



**PARK MAITLAND
SCHOOL**

PARK MAITLAND STORIES: FAMILIES

**EXCELLENCE BEGINS
IN WONDER**



Dewar Family

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT PARK MAITLAND SCHOOL?

- Park Maitland provides a well-rounded education in an environment that fosters learning and a sense of community. The teachers clearly love teaching, and the administrators are very approachable and engaged. The school is in touch with our fast-changing world, looking continually for ways to improve or make changes in order to deliver the best education to our children.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE PARK MAITLAND SCHOOL FOR YOUR FAMILY?

- Olivia joined Park Maitland in fifth grade following our move from New York City. We were looking for a school that would offer a nurturing environment to ease the transition and still be academically challenging. We also hoped that the new school would be reinforcing our family values. Park Maitland has exceeded our expectations and has been a great match for us.

IN WHAT WAYS HAVE YOU SEEN YOUR CHILD GROW SINCE STARTING SCHOOL AT PARK MAITLAND?

- As a new student in fifth grade, Olivia had to step out of her comfort zone and adapt to a new environment. She has tackled the challenge gracefully, quickly learning to adjust to a very different school culture and fitting right in while keeping her individuality. Also, Park Maitland offers many opportunities for students to take on leadership roles, participate in performing arts and practice public speaking. Olivia has greatly benefited from these initiatives, showing increased confidence and ease in front of an audience.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE PARENTS WHO ARE CONSIDERING PARK MAITLAND FOR THEIR CHILDREN?

- Call and schedule a tour, and have your child come for a shadow day. Seeing the school in action is the best way to understand what a gem it really is.



Gonzalez Family

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT PARK MAITLAND SCHOOL?

- Park Maitland School students are taught to be good citizens of the world with a strong emphasis on community and academic development.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE PARK MAITLAND SCHOOL FOR YOUR FAMILY?

- The intimacy of the campus, the highly qualified teaching faculty and the schools unwavering commitment to a child's social and emotional development

IN WHAT WAYS HAVE YOU SEEN YOUR CHILD GROW SINCE STARTING SCHOOL AT PARK MAITLAND?

- Skyler has become more confident in his ability to communicate and collaborate both in and out of the classroom. The Park Maitland school challenges Skyler to find creative solutions to some of a Kindergartner's most pressing problems (such as how to build a rocket ship made of Skittles, or even how to negotiate later bedtimes on the weekends). Skyler also feels a commitment to helping the world become a better place through his participation in various school wide community service projects.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE PARENTS WHO ARE CONSIDERING PARK MAITLAND FOR THEIR CHILDREN?

- The intimacy of the campus combined with the passionate teaching faculty will help enable your child to be a confident leader, a thoughtful and considerate human being and an academic powerhouse.



Lewis Family

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT PARK MAITLAND SCHOOL?

- The traditions that have been in place since my two sisters and I graduated many moons ago and the dedicated teachers who continue to nurture and emphasize their love of learning on a daily basis.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE PARK MAITLAND SCHOOL FOR YOUR FAMILY?

- Park Maitland represents the best of the best from the education it teaches to the traditions and values it instills. If my parents chose to send my sisters and me to the best, there was no doubt we were going to give our children the best.

IN WHAT WAYS HAVE YOU SEEN YOUR CHILD GROW SINCE STARTING SCHOOL AT PARK MAITLAND?

- Both of my boys' love for learning has grown exponentially. Plus their self confidence in the way they express themselves and the way they communicate with others is through the roof.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE PARENTS WHO ARE CONSIDERING PARK MAITLAND FOR THEIR CHILDREN?

- If you really want to see the magic of Park Maitland School, go within the walls and get involved in everything the school has to offer.



Rice Family

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT PARK MAITLAND SCHOOL?

• We love that our children love Park Maitland! The staff have created an environment that is both challenging and nurturing. We see it in our children's developmental growth and love of the faculty.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE PARK MAITLAND SCHOOL FOR YOUR FAMILY?

• We chose Park Maitland for two reasons. First, because we saw almost immediately that the faculty have a genuine passion for teaching, and care deeply for their students. Second, it was important the school we chose for our children go beyond teaching content. Park Maitland's approach does just that by providing students the opportunity to think more deeply about subjects, to develop creativity in problem solving, and to learn by working in teams. Park Maitland has done nothing but exceed our expectations all year.

IN WHAT WAYS HAVE YOU SEEN YOUR CHILD GROW SINCE STARTING SCHOOL AT PARK MAITLAND?

• We have seen our children's love of learning continue to grow throughout the year. It seems like every week Ellie is excitedly describing a project in math, science, art, history, or writing. In our K4 student, Lucas, we've seen his exploration of the world around him grow tremendously this year through his continuous questioning and experimentation.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE PARENTS WHO ARE CONSIDERING PARK MAITLAND FOR THEIR CHILDREN?

• Every parent needs to make the right decision for their family, but for parents looking for a school that goes beyond academics we highly recommend Park Maitland. The staff inspires children to discover what's possible.



Williams Family

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT PARK MAITLAND SCHOOL?

