



Park Mead Newsletter

Dear Parents / Carers,

What a fun filled couple of weeks we have had at Park Mead!

Thank you for supporting our Summer Fayre on 23 June. We were so grateful for the glorious weather which made our grounds look beautiful. I know our pupils really enjoyed selling their skills builder products to an audience and making a profit too.

Our new Vision and Values boards will be installed this coming week and our art wall hangings will be displayed in the hall.



Willows are looking forward to their trip to Hastings Aquarium—which has been fully funded by Hughes Education Charity and Oaks will be celebrating Hawaiian style in a couple of week time.

Heidi West
Head of School



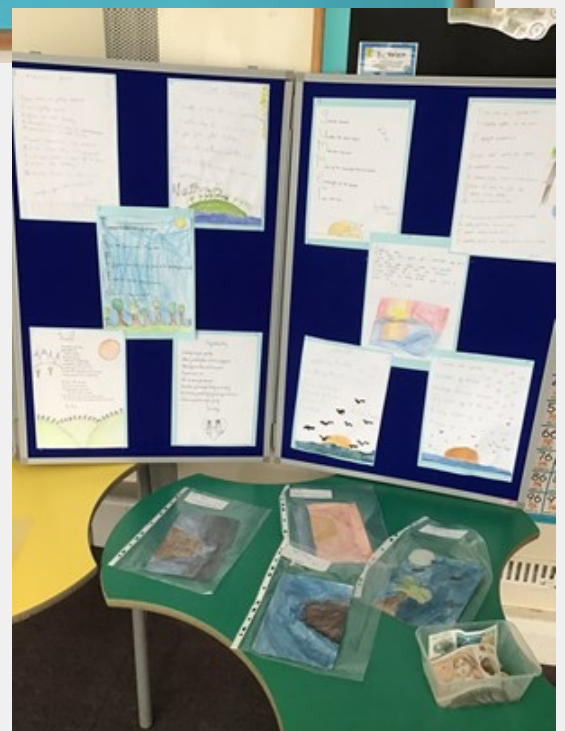
Hastings
AQUARIUM

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/>

Park Mead Summer Fayre







Summer
FAYRE



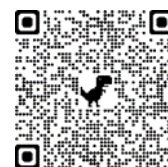
Summer Reading Challenge



Summer Reading Challenge 2023

Ready, Set, Read!

Presented by The Reading Agency.
Delivered in partnership with libraries.



Ready, Set Read!

Starts 8 July 2023 Ends 9 September 2023

Join this year's Summer Reading Challenge at
www.eastsussex.gov.uk/src

The Summer Reading Challenge is a national scheme produced by the Reading Agency and delivered by public libraries that encourages children to keep reading during the school summer holidays – and to enjoy anything they like to read! Children aged 4-11 are invited to take part and collect rewards for their reading, giving them a positive experience of reading for pleasure.

It's **FREE** to take part, and last year 75% of children taking part nationally improved their reading skills over the holidays.¹

Sign your child up at www.eastsussex.gov.uk/src If you don't have a smartphone, computer or tablet, you can sign up using a computer in the library. You can ask a one of our volunteers or a member of staff for help if you need it.

The Challenge will begin in [East Sussex libraries](#) on Saturday 8th July and end on Saturday 9th September.

The Challenge is to read any six books borrowed from the library or downloaded from our [ebook library](#). For children under 4 we have the Pre-school Challenge, where you can collect stickers for each book shared and a special medal sticker at the end.

Children signing up for the Challenge get a character sticker and a Reader Record. Children will be able to collect a prize for each of the six books they have read. When they finish the Challenge they will get a certificate which they can receive in school or at the library. The Challenge is for all children, whatever their reading ability. Children who are not reading independently can share their books with a family member or friend, or they might prefer to listen to audio books.

To take part in Read, Set Read! children need to have their own library card and PIN. It is easy and free to become a member of the library. Take something with your name, address and signature to the library and you can join the whole family, or you can [join online](#) and have your cards posted to you. You can [reset your child's PIN online](#) if you can't remember it, or ask in the library for a new one. You will need the PIN to sign up to the Challenge.

