

#### **Park Mead Newsletter**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Another busy and productive term comes to an end at Park Mead.

This week alone, our pupils have experienced numerous enrichment activities across the curriculum.

We marked World Mental Health Day with a focus on outdoor learning, teamwork building and sharing responsibility.

Our pupils and staff enjoyed delivering a wonderful Harvest Festival assembly with some great seasonal songs. Thank you for supporting us and for your generous donations to the Hailsham food bank.

Counsellor Christina Coleman visited us this week to raise awareness of her role in the Council and her passion for the environment. Pupils had to the chance to learn about how we can play an important part in supporting and sustaining our precious earth.

#### **Updates**

- \* We listened to our pupils and have decided to return to class groupings during lunch times in the hall.
- \* After the October half term, Chestnuts will start to enter and exit the school building in the mornings and afternoons through the KS1 playground alongside Maples and Oaks. This is for health and safety reasons.
- \* Homework policy revised please read our revised homework policy attached. Reading is a focus for us at Park Mead. Please support us by following the expectations set out in our policy. Our aim is to help pupils develop good reading routines and most importantly, a love for reading.

Lastly, a reminder that parents' evenings are in week 2 next term, Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November and Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November. You will receive the links to book your appointment tomorrow (Tuesday) at 10am.

Wishing you all a restful half term break and we look forward to seeing you on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October. Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs West Head of School

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/

#### **Red Butler**—Music Lessons

For further information please see the You Tube link below or email Beverley on: office@rbmsmusic.com

https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLZZBBgL9WHVY3TMUHWSYzGRcGW5woNBf2&si=7DbX5v\_hQIi\_uJNB



### MUSIC LESSONS FOR THE 21st CENTURY

Head over to our website to book a free trial lesson at school

WWW.RBMSMUSIC.COM office@rbmsmusic.com



From £8.99 per lesson First lesson FREE

#### **Tesco Community Grants**

From the first week in October Park Mead will have a voting unit in both the main Tesco store in Hailsham and the smaller shop in South Road, Hailsham. We have applied for a grant to help with the regeneration of our school pond, which will be used to enhance the children's outdoor education as well are providing a space for calm reflection and emotional wellbeing. The units will be in place until Jan-



uary and the amount of tokens denotes the value of the grant we may receive. So please remember next

**TESCO** 

Stronger Starts time you are shopping, to pop token in the Park Mead unit!

#### **Online Workshops for Parents & Carers**

The Me & My Mind Team are running a variety of free 90-minute online workshop for parents and carers. The workshops include:

#### **Primary school:**

- Supporting Your Child with Anxiety & Worry.
   Suitable for parents of primary school aged children (with a choice of daytime and evening).
- Supporting Your Child with Transition to secondary school .
   Suitable for parents of children in

#### **Secondary school:**

Year 6

- Supporting Your Child with Anxiety & Worry
   Suitable for parents of secondary school aged children (with a choice of daytime and evening).
- Support Your Child with Exam Stress
   Suitable for parents of secondary

aged children of Year 10 & 11

### Parent & Carer



#### Online Workshops with 'Me & My Mind'

Do you want to learn about children's mental health and how you can support your child with their wellbeing?

If you do, these FREE webinars maybe for you.

#### **Primary School**

Supporting Your Child with Anxiety & Worry

Tuesday 31st October 2023, 12pm to 1:30pm

Thursday 8th February 2024, 6pm to 7:30pm

Supporting Your Child with Transition to Secondary

Wednesday 12th June 2024, 6pm to 7:30pm

For more info and to book scan the QR code or visit:



www.tickettailor.com/events/mental healthandwellbeingineducation

If you have any questions please email mhst.parentteam@eastsussex.gov.uk

For more information and to book go to:

www.tickettailor.com/events/mentalhealthandwellbeingineducation



#### **Diary**

#### **October**

18—Flu Vaccinations

20—Last Day of Term

23-25—Holiday Camp

30—Back to School

#### **November**

3—Oaks Swimming (6 Weeks)