• Our family was originally drawn to Park Maitland School for its academic excellence and for its aptitude in growing leaders. Looking back, I don't think my husband and I fully understood the true meaning of, or what it takes for an education institution to "grow leaders".

With an ahead of the curve curriculum, yes, Park Maitland is highly competent in academic excellence. But as we would find out, an equally important component is the school's internal culture and how they approach leadership. In my opinion, it is this culture that makes it possible for the children to achieve the high academic standards put forth in the program.

Shortly after our children started school at Park Maitland I was truly inspired to realize that the teachers work with the belief that skills and abilities can be developed, no matter where children are in their learning journey. In other words, they believe in every single child. When children are taken out of the box, even further, when they are told that there is no box, the level in which they grow and expand has no boundaries. At our home, as parents, we are in constant awe of the ways our children are improving socially and academically through this personalized approach. Moreover, every staff member believes in the power of listening. They truly, deeply listen to the kids in a way that makes the little ones feel that they matter. This in return makes the children feel empowered, which boosts their confidence and makes them stronger in their will to succeed.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE PARK MAITLAND SCHOOL FOR YOUR FAMILY?

• When he was 8 years old, our older son Aksel was diagnosed with attention deficit disorder. He showed gifted traits but yet, he could not focus. We would later learn that this combination is not uncommon. In addition, Aksel was a very shy, deeply introverted child and he displayed high levels of anxiety. He could not sleep at nights. He had so many tics that were plainly visible from the outside. If you saw him, it broke your heart. As we looked for different ways to help him, one major change we had decided upon was to move him to a different school. After touring what it felt like all of Orlando's schools, we decided on Park Maitland. We thought that the smaller classrooms would allow for personal attention. We loved that the teachers taught their own subjects and that the children changed classes every 45 minutes. Between the promise of the academic excellence and the school motto of "growing leaders" my husband and I hoped that Park Maitland School would teach our son to work around his weaknesses while supporting his strengths.

Williams Family Continued

IN WHAT WAYS HAVE YOU SEEN YOUR CHILD GROW SINCE STARTING SCHOOL AT PARK MAITLAND?

- Shortly after our sons started going to school at Park Maitland, I called and scheduled a meeting to learn more about how the transition was going for Aksel. I will never forget how pleasantly surprised I was, walking out of that meeting. Not only his homeroom teacher, but all of his teachers were present. The school had just started and they already knew him so well! Their observations were spot on and suggestions were practical and easily applicable at home. The attention Aksel received at school promptly started showing in his demeanor. His anxiety leveled and his tics started disappearing. From that point on, we never looked back.

The following year my shy son with ADD, anxiety and tics went on to place 3rd on the school wide spelling bee. That same year, he was chosen to represent his class in the grade wide public speaking contest. He was in the top 5 for this year's spelling bee. His homeroom teacher recognized his talent for software and all things technology related. With this encouragement, he became his classmates' and sometimes even his teachers' tech-support go to person, which in return validated his self-concept and gave him an additional boost of confidence that he deeply needed. He is a straight A student and has a love for learning. He learnt at school that he can improve and become better at things. Therefore, he tries hard at sports and other hobbies, knowing that if he works toward a goal, he can grow and improve.

We have two sons at Park Maitland. We are proud of both of our boys for being straight A students. Our younger son is also developing and growing in so many wonderful ways. This year, our Broc is in third grade and he won the mock third grade spelling bee contest for his class, which is a preparation to next year's school wide spelling be. He has been learning to play chess at the after-school program taught by his ingenious science teacher. Last year, as a second grader, he took second place in the club chess tournament, after competing against a 6th grade student. This year, he won the club chess tournament for the Spring session! He is encouraged daily with the constant reminder from Park Maitland culture that he, too, can grow and get better at things. This belief led him to practice flag football at home every day after school this year. He persisted and made his way into his friends' unannounced lunch time flag football plays at school. We are forever grateful to Park Maitland for teaching our children that with hard work, they can reach for the stars.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE PARENTS WHO ARE CONSIDERING PARK MAITLAND FOR THEIR CHILDREN?

- If you are in search of a school that is the right match for your child, it helps to ask questions to get a better understanding of the school culture and the academic curriculum. Touring the school is a wonderful way to see what Park Maitland has to offer because you see the teachers and children at work during the school hours. Notice how everything works like clock-work. There is detailed planning and execution, review and improvement in every aspect of school life on an ongoing basis. Pay special attention when you walk in the classrooms to see the kind of learning that takes place. Uncommon to elementary school systems, the teachers teach their own subject that they are passionate about. This in return transforms children's learning! And finally, when you tour Park Maitland, you will hear the administrators highlight the key differentiators including innovation, academic excellence, and teaching the child as a whole. They are emphasizing these key points because they make them a priority and deeply invest in all of these and many other areas.



Kang Family

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT PARK MAITLAND SCHOOL?

- We love the teachers and the ancillary staff who help create an invaluable environment of learning and individual development!

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE PARK MAITLAND SCHOOL FOR YOUR FAMILY?