Visit <http://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/> for fun games, author interviews and book recommendations

Attendance

Children need to attend school regularly to enable them to benefit from their education.

Missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind, both academically and socially which impacts on their emotional wellbeing and creates further barriers to learning.

It's amazing how quickly frequent absence from school can add up to a considerable amount of lost learning for your child. For instance, over a year:

1. 95% Attendance = 9 days absent—approximately 2 weeks of school = 50 lessons missed
2. 90% Attendance = 19 days absent—approximately 4 weeks of school = 100 lessons missed
3. 85% Attendance = 29 days absent—approximately 6 weeks of school = 150 lessons missed
4. 80% Attendance = 38 days absent—approximately 8 weeks of school = 200 lessons missed

Attendance Whole School—Academic Year: 93.45%

	This Year	This Week
Willows:	93.65%	96.43%
Chestnuts:	94.58%	95.19%
Maples:	92.42%	92.33%
Oaks:	93.34%	93.00%

Less than 94.9% - Red

95—96.4% - Amber

96.5—99.9% - Green

100% - Gold



Diary

July

4—Parent Coffee Afternoon (2-3pm)
(Theme Transition)
5—Whole School Transition Afternoon
10—Summer Fun Run
13—Whole School Transition Afternoon
14—Sports Day (9.30-12pm)
14—School Reports
19—Year 6 Leavers Assembly (2.30pm)
20— Last Day of Term 6
21— Inset Day

September

1—Inset Day
4—Inset Day
5—Back to School



Term Dates—2023-2024

Copies of next years term dates are also available in the entrance foyer.



East Sussex School Term and Holiday Dates 2023-2024

	SEPTEMBER 2023	OCTOBER 2023	NOVEMBER 2023	DECEMBER 2023
Monday	28 4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25
Tuesday	29 5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26
Wednesday	30 6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27
Thursday	31 7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28
Friday	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29
Saturday	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30
Sunday	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31
	JANUARY 2024	FEBRUARY 2024	MARCH 2024	APRIL 2024
Monday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Tuesday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Wednesday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24
Thursday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Friday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Saturday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Sunday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
	MAY 2024	JUNE 2024	JULY 2024	AUGUST 2024
Monday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Tuesday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Wednesday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Thursday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Friday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Saturday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24 31
Sunday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25

KEY

Staff training (INSET day) Start of term for pupils End of term Public holiday School holiday

Bank and Public Holidays 2023-2024

Monday 25 December 2023	Christmas Day	Monday 1 April 2024	Easter Monday
Tuesday 26 December 2023	Boxing Day	Monday 6 May 2024	Early May bank holiday
Monday 1 January 2024	New Years Day	Monday 27 May 2024	Spring bank holiday
Friday 29 March 2024	Good Friday	Monday 26 August 2024	Summer bank holiday

Term Length

Term	From	To	Number of days
Term 1	1 September 2023	20 October 2023	36
Autumn school holiday	23 October 2023	27 October 2023	
Term 2	30 October 2023	15 December 2023	35
Christmas school holiday	18 December 2023	1 January 2024	
Term 3	2 January 2024	9 February 2024	29
February school holiday	12 February 2024	16 February 2024	
Term 4	19 February 2024	28 March 2024	29
Spring school holiday	29 March 2024	12 April 2024	
Term 5	15 April 2024	24 May 2024	29
May school holiday	27 May 2024	31 May 2024	
Term 6	3 June 2024	23 July 2024	37
	Total		195

News from Willows

Willow's have been very excited this week! Finally the butterflies have been emerging from their cocoons and the children have been able to watch this process very closely. They enjoyed observing the features on the butterfly, comparing its legs, eyes, tongue to our own and that of other creatures. We talked about how the butterflies need fresh fruit cut up and sugar water to eat before they are released.