8—Park Mead Coffee Morning

(Anxiety and Worry)

174—Children in Need

22- Individual School Photos

#### **December**

12—Nativity Play

15—Last Day of Term

18-20—Holiday Camp

#### January

2—Inset Day

3—Back to School

5—Maples Swimming (6 Weeks)

#### **February**

9—Last Day of Term

12-14—Holiday Camp

19—Back to School

23—Chestnuts Swimming (6 Weeks)

#### March

7—World Book Day

13—Park Mead Coffee Morning

(Sleep, Food and Mood)

28—Last Day of Term

29—Bank Holiday

#### **April**

2-4—Holiday Camp

8-10—Holiday Camp

15—Back to School

19—Willows Swimming (5 Weeks)

#### May

6—Bank Holiday

24—Last Day of Term

28-30—Holiday Camp

#### June

3—Inset Day

4— Back to School

14—Sports Day

17—Back up Sports Day

#### July

10—Park Mead Coffee Morning

(Transition)

22—Leavers Assembly @ 2.30pm

22- Last Day of Term

23—Inset Day

24-26—Holiday Camp

29-31—Holiday Camp

#### **August**

5-7—Holiday Camp

#### **Weekly Events:**

Breakfast Club—Every morning from 7.45-8.45am

Monday—After School Sports Club (3.15-4.15pm)

Monday—PE

Tuesday—Drumming Lessons

Wednesday—Forest School (classes rotate)



#### **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

#### **Yearly Attendance Figures**

Willows—96.75% (96.5—99.9%)

Chestnuts—94.31% (Less than 94.9%)

Maples—94.94% (95—96.4%)

Oaks—94.36% (Less than 94.9%)



#### **Should I Keep my Child at Home?**

#### Coughs and colds

It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold. But if they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes.

Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

#### High temperature

If your child has a high temperature, keep them off school until it goes away.

#### Chickenpox

If your child has chickenpox, keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over.

This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.

#### Cold sores

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have a cold sore.

Encourage them not to touch the blister or kiss anyone while they have the cold sore, or to share things like cups and towels.

#### Conjunctivitis

You don't need to keep your child away from school if they have conjunctivitis.

Do get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.

#### Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Your child should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people if they have symptoms of COVID-19 and they either:

• have a high temperature

do not feel well enough to go to school or do their normal activities

If they have mild symptoms and they feel well enough, they can still go to school.

#### Ear infection

If your child has an ear infection and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away.

#### Hand, foot and mouth disease

If your child has hand, foot and mouth disease but seems well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off.

Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly.

#### Head lice and nits

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice.

You can treat head lice and nits without seeing a GP.

#### Impetigo

If your child has impetigo, they'll need treatment from a GP, often with antibiotics.

Keep them off school until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after they start antibiotic treatment.

Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and not to share things like towels and cups with other children at school.

#### Ringworm

If your child has ringworm, see your pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case you should see a GP. It's fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment.

#### Scarlet fever

If your child has scarlet fever, they'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks.

Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics.

#### Slapped cheek syndrome (fifth disease)

You don't need to keep your child off school if they have slapped cheek syndrome because, once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious.

But let the school or teacher know if you think your child has slapped cheek syndrome.

#### Sore throat

You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat. But if they also have a high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away.

A sore throat and a high temperature can be symptoms of tonsillitis.

#### Threadworms

You don't need to keep your child off school if they have threadworms.

Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.

#### Vomiting and diarrhoea

Children with diarrhoea or vomiting should stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48 hours).



#### **News from Willows**

Willows this week have been learning about Autumn.

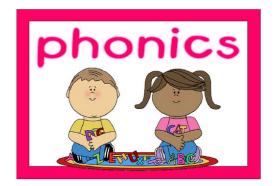
They have enjoyed learning phonic sounds and have re-capped on all the sounds we have been learning this term.

They have been reading in small groups.

They all loved Forest School where they made hedgehogs from leaves and caterpillars from conkers. A

All the children did amazingly well writing their own names, showing brilliant progress this term.

Well done wonderful Willows.







