

THE PALMER ACADEMY

Summer 2 Celebration Newsletter 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

As we reach the end of another incredible school year, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks for your support and involvement. Your dedication has made a significant impact on our childrens' success and overall school experience.

Highlights from This Half Term

- 1. Sports Day Triumphs** Finally the rain stopped and we had our EYFS and KS1 sports days this week. The children were filled with excitement and enthusiasm, demonstrating great sportsmanship and teamwork.
- 2. Educational Trips Galore** This half term was packed with exciting and educational trips: including a trip to the beach, a visit to the aquarium, horse riding and an opportunity for year 5s to stay overnight in the school.
- 3. Year 6 Leavers Assembly** This week, we held a special assembly to celebrate our Year 6 students as they prepare to move on to secondary school. It was a lovely event where we celebrated their achievements, and they shared their memories. We wish them every success in their future endeavours and are confident they will continue to excel.
- 4. Academic Achievements** Our students have achieved remarkable progress this term and have shown a positive to their learning. Well done to all our hardworking children!

Thank you once again for your commitment to our school community. We hope you have a wonderful summer break and look forward to seeing you all in the new school year.

Enjoy reading about the highlights from this half term and celebrating our childrens' successes!

Kind regards,



Miss A Higginbotham
Headteacher



Nursery

This term in Nursery has been wonderful!

In Topic, we have been doing 'Celebrating People. We have been thinking about different people who help us such as the police, firefighters, and paramedics! We looked at pictures, videos and objects to help us with this learning and we have enjoyed ourselves very much! We have also made some beautiful, detailed, drawings of people who help us, as well as pretending to be some of the people that we have learned about!

We were also very lucky to have a visit from two police officers, Emma and Carla, linking to our topic. Emma and Carla spent some time talking to us about how they help people, answering our questions, and then spent some time playing games with us! They even bought us presents and stickers! It was amazing and we cannot thank Emma and Carla enough! After their visit, they sent an email to Miss Newman saying just how amazing we were and what a wonderful time we had!



We have also been preparing for Sports Day! We are excited to show our parents and carers what we have been practicing (if the weather will allow it!) We have been practicing our running, jumping and balancing and Miss Newman says that we are doing very well!

Mrs Hamblin has also been doing rhythm sticks sessions with us! We have had the best time tapping out rhythms and singing a variety of old and new songs!



Also, we have been spending time preparing for our transitions for next year! Some of us are moving away to different schools, some of us are going into Reception, and some of us are going to be in Nursery 2! We have read lots of stories about transition and have done little trips to our new Palmer Academy classes and have met our new Palmer Academy teachers! Even though change can be scary, we are looking forward to making lots of new friends and spending time with our new teachers!

At the end of this term, we are saying goodbye to Miss Newman as she is leaving us. Miss Newman has loved having us in her class this year and has felt really lucky to have met such wonderful children and their families. Even though she is leaving, Miss Newman will never forget any of us, and knows that next year, we will be just as amazing and wonderful as we are now.



Reception

Our last term in Reception has been fantastic! We started our new topic 'Under the sea' with a trip to Southsea Aquarium.



We saw lots of different types of sea animals and listened to a talk about sharks.

We found out that their teeth never stop replacing themselves and their skin is covered in

very tiny hairs!



We wrote thank you letters to the aquarium staff and fact files for the different animals we saw.



We used ideas from our trip to create different sea creatures using a range of materials and fixing methods.



In maths we have been using positional vocabulary to give instructions to our friends so that they could recreate the same scene.

It was really tricky and we needed to concentrate very hard



On 'Amazing me!' day we dressed up in special clothes to tell our friends something amazing about ourselves.



Year 1

This term Year 1 had a very exciting practical lesson in DT—they got to design and make their own smoothies. The children had been working hard over the weeks doing class surveys to find out their favourite fruits to use for them! Here are some photos of Year 1 enjoying their creations:



They also designed some beautiful labels and packaging for their smoothies:



In Math's this term the children started to learn about 'time'. They made their own clocks and used these in our lessons to tell the time to an hour or half an hour.



We also had our school trip to Bournemouth Beach this term. The children had a fantastic day playing in the sand on the beach and we all thoroughly enjoyed the sunshine!

We used our experience from the trip to help us with our leaflet writing in English. The children were to write a persuasive leaflet encouraging others to go and visit Bournemouth



Year 2

In English this half term, we have been learning about fables and leaflets. The children had a chance to write their very own fable and create a leaflet for their own event!