After reading 'Somebody Swallowed Stanley' we discussed at great length plastic pollution, which then moved on to recycling items and finally we moved on to watching 'Maddie's Do You Know?' recycling metal episode. So lots of the children have been exploring magnetic and non-magnetic materials.



News from Maples

Maples were sad to say goodbye to Mr. Kasparis this week. He has been an important part of their journey this year.

The Forest School session last week was fantastic.

Maples did so amazingly well last week, designing and creating 'Groovy Gardener' items to sell at the Summer Fayre. I was so proud of their resilience and determination.



News from Chestnuts

Chestnuts have been incredibly creative these past few weeks, working hard on their bunting for the Vision and Values launch, as well as designing and creating their upcycled toys, which they planned and made independently with some great results.



In maths, we have been looking at position, direction and the language we can use to describe an object's location. We have continued to explore our famous faces and the children have been extremely thorough in comparing and contrasting the individuals of Rosa Parks, Katherine Johnson and Neil Armstrong. We are now moving on to the work of Frida Kahlo.

In music, we have explored the culture of Mexico and we had a great time listening to three different styles of music and talking about how they made us feel. The children requested a little classroom disco to the song "La Cucaracha" I am sure they would love you to play this at home!

Well done Chestnuts!



News from Oaks

We have been really busy in Oaks. Year 5 had their Bikeability training which they all passed!



We have been using the large apparatus in PE and really worked hard in all areas.



We also created some beautiful art works for the Summer Fayre. The children chose to work in groups after a marketing talk from Mr Jackson from Bede's. The pupils were in teams and decided what and how they would produce their art-work. All the children were able to use silk paints and produced beautiful works of art. The class raised £110.00 so thank you for all your support.

We are currently getting ready for the Hailsham Art Festival; we will be entering 6 pieces of work. Look out for further information.



Summer Holiday Camp

Booking for Mr Elphick's Summer Holiday Camp is now open!!

<https://activeeducationsussex.co.uk/book-a-course/>

SUMMER HOLIDAY CAMP

24th, 25th & 26th
July 2023

ALL CHILDREN WELCOME!
FROM ANY SCHOOL

Park Mead Primary
School, BN27 3QP

BREAKFAST CLUB £5
07:45-08:45

MAIN DAY £15
08:45-15:15

AFTER CAMP CLUB £5
15:15-16:15

FUN GIFT SHOP (CARD ONLY)

ae active education sussex

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ACTIVEEDUCATIONSUSSEX.CO.UK

The logo for Active Education Sussex, consisting of the lowercase letters 'ae' in a stylized, rounded blue font.

active education sussex



Hawaiian SUMMER FUN RUN

Monday 10th July 2023

Our Easter Fun Run raised £497 – THANK YOU!

This Fun Run has been chosen by the children during our school councils to continue to raise money for our **outdoor learning environment**

***Don't forget to bring something Hawaiian or bright and colourful to wear whilst performing the Active Mile Fun Run!**

ICE LOLLY REFRESHMENT

The Friends of Park Mead are kindly offering an ice lolly to have after the event. Available via ParentPay for just £1 per child.

PRIZE DRAW!!

Active Education Sussex are donating two pairs of brand-new running trainers for two lucky children to win. 10 other fun prizes available! Each £5 raised will earn your child 1 raffle ticket into the prize draw. There is no limit to the amount of raffle tickets any one child can earn. For every £5 raised, a new raffle ticket with their name on will be entered into the prize draw! Prizes will be drawn randomly week commencing 17th July 2023. Please ensure your sponsorship money is paid on ParentPay by 3:30pm Wednesday 12th July 2023. GOOD LUCK!

Oaks Forest School—28 June 2023

The last session of Forest School of the year brings a time of reflection. The whole class thought about their Forest School experience and the IMPACT it has had on them this year. 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.

YOU - Has Forest School affected how you feel about yourself and your well-being? If so how?

"I feel energetic and happy...I like the fresh air"

"It makes me feel free...and happy that I can connect with nature"

"It takes me out of my life and makes me feel free"

NATURE - Has Forest School affected how you feel about nature? If so how?