- We had planned to move Luke and Chloe to a different school once Chloe was to enter K4. However, that changed with Luke's 1st year experience at Park Maitland with a phenomenal teacher, Ms. Ayers. It was because of her, we decided to keep our kids at Park Maitland. When both parents work and are, virtually, absent from our children's daily lives, we would like our children to feel happy and secure in the place they are at most of the day. It was pivotal when we would give Luke a chance to be in another school with Chloe and forego the hated 45 min to an hour bus ride to the JCC, he would tell us he wanted to stay at Park Maitland. His reason, his new found friends and Ms. Ayers. As another year went by, both our children thrived at Park Maitland and more teachers became influential and favorites in our children's lives.

IN WHAT WAYS HAVE YOU SEEN YOUR CHILD GROW SINCE STARTING SCHOOL AT PARK MAITLAND?

- Other than academically being enriched, we love the personal and social development that is emphasized at the school. It is nice to see what we emphasize at home is further enhanced at school. We see it in our children. We love the life lessons that our children have experienced themselves or are shared by others in the community in Across Generations, Veterans Day Assemblies, Toys for Tots Assemblies, etc.
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Kang Family Continued

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We love that the teachers care so much for our kids they will share a picture, a project, a kind word, and, yes, any disciplinary incidences. We know that with any incidences in the school, the children see the follow up and learn with confidence that everything matters and nothing is just swept under a rug. That THEY matter. Because of that I know our children can learn with confidence as the teachers and staff continue to create a nurturing environment both academically and socially. We may not be at school, but we are given glimpses of it through Park Maitland's open communication and school newsletter on events. This is critical for us as working parents.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE PARENTS WHO ARE CONSIDERING PARK MAITLAND FOR THEIR CHILDREN?

- You cannot go wrong with Park Maitland. There's a reason, many parent graduates of Park Maitland bring their children back to their alma mater. I see that now. As hands off as we were due to our work schedules in our first few years at Park Maitland, I owe my children's eagerness to want to go to school to the camaraderie of students, teachers, staff, and the other parent volunteers. I have since taken a more consulting position at work so that I can be a bigger part of my children's lives and be more involved at school. In doing so, I have, finally, realized why my children love this school so much. It is evident on the interactions with the teachers, their amazing projects and class wide events. All the parent volunteers have added to the enriching environment.

Allowing your child to shadow for a day at Park Maitland may only be the tip of the iceberg. Visit during a class-wide event of any grade level such as the Native American Festival or an Art Fair and you will be pleasantly impressed. (We did not have the time to do the latter when we were deciding.)

No, Park Maitland does not have the extensive after school activities on campus, it doesn't have all the real estate that you may want for your child, but what it has cannot be compared to other schools. It can only be experienced by your child. No commentary by a parent here or there can express the true treasure of Park Maitland. Come, let your child experience it and the rest will be history.



Headrick Family

“THE PARK MAITLAND EFFECT”

•“The Park Maitland Effect.” It’s a phrase that a close friend coined when she saw the amazing transformation in my precocious yet shy oldest son when he began attending. Like most parents, we wanted a curriculum where our children would be challenged, but we also wanted them to be confident, kind, resilient and well-rounded. Confidence is something that every child deserves, and it can be only be achieved in a nurturing environment like the one Park Maitland has established– where conquerable challenges abound, teachers engage, peers encourage and parents reinforce. The amazing staff and faculty do an outstanding job partnering with parents to deliver personalized experiences where children can realize their potential. We have been delighted by the kindness we see modeled throughout campus – the security guards know every child by name, the amazing staff at the front desk and in the office have saved us on countless occasions, the teachers are outstanding and the overall positivity throughout campus makes learning a wonderful adventure. We have now enrolled our entire crew in this school because we want them all to experience the spectacular “Park Maitland Effect.” It’s no wonder that Park Maitland literally arose from a home...it has become home for our family.



Wordell Family

“DYNAMIC LEARNING”

•Over the past eight years, Park Maitland School has been a dynamic learning environment for our children. We have thoroughly enjoyed watching our boys flourish in mind, body, and spirit both as students, as well as well-rounded individuals.

We can't say enough about the teachers and staff. One of the things we love about the school is that the teachers are given the opportunity to teach subjects that they have been educated in and are truly passionate about. And, of course, this is transferred into their teaching style, ability to reach our children and inspire them in a way that we believe, is unrivaled at any other elementary school in our area.

Another reason we chose Park Maitland is because of its nurturing environment and caring staff. This was very important to us in our school search. The teachers and staff genuinely treat our children as if they were their own. Safety is a number one priority and is evident in multiple ways in and around campus. We also love the school's consistent focus on high academic standards, the arts and unique STEM programs.

For those who are considering Park Maitland, our advice to you is simple. You must come onto campus to see and learn for yourself – even if you have a preconceived notion of what you believe the school is about. We can assure you, you will absolutely be impressed by all that the school offers: the charming campus surroundings; the quality of educational offerings; extra curricular opportunities and so much more. Park Maitland School has certainly been an absolute blessing for our family.