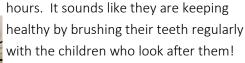


#### **News from Chestnuts**

Chestnuts have continued to learn beautifully.

We loved Ground's Day, where we planted acorns around the school grounds and tidied up our outside areas. We made a plan to make our environment a nicer place.

We have loved hearing what our squirrels, Frank and Betty get up to out of

















#### **News from Maples**

This week Maples Class finished their light- up boxes. The children carefully referenced their plans and chose appropriate materials to complete their designs. As you can see from the pictures the children produced some fantastic finished pieces and couldn't wait to take them home!









#### **News from Oaks**

This week has been wonderful with getting ready for the Harvest Festival. The children are in three main groups – one of which have written their own poem.

We have been developing the vegetable plots and really found great joy in digging up tiny carrots as part of World Mental Health Day.

We are finally completing our Design and Technology shelters, that are all wonderfully different. There was much excitement to receive a letter from pupils from Chiddlingly too.

The photos show a lot of sitting down but there was a lot of hard work not documented in photos! In fact, at least four wheelbarrow loads of weeds were relocated. Great work team Oaks.









#### **Maples Grounds Day**

On Tuesday October 10<sup>th</sup>, Maples Class took part in a range of activities for 'World Mental Health Day and 'Grounds Day'.

The children pulled up lots of weeds in the growing and area so the ground was all set for planting.

They also made a bug hotel for the insects so they have a safe space to go to through the colder months.

Once back inside the classroom, the children created mini-beast rock art which will look great

around the edge of the growing area.

Finally, each child planted a bulb in a pot which will be ready to bloom in the Spring.







#### Willows Forest School

#### Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023

To start forest school Willows worked as a team to transport all the materials that we needed to site. Some of the boxes that we had for den building needed two to carry them, great team work Willows!

These boxes were then used to create dens; the children used crayons and charcoal to decorate the outsides of the box dens.



We talked about Hedgehogs, what the look like, how they would feel and if anyone has seen one in their garden. Willows then created their own Hedgehogs using a selection of autumn leaves to make the spikes found on their backs.

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.

Using green leaves some children created beautiful leaf rubbing pictures, with crayons and charcoal. They did this by placing the leaf under the paper then rubbing the crayon or charcoal over the top leaving the leaf shape on the paper.

They also took it in turns to make a conker caterpillar/worm. They did this by using a palm drill to make holes through conkers which they then treaded it onto a pipe cleaner. This can be tricky as they have to push and twist at the same time. I was impressed at the effort they put in to make sure the palm drill went all the way through.

We finished our session with a game of keeper of the keys. There was great encouragement from the class, cheering on the thief of the keys to make it back to their seat before the keeper could catch them.



#### **Maples Forest School**

#### Wednesday 27th September 2023

We headed out to start our session with a game of beetle tag. Four of the children were birds, catching the other children and turning them into little beetles wiggling on their backs. The little birds tried very hard to catch all the beetles but there were too many.

Once we were down in Forest School we had a quick refresh on how to keep ourselves safe. Mr Lulham was told off by the children for walking through the fire circle, they then demonstrated how to move safely by the fire circle 'round the outside'.



Some of the children worked to build the fire, starting with the bigger logs at the bottom and finishing with small twigs on the top. They then used a striker to light some cotton wool to add to the fire; with some great perseverance they were successful. They then cored many apples, sprinkled them with cinnamon and sugar and wrapped them in foil. These were placed on the fire to cook. The result was very popular with many coming back for seconds - "wow, it tastes like apple pie".

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.

Maples worked really well together to make a tarpaulin shelter ready for it to be tested on its waterproof ability. They then hid inside their den while a bucket of water was thrown over it; they are very good at den construction, none of them got wet!

There was some great free play in the mud kitchen with all sorts of meals being prepared. We finished the session off by sitting round the fire circle telling each other what we had enjoyed at Forest School today.

"Balancing on the slack line" "I liked the apples" "Building the den"



#### Oaks Forest School

#### Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023

We started our Forest School session with a game of Keeper of the Keys; we discovered it is a little tricky to run in wellies.

Some of the children worked together to prepare the fire ready for lighting with big sticks at the bottom, working up to smaller ones at the top. Some children used a striker to light cotton wool to add to the fire. I was impressed at how they did not give up until it was lit and how other members of the class helped those that were finding it a little tricky, great team work Oaks.

They cored apples and sprinkled them with cinnamon and sugar. The apples were then wrapped in foil and placed on the fire to cook. The result was very popular with many of the children coming back for seconds and saying "I'm making these at home".

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.

Oaks worked very well together to make a tarpaulin and wooden shelter, the den was then tested to see how waterproof it was. They all climbed inside the den while a bowl of water was thrown over it. The den was found to be pretty waterproof, until the entrance was tested leaving some slightly soggy children!

Some beautiful leaf rubbings were created using charcoal and crayons. They worked out that thicker leaves work best. There was some great free play on the slack line and all sorts of yummy food creations were made in the mud kitchen, really making the most of the activities our Forest School site has to offer.

One child found a worm which was named Jeff. They worked with some class mates to create him a lovely home inside a washing up bowl. They even found him a worm friend called Jeremy so that he didn't get lonely.



#### Park Mead Sports Captains

# CONGRATULATIONS!!





**Sports Captains for 2023/24 are:** 

Normans—Freddie W-S Saxons—Emilia Romans—Tiffany Vikings—Sienna





#### Mental Health Workshops

Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust have organised a programme of workshops which are open to all parents and carers of young people in Sussex.

The mental health workshops, all led by experienced CAMHS clinicians, will take place virtually between October 2023 and July 2024. Each webinar will be available twice a day, once during the day (10am) and once in the evening (7pm) to make it as easy as possible for people to attend.

The following topics for the workshops have been confirmed for October 2023 to January 2024:

19 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
8 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Building Self-Esteem and Resilience
13 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Depression
17 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD)

Parents and carers will have the choice of which workshop to attend, with recordings of any others being made available afterwards.

The sessions last for 90-120 minutes with the opportunity to ask any questions to CAMHS clinicians.

Due to anticipated high numbers of attendees, any questions will need to be sent in advance.

To book a ticket, please go to:

Sussex CAMHS Parent/Carer Webinars | TICKETLAB

Contact Sussex CAMHS Participation Team with any questions:

CAMHSParticipationTeam@spft.nhs.uk









### Are you a parent or carer?

Do you have any questions or want some advice, tips or ideas to help you support your child?

Come along to Park Mead for coffee and an informal chat with Vickie who is a parent/carer practitioner from me & my mind.

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> Nov 9.15-10.45- **Anxiety and Worry**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 9.15- 10.45- **Sleep, food and mood**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July 9.15 - 10.45- **Transitions** 

For more information, please speak to Sian Leahy SENCO





#### **Charity Jumble Sale**

On Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October two of our ex-pupils will be running a jumble sale to raise money for them to travel with Camps International to Cambodia for four weeks of personal development and charitable project work.

Oliver and Tristan with the support of family, friends and scouting colleagues, are running a jumble sale at the scouts hut, Crouch Hall in Upper Horsebridge on Saturday 28th October between 10:00-13:00. There will be a wide range of items on sale including clothes, toys, homewares at great prices. Tea, coffee, and home-made cakes will be on sale to keep you going plus tickets for a prize raffle! Entrance is just 50p, this money will be donated to the Scouts who have generously allowed Oliver and Tristan to use the hall for the day.

The money raised will go towards helping the students raise the money needed to enable them to travel and assist in a variety of project work. This includes community development work, wildlife conservation, environmental conservation, and a personal challenge of jungle trekking.

The core objectives of this expedition are to undertake projects in order to:

- Raise the educational standards of developing communities within a rural district of {country}
- Raise the living standards of developing communities, within a rural district of {country}
- Assist with ongoing wildlife conservation programs to preserve biodiversity and protect vulnerable habitats

Oliver 14 said 'Running an event like this is a great way to raise money for our expedition to Cambodia and we really appreciate all the support the local community is giving us.'

Tristan also 14 added 'We have learnt so much already about what it takes to run an event like this. We also like the fact that we are supporting recycling in our local community.'

'We can't wait to get to Cambodia as there will be so many amazing opportunities for us both, but we are also enjoying learning about fundraising here at home, there is so much to think about.'

For further information about Camps International please contact https://www.campsinternational.com/.



#### **Fund Raising**

### JUMBLE SALE

Saturday 28th October

10:00-1:00

Entrance 50p

Hellingly Scouts Hut Crouch Hall
Upper Horsebridge

Tea, coffee,

& homemade cakes for sale



Prize raffle
Toys & clothes
Homewares

All money raised will support us to complete a 4 week trek to Cambodia in 2025

During our time there we will be working on projects to support the community and sustainability.

#### **October Holiday Camp**

Book via https://activeeducationsussex.co.uk/book-a-course/



Type of Club:

### October Holiday Camp

#### Activity:

A fun filled day with a variety of sports, competitions, dance, arts & crafts, movies and more!

Where:

Park Mead Primary School BN27 3QP Date:

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday
23rd, 24th & 25th October 2023
3 bays

How to book

Time:

Breakfast Club: 07:45-08:45

Main Camp Day: 08:45-15:15

After Camp Club: 15:15-16:15

Price:
Breakfast Club: £5

Main Camp Day: £15

After Camp Club: £5

Popcorn Treat: £1



# **A SameSky** Lantern Making Workshop



sculpture walk



**Enchanting light Secret discovery** activity trail



### Michelham Priory House & Gardens

Friday 27th & Saturday 28th October







For more information and to book tickets scan the QR code



#### **East Sussex Libraries** eastsussex.gov.uk/libraryevents







## WE THE WILD ONES ED BOXALI.

We The Wild Ones is a unique collection of poems stories and illustrations that take you on a journe into wild magical nature to find wolves, bears, an the far off lands of Unsomewhere. Ed will be performing poems and stories from the book, along with some of the myths that inspire him.

Rye Library Tuesday 24/10/2023 11-12pm

**Heathfield Library** Tuesday 24/10/2023 2-3pm

**Eastbourne Library** Thursday 26/10/2023 11-12pm

**Bexhill Library** Thursday 26/10/2023 2-3pm

# WE THE WILD ONES

# F.D BOXALI

#### Mini Library Tour

Rye Library Tuesday

24/10/2023 11-12pm

**Eastbourne Library** Thursday

26/10/2023 11-12pm

**Heathfield Library** 

Tuesday

24/10/2023 2-3pm

**Bexhill Library** Thursday

26/10/2023 2-3pm





illustrations that take you on a journey into wild magical nature to find wolves, bears, and the far off lands of Unsomewhere. Ed will be performing poems and stories from the book, along with some of the myths that inspire him.







### October Music School PLUS Film making with Zylo Performance

As October approaches we're excited to offer a new creative opportunity for students to build new skills, make friends and, most importantly, have fun over the half term break.

RBMS is working in partnership with our friends at Zylo Performance to offer a joint Music and Film School experience.

Students will get to work together as a band and film crew, bringing audio and videography together with music of their choice or own design. There will be a presentation at the end of the week to showcase and celebrate their work. The performance and music/video files will also be available to download after the event.

RMBS has run over 45 'School Of Rock' courses across the UK and Germany and has received fantastic feedback from participants. Zylo's innovative and hugely popular Film Schools have been running for 12 years to huge acclaim.

Both RBMS and Zylo are constantly looking for new ways to evolve the experience to teach, engage and entertain young people and are very excited to be working together to offer this new opportunity.

This event will take place at Holy Cross School (Uckfield), from 10am - 4pm, Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October. 4 and 5 day options available.





As part of this course we are offering 20 places for the mixed experience, and a further 10 spaces for those only interested in the music workshop offering.





They will be allocated on a first come - first served basis.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Place your booking here.

https://tinyurl.com/RBMSZYLO