"It makes me like trees more"

"I saw bunnies and it fascinated me"

"I am happy to be able to connect myself to nature"

"I already loved nature, so it is great"

"It has made us understand Mother Nature and the earth more"

"I have learned some things you can and can't eat"

"I feel really good after Forest School, even if I am having a bad day"

LEARNING – What skills did you learn or develop this year at Forest School?

"I learned how to toast marshmallows to make smores"

"Balancing on the slack line...and how to put it up and take it down"

"I used a knife to make a mushroom out of wood"

"Fire making and crafting with wood"

"I learned how to cook and how to use a knife safely"

"I have learned how to make a pencil out of wood"

"How far I can climb up a tree"

"den building"

"How to make dandelion pancakes on a fire"

“What activities did you enjoy most or would like to do more of?

"I like playing with my friends...teamwork, creativity and aiming high"

"Making things like mud soup in the mud kitchen"

"I likes making the bricks out of clay"

"I liked making bacon sandwiches...and all of it"

"I loved digging the massive hole"

"Free play in the woods is my favourite"

"I loved making things with elder pens and pancakes"

"I like that there is a big range of activities that you can do"

"I would like to go on the swing more"

What did you like about the woodland space and Forest School environments?

"I like the trees...It is fun to climb on trees and play"

"I like my friends in the woods"

"I don't like the nettles and thistles...you can use a dock leaf if you get stung"

"I don't think the woodland needs to be improved, it is amazing enough as it is"

Oaks Forest School Continued

So many of the children were successful at independently starting a fire by the end of the session. Once the fire was going, the class sorted some blackcurrants from their stems and leaves. We boiled up the berries to create paint and added sugar to some to make jam. For the ink, we crushed $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of berries through a sieve into a bowl. Added 1tsp of salt and 1tsp of vinegar. The vinegar binds the pigment and the salt preserves the ink. This is a traditional ink used in the 1600s. The children then used the ink to decorate fabric.

We took a jar of cream to try to create butter. The children took it in turns to shake the jar furiously throughout the afternoon and in the end it changed to make butter, which they tasted with crackers. Delicious!

Then there was time to explore and play in the woodland. Oaks showed particular interests in physical risks and challenges. They learned how to set up and take down the new slack line and hammock, thinking about the knots used to fix them safely to the trees and how to balance and manage their risks safely.



Maples Forest School—21 June 2023

The last session of Forest School of the year brings a time of reflection. The whole class thought about their Forest School experience and its IMPACT on them this year. In small groups they chatted and we recorded some of their ideas. 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.

Has forest school affected how you feel about yourself and your well-being- If so how?

"Healthy...I feel grateful...I feel happy...confident...relaxed...calm...positive....relaxed"

Has forest school affected how you feel about nature – if so how?

"Nature makes me feel calm...joyful....satisfied...calm, because sometimes it is quiet, but even if it is loud when we are playing games, that can be fun"

"I liked that we planted trees and did weeding...the bees really need the flowers and plants"

What skills did you learn or develop this year at Forest School?

"How to walk on a slack line....tree climbing...survival skills, we know what we can use and eat and what we can't...I know how to ask for help with things...It has been cold and wet and we know we can be outside in different weather"

"I have learned not to go in the fire circle....creativity...I learned how to make a fire and how to stay safe around a fire"

What activities did you enjoy most or would like to do more of?

"I would like to learn more about nature...I love playing hide and seek....I like the creativity at Forest School....I like animal watching...I like the freedom we have...I like using clay....bird feeders...the hammock...making patterns on fabric"

"I like that you can go and explore parts where you haven't been before...making pancakes and the slack-line were great"

What did you like about the woodland space and Forest School environments?

"I like the swing, the hammock....digging in puddles....the mud was fun...I like the pond and the mud kitchen with water"

What could be improved about the woodland?

"The swing"

This midsummer's day the children collected samples of wildflowers and plants on sticky tape to practise their plant identification knowledge, they tried to create the colours of the rainbow. They talked about, buttercups, daisies, clover and pine needles. The class noticed there were lots of yellows and greens, but not many oranges and blues.