In Maths, we have been focusing on statistics, position and direction and learning new written methods for addition and subtraction. Everyone enjoyed all the practical ways we learnt these new concepts!

In Science, Year 2 have been focusing on the topic Living Things and Their Habitats, focusing on minibeasts and microhabitats. The children have been learning lots of new vocabulary, as well as exploring the microhabitats around school



In Art, Year 2 have been focusing on making clay pots! We learnt the history behind clay pots, and different techniques used to make them. The children then had a go at molding, painting and glazing their own pots to use at home.



The highlight of the half term was our trip to Beale Wildlife Park! The children saw some amazing animals, rode the train and even touched a real life python in our African Savannah workshop. All of the children said it was the best day ever!



Year 3

We have had a fantastic term in Year 3! I think it's safe to say the highlight of the term has been our horse-riding sessions at Palmer Stables. Each and every child showed bravery, resilience, respect and responsibility during these trips and we are all very proud!



In history, we have been learning all about the Ancient Egyptians! Did you know King Tut was only about 9 years old when he became the king of Egypt?!

We had lots of fun finding artefacts in our archaeological dig, exploring tombs, mummifying ourselves and learning to write in hieroglyphics.

We have been getting creative in design technology by planning, designing and evaluating our very own car designs. We began by looking at the first cars (or automobiles!) ever invented and were amazing they didn't even have a roof. We have worked collaboratively during this topic and built on our team work skills.

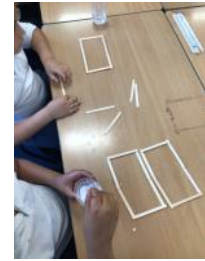
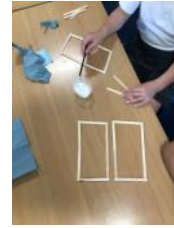


We also got to have a movie afternoon as a reward for our 100% attendance. We watched Inside Out and had popcorn!

All of the Year 3 teachers and staff would like to say a huge well done to Year 3 for a fantastic year. Have a lovely break and we can't wait to see you again in September!



Year 4



This term in Maths, Year 4 students have made remarkable strides in their learning and understanding of various concepts. They have explored geometric shapes by investigating the properties of different angles and practicing translating shapes on a grid with great precision. In addition to their work with shapes and coordinates, the students also delved into the practical use of clocks, developing a solid grasp of how to tell the time accurately. This hands-on experience was key in reinforcing their understanding of time in everyday contexts. Furthermore, Year 4 revisited and applied their knowledge of decimals, particularly in the context of calculating money. This exercise not only helped their decimal skills but also provided them with valuable real-world scenarios of their mathematical learning. Overall, Year 4 have demonstrated enthusiasm in their Maths studies, showcasing their ability to tackle a variety of mathematical challenges with confidence and skill!

This term in Design and Technology, Year 4 have embarked on an exciting journey to discover how greenhouses work and how they help plants grow, linking to their Science studies on Living Things. The students explored the theory behind greenhouses and their role in providing an optimal environment for plant growth. Putting their knowledge into practice, the children demonstrated creativity and teamwork by constructing their own mini greenhouses using lollipop sticks and plastic film. This hands-on project allowed them to apply their understanding and see firsthand how greenhouses can support plant life. Year 4 have shown impressive creativity and enthusiasm in their Design and Technology unit, deepening their understanding of the natural world while honing their construction skills!



Science

The children have been learning how to identify and classify animals and plants. Take a look at their amazing posters



English

The children have impressed with their writing this half term, where the focus has been on writing adventure narratives, persuasive letters and origin stories. When writing, the children have made a real effort to include more adventurous vocabulary to enrich their writing. A particular area of study the children excelled at was how to create tension and suspense when writing adventure narratives to allow their reader to feel unsure and anxious about what was going to happen next. Well done, Year 4

History

Vikings has been the focus this half term in History, and the children have been fascinated with this group of fearless invaders! The children have learnt all about where the Vikings originally came from before invading Britain and the reasons for doing so; including the Vikings

desire to steal all the precious gold from Britain! To enhance our learning, we invited a company called Portals to the Past to deliver an entertaining workshop all about the Vikings. We learnt how to play a traditional Viking games called 'Fox and Geese', we learnt about their everyday life by looking at artefacts and we also watched an enthralling demonstration showing us how effective Viking armour was.



Year 5

Year 5 have had a brilliant end to the year – we are so proud of everything they have achieved.

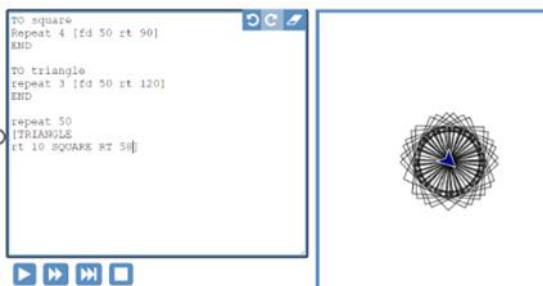
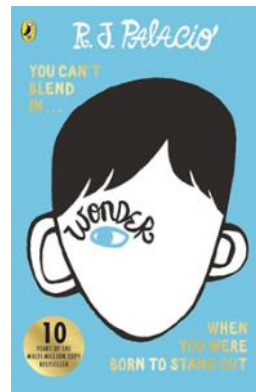
In our reading lessons this term, Year 5 have enjoyed reading *Wonder*. We used lots of different comprehension skills, such as vocabulary, inference, prediction, explanation, retrieval and summarising, to help us have a deep understanding of the text. We are looking forward to next week when we will be watching the film and comparing it to the book.

In DT, we have been making cam toys. This has been a challenging mechanism to get right and the children were so resilient throughout the process. They've made some very cool toys!

In our history lessons, we have been fascinated by the industrial revolution. We were especially interested when we learnt about the children who had to work in dangerous conditions during this period. Throughout this topic, the children have worked hard on different projects demonstrating what they've learnt. We've made PowerPoints, posters, plays and pieces of charcoal art inspired by the industrial revolution.

In computing, we have broadened our understanding of programming from block-based programming (using Scratch) to text-based programming (using J2Code Logo). The children have enjoyed using text-based programming to draw repeating patterns using polygons and rotations. We really enjoyed looking at each other's patterns, being inspired to try different methods ourselves.

Over the last few weeks, Year 5 have been getting ready for Palmer's Got Talent! We had so many talents to showcase, from times tables skills to plate spinning to playing the keyboard, that we decided to hold our own Year 5 talent show! It was lovely to see all the different talents and passions on display!



We can't wait to see all that you

Well done Year 5!
achieve in Year 6!



Year 6

Wow! What an end to the term and to our time here at The Palmer Academy. Summer 2 is always busy but, for Year 6, it is just that little bit busier. With many different events to celebrate our time here and visitors to support our transition there has always been something going on.

Worry Warriors

You may have had your children come home and teach you some breathing methods for relaxation or self-regulation. Sophie (from the Mental Health Support Team) visited Year 6 for four weeks to complete some work around transition into secondary school. They discussed worries about changes and ways to adapt our thinking in order to be more positive about the upcoming changes



Maths

In Maths this half term, we have been preparing ourselves for secondary school by looking at timetables and understanding how to use them in order to get to the right places. We have worked on Ratio where we used our knowledge of fractions and times tables to support us in our learning and we have also completed some work with calculators. We have continued to take pride in the work we have completed and have enjoyed working more collaboratively in class too.

English

This half term, we have completed our balanced arguments on whether or not school uniform should be compulsory for school-aged children and have looked at a short video called 'Alma' as inspiration for our own narratives. This has been a chance for us to practice all the skills we have learned and has allowed for really descriptive pieces to be written. Of course, we have also spent some time reflecting on our memories of the time we have spent at The Palmer Academy and have written some poems. We will have shared some of these at the Year 6 Leavers' Assembly.

History

In History we have learned everything about Reading during World War Two. Using a website designed by the teachers, we carried out research on the town of Reading and its role in war, as well as learned about the shift in the role of women and different memorials around town. We were delighted to take part in an "Evacuee Experience" workshop delivered by Philippa, member of the Museum of English Rural Life in Reading. We have really enjoyed learning more about our area and history.

Book presentation

Daphne Barnes, a previous student from The Palmer Academy (when it was George Palmer School) has worked alongside other alumni to create a photo book on the history of The Palmer Academy which are sponsored by them along with school staff and is gifted to every Year 6 pupil each year. Daphne gave an informative presentation on the school and shared information about some of the sponsors who were there – sharing some stories of their experiences at school. The children shared a couple of songs from their production and enjoyed looking through their books together



Wicked

Year 6 were 'Culture Vultures' (one of our 11B411 promises) last Wednesday when they visited London to watch the West End show WICKED. We travelled by train and enjoyed a picnic in the park before the performance. The children had so much fun and will definitely remember this day for years to come.

Palmer's Got Talent

This half term saw the introduction of what we hope will come a tradition here at TPA: Palmer's Got Talent. All children were invited to audition for the show and performed in class where their peers voted for their favorite performances. We had singers, dancers, gymnasts, Rubix cube solvers, piano players, boxers and sketchers to name but a few. Our finalists performed on Friday to a very enthusiastic audience

The Lion King

The Year 6 final production this year was: The Lion King. Children have worked so hard to learn their lines and song lyrics to put on such a fantastic performance. Children had different parts to play as well as helping with the props, backdrop and costumes. What a show!



Reading School Nursing Team
Whitley Health & Social Services Centre
268, Northumberland Avenue
Reading, Berkshire. RG2 7PJ
Tel: 0118 904 7320
E-mail: schoolnursingreading@berkshire.nhs.uk
June 2024

IMPORTANT! SCHOOL NURSING SERVICE HEALTH QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear Parent/Carer

As you are probably aware, now that your child is in school, the school nursing service has taken over responsibility from the Health Visiting service.

Your school nursing team is here to offer health advice and support you regarding your child's physical and emotional health.

You can [find out more](#) about the service by visiting our webpage and for frequent health concerns for reception aged children [Click here](#)

Health Questionnaire

This questionnaire enables us to identify any help and support we can offer you and your child.

General themes sometimes emerge from information received from the questionnaire and we may also use this information to plan larger group health promotion sessions in your child's school.

Please complete the health questionnaire for your child following [This link](#) for Palmer Academy School, the school code you will need to insert is: BK139653

We ask for your child's NHS number as this allows your child's health questionnaire to be recorded on their health records. [Find your NHS number - www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)



If you are a parent or carer of a child aged 5-19 years you can use our new ChatHealth confidential and anonymous texting service. We can offer advice and support on many topics such as: bedwetting, sleeping, growing up, emotional health & wellbeing, dealing with medical conditions at school, healthy eating.

Text **07312 263194**



Inspire Bulletin 84 – 12th July 2024



Welcome to the last edition of Inspire for this academic year! We hope you enjoy reading it!

Words of the week

Monotonous (adjective): dull, tedious, and repetitive; lacking variety or interest – *Every day she eats toast for breakfast; she finds her morning routine very monotonous.*

Deliberate (verb): To engage in long and careful consideration – *She deliberated over the menu.*

OR Deliberate (adjective): done consciously and intentionally – *It was a deliberate attempt to cause trouble.*

Challenge: can you write your own sentences using these words?

Thinking Challenges

Years 3/4 – What has a back and four legs, but cannot stand or walk?

Years 5/6 – I never ask you a question, but you will answer me... What am I?



Recommended Reading

Years 3/4 – **The Secret Island** by Enid Blyton –

In Enid Blyton's very first full-length adventure novel, meet siblings Peggy, Mike and Nora. They live with their cruel uncle and aunt and long to escape, so when their friend Jack takes them to a secret, deserted island, they run away to live there. But not all is as it seems on the island and the children soon find their adventures are only just beginning...



Years 5/6 – **Rooftoppers** by Katherine Rundell –



Everyone tells Sophie that she was orphaned in a shipwreck - found floating in a cello case on the English Channel on her first birthday. But Sophie is convinced her mother also survived. When the Welfare Agency threatens to separate her from her guardian and send her to an orphanage, Sophie takes matters into her own hands, starting with the only clue she has - the address of a cello-maker in Paris. On the run from the authorities, Sophie finds Matteo and his network of rooftoppers - urchins who walk tightropes and live in the sky. In a race across the rooftops of Paris, will they be able to find her mother before it's too late? Hopeful, inspiring and thrilling in equal measure, this is a classic adventure story about pursuing your dreams and never ignoring a possibility.

Do I need to keep my child off school?

Chicken Pox

Until all spots have crusted over

Conjunctivitis

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed

Diarrhoea & Vomiting

48 hours from last episode

Glandular Fever

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed

Hand, foot & mouth

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed

Impetigo

Until lesions are crusted & healed or 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics

Measles or German Measles

4 days from onset of rash

Mumps

5 days from onset of swelling

Scabies

Until after first treatment

Scarlet Fever

24 hours after commencing antibiotics

Slapped Cheek

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed

Whