



P.P.S. NEWSLETTER

Inspire, nurture, challenge.

James 1:12 'Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial'

24th September 2021
Autumn Term No.1

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to **thank you** all for your support in settling our children into new routines. Having the children back mixing, learning and playing with their peers from the same class and beyond is brilliant. Of course, we have to continue to be careful as we are still hearing of cases of Covid-19 in schools across the county, however we are doing everything we can to ensure our children are as safe as possible.

We have had a busy start to the term, as we are eager to engage in as many learning opportunities as possible whilst giving our children experiences they will enjoy and remember.

Oak Class children have settled in and are making themselves known to the school community. You often forget about many aspects of starting school e.g. eating their lunch in the school hall. Credit to the children though, as they have settled into the routines of school life very quickly. The children have been completing their statutory Reception Baseline Assessment.

Elm Class have started their **swimming lessons** in Billingshurst and will be there for the autumn term. Maple Class will have swimming lessons during the spring term, with Beech Class participating in swimming lessons throughout the summer term. We are hoping to arrange something for Willow Class during the latter part of the summer term, but this does depend on the capacity of the pool at the Billingshurst Leisure Centre.

For this half-term, Elm and Willow Class are having **gymnastics** coaching sessions with Victory Gymnastics. This gives our teachers excellent Continued Professional Development, whilst our children will use some of the apparatus they would have seen at the Tokyo Olympics. We hope that all of our children will benefit over the course of the year with Rowan and Ash next. Hopefully, we may unleash the next Jessica Gadirova or Max Whitlock!

Pete York is back with us teaching the children the **guitar**. He is continuing his private lessons with the children as well as working with Beech and Maple Classes throughout the autumn term. Elm Class will work with him during the Spring term, whilst Pete will teach Willow Class in the summer term.

Elm and Willow Class are engaging with our **Film, Farm, Fork** initiative where the children will learn essential basic cooking skills, create films about the science they are learning in class and looking after our animals and allotment areas. This will continue until half-term.

Maple Class have started their **Forest School** experience with Mrs Dallyn. Forest School has a theme for this year with the children learning geography skills including map work, improving their science knowledge and learning about the importance of looking after the environment around us. The children will inevitably have fun in the river as they learn about erosion and how rivers change over time.

Next week our whole school is embarking on **Petworth Week**.

The week will be focusing on developing geography skills and historical knowledge about the area where we are situated. During the week we hope to take Ash Class to Coultershaw Heritage Site, Elm Class are visiting Petworth House, and many of our classes will be walking around the town exploring different features.

On Wednesday, it is the **79th anniversary of the bombing of the Boys School**, therefore Willow Class will be representing our school at the memorial service at 11am. This is always a sombre experience, however a worthy one as this event had such an impact on the whole town.

From Friday 1st October to Monday 4th October 2021, we embark on one of the longest weekends of my life...Willow Class going on their residential to **PGL Little Canada on the Isle of Wight!** This is a fantastic experience for our children, to spend the whole weekend with me! The children will have so many different experiences ranging from the ferry crossing, sleeping away from home, being responsible for washing and cleaning their teeth, to the many fantastic activities they will do during their stay. We always start by visiting the beach where we will have our lunch and play games. Depending on the weather, we may even have a dip in the English Channel.

We are very grateful to **Petworth Community Church** and the **Badgers** public house, who have donated money for our children's learning experiences. We will be discussing with the children over the next few weeks how best to spend this money.

Our **sporting calendar** has started with our boys' and girls' teams playing a tournament at Dorset House on Tuesday 5th October. We hope this is the start of many different sporting opportunities for our children. We have already lined up tag rugby, another football tournament and hockey this term.

Our **Harvest Festival** at St. Mary's Church will take place at 9.30am on Thursday 7th October. You are more than welcome to join us and sit in the balcony. This is a special service for our children and we will be collecting donations for Chichester Food Bank. More details will follow.

Finally, do you know anyone whose child was born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018? If so then he or she is eligible to start school at Petworth CofE Primary School in September 2022. Please contact our school if you would like to have a look around by telephoning 01798 342369 or emailing the office@petworthprimary.co.uk and we will arrange a time for you to come and see our school in action.



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Ash Class Work

Our School Council Representatives are Harry Stockman, Freddie Buxton and Dolly Howell.

We have been foraging in Outdoor learning and have found all sorts of treasures in the Big Field including wasp galls and edible hawthorn berries and plenty of blackberries. We have cooked with all of these and with courgettes from the polytunnels.

In Maths, we have been grouping and sharing using loose parts and we have been performing Goldilocks in our puppet theatre.



Wanted Paving Slabs

If you know of anyone who is throwing away any paving slabs, we are currently looking for 14 for a project in school. Many thanks.

Healthy Snacks at Break Time

As we are a healthy school, please can you send your child/ren in with either fruit or cheese **NOT** chocolate. A small item of chocolate is allowed in lunch boxes only to eat at lunchtime.

Class Reading Books

Oak Class

Oak Class are reading 'The Colour Monster' and 'The Colour Monster goes to school' by Anna Llenas.

Ash Class

Ash Class have read 'The Iron Giant' by Ted Hughes and are now reading 'Edison' by Torben Kuhlmann.

Rowan Class

Rowan Class are currently reading or looking at a different picture book everyday.

Beech Class

Beech Class are currently reading 'Toto the Ninja Cat and the Incredible Cheese Heist' and in literacy we have been reading 'Around the World in 80 Days'

Maple Class

Maple Class are currently reading 'The Adventurers and the Great Continental Chase' by Jemma Hatt.

Elm Class

Elm Class are currently reading 'Kensuke's Kingdom' by Michael Morpurgo.

Willow Class

Willow Class are currently reading 'Holes' Lewis Sacher.

Spag Fact

Grammatical Feature : Idiom

Definition : Phrases in a language which do not mean exactly what they say.

Example : 'I'm feeling blue' - I'm feeling sad
'a piece of cake' - easy
'raise the roof' - make a lot of noise/celebrate

Update on our animals

As I am sure you are aware we have chickens, goats, ducks and sheep in school, which we are using part of our curriculum. I have been overwhelmed by the support so many families have given us to ensure these animals are looked after. Our aim is that children will learn how to look after the animals and teach our children to nurture, respect and foster a sense of responsibility. However, should you wish for your child(ren) to not work with our animals, please let us know.



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Dates for your Diary 2021/2022

- Fri 17 Sept Elm Class Swimming for 10 weeks**
Weds 29 Sept Oak Class Welcome Meeting 2.30pm
Weds 29 Sept Memorial Service for the Anniversary of the Bombing of the Boys' School
Fri 1 Oct Year 6 PGL Residential IOW
Mon 4 Oct Year 6 return from PGL Residential IOW
Tues 5 Oct Year 5/6 Dorset House Football Festival
Thurs 7 Oct Harvest Festival St Mary's Church 9.30am
Tues 12 Oct Reception to Year 6 Flu Vaccinations
Thurs 21 Oct School Photos
Fri 22 Oct Break up for Half Term
Mon 1 Nov Back to School
Mon 8 to Fri 11 Nov Year 6 Bikability
Fri 17 Dec End of Autumn Term

Inset Days 2020/2021

Three more Inset Days to be confirmed



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Starting School September 2022?



We are so proud of our school and are looking forward to sharing it with you.

- * Superb indoor and outdoor learning environments; come and meet our farm animals
- * Onsite breakfast and after school clubs
- * A school community who inspire, nurture and challenge each other
- * Graded 'Good' by Ofsted

Find out more about Petworth CofE Primary School and the exciting learning experiences we offer. Please call our School Office to book an appointment and see our school in action on 01798 342369.