We took a jar of cream to try to create butter, inspired by the buttercup flowers covering the field. The children took it in turns to shake the jar furiously throughout the afternoon and in the end it changed to make butter, which they tasted by spreading it onto crackers! The children discussed the changing state of matter from liquid to solid and were amazed at how simple it was to make butter.

Maples Forest School continued

Now that summer has created taller growing plants, the class remembered the games they played last session and spent some time hiding. This led to a game of 'Owl eyes', where the children had 10 seconds to hide and then see if they could remain camouflaged and quiet enough that they couldn't be seen.



National Schools Equestrian Association

I am Angelena Churcher the Pioneer / Park Mead Equestrian NSEA team manager

I would like to offer the opportunity for any child to become part of the NSEA team, your child can compete as an individual or part of a team (if we have enough competitors) representing the foundation / school.

Here is a link to the website with all the information [NSEA - Industry experts & providers of inter-school equestrian competitions](#) if you would like your child to become a member please contact the school office





SUMMER CAMPS 2023

- ✓ Bede's Senior, Upper Dicker | Jul 3 - Jul 7 | Ages 11-17 | Day & Res Course | LaLiga Specialised Camp
- ✓ Brighton College, Jubilee | Jul 3 - Jul 7 | Ages 5-13 | Day Course
- ✓ Bede's Senior, Upper Dicker | Jul 10 - Jul 14 | Ages 11-17 | Day & Res Course | LaLiga Specialised Camp
- ✓ Brighton College, Jubilee | Jul 10 - Jul 14 | Ages 5-13 | Day Course
- ✓ Bede's Senior, Upper Dicker | Jul 17 - Jul 21 | Ages 11-17 | Day & Res Course | LaLiga Specialised Camp
- ✓ Brighton College, Jubilee | Jul 17 - Jul 21 | Ages 5-13 | Day Course
- ✓ Bede's Senior, Upper Dicker | Jul 24 - Jul 28 | Ages 11-17 | Day & Res Course | LaLiga Specialised Camp
- ✓ BHASVIC College, Hove | Jul 24 - Jul 28 | Ages 5-13 | Day Course
- ✓ BHASVIC College, Hove | Jul 31 - Aug 4 | Ages 5-13 | Day Course
- ✓ BHASVIC College, Hove | Aug 7 - Aug 11 | Ages 5-13 | Day Course
- ✓ Bede's Senior, Upper Dicker | Aug 7 - Aug 9 | Ages 8-14 | Day & Res Course | Specialised Swerve Residential Camp
- ✓ BHASVIC College, Hove | Aug 14 - Aug 18 | Ages 5-13 | Day Course
- ✓ BHASVIC College, Hove | Aug 21 - Aug 2 | Ages 5-13 | Day Course
- ✓ Manor 3g, Brighton | 29 Aug - 1 Sep | Ages 5-13 | Day Course

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Summer Holiday Camp



Athletics Summer Camp

Year 3 to 6

**Summer Camp
T-shirt included**



Come and...

RUN JUMP THROW

24th – 27th July 2023

21st – 23rd August 2023

10am - 3pm every day

Lewes Athletic Club, Mountfield Road, Lewes, BN7 2XG

(behind Lewes Leisure Centre)

www.lewesac/what-we-do/summer-camp

summercamp@lewesac.co.uk

Press **Esc** to exit full screen

Summer of fun at Sharnfold Farm

22 JULY - 03 SEPT 2023

Join us on our farm trail for a jam packed day full of fun for the whole family. Meet our farm animals and small friends. Play in the adventure play area and sand pit. Go on a bug hunt in the rewilding garden. Adventure through the woodland trail. Challenge each other to a game of mini golf. Discover in the sound garden. Get creative in the mud kitchen.

1st
August



Meet Bluey and Bingo

16th
August



Meet Peppa and George

30th
August



Meet Chase and Marshall

THIS SUMMER

NEW

MAIZE MAZE

Visit sharnfoldfarm.co.uk for more information



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