, you simply sign up with your e-mail address, every time you shop online find your preferred store through easyfundraising.org.uk, and when you make a purchase, they will give us money to say thank you for shopping with them. That's it!

Keeping Up to Date!

There are a number of ways we keep in touch:

Come along to our meetings – you will always be welcome and they're very sociable.

Look at our notice board or in book bags for details of up-and-coming events!

Join our Facebook page – "Friends of Park Mead School"

www.facebook.com/groups/1618708518394475 is a closed page for sharing news about events and activities relating to the school, and celebrating all the good work that the PTA does.

Email: friends@parkmead.e-sussex.sch.uk

Playground parent liaison representative.

We do hope you would like to join us or get involved and please come along to our AGM on 2nd November.

Kind regards

D Lapworth

Debbie Lapworth

Chair of The Friends of Park Mead Primary School

Charity Number 1103982

Awards

These children have recently impressed their teachers and peers:

Chestnuts

Charlie—Teamwork

Molly—Aiming High

Joshua—Speaking

Leopold—Creativity

Luna—Skills Builder

Brynly—Skills Builder



Maples

Louis—Aiming High

Gracie—Problem Solving

Kobe—Aiming High

Frankie—Staying Positive

Indy—Skills Builder

Dougie—Skills Builder



Oaks

Pixie—Aiming High

Benji—Aiming High

River—Skills Builder



Well Done!



SWERVE SOCCER



OCTOBER CAMPS

Swerve Soccer provides a safe, enjoyable atmosphere over the course of each camp with focus fun for all abilities! Players can expect daily matches, World Cup Tournaments, Swerve challenges and lunchtime competitions! Each day there will be opportunities for children in each age group to win stickers for their 'Sticker Collector Card' for 'Player of the Day', 'Goal of the Day', 'Save of the Day' and various additional competitions! On the last day of camp, everyone leaves with a medal and a lucky few walk away with a trophy for 'Junior Player of the Week', 'Senior Player of the Week' and 'Coaches Award'.

Location	Date	Ages	Price p/d	Timings	Early Drop
BHASVIC College, Old Shoreham Road, BN3 6EG <i>(grass/sports hall)</i>	24-28 Oct	5-13	£20-25		
Bede's Senior School, Upper Dicker, BN27 3QH <i>(grass/astro)</i>	24-26 Oct	5-13	£25	10am- 3pm	✓ 9am
Cradle Hill School, Lexden Rd, Seaford, BN25 3BA <i>(sports hall/astro)</i>	27-28 Oct	7-13	£25		

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Cannot be used in conjunction with any other promotion. Only available to Park Mead Students

Book Online [click below]

SWERVESOCCER.COM

SUSSEX
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Sussex Community
NHS Foundation Trust



Influenza Nasal Spray Vaccination (Flu) 2022

Park Mead Primary School

Flu Vaccination Session Date

Friday 25/11/2022

(Actual start time to be confirmed by local team prior to session)

Please display this school information booklet for the flu nasal spray in your school office.

Email for any queries regarding the date. SC-TR.fluvacc@nhs.net

flu: 5 reasons to vaccinate your child



1. Protect your child

The vaccine will help protect your child against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia

2. Protect you, your family and friends

Vaccinating your child will help protect more vulnerable friends and family

3. No injection needed

The nasal spray is painless and easy to have

4. It's better than having flu

The nasal spray helps protect against flu, has been given to millions of children worldwide and has an excellent safety record

5. Avoid costs

If your child gets flu, you may have to take time off work or arrange alternative childcare

For more information visit
www.nhs.uk/child-flu

Flu  **mmunisation**
Helping to protect children, every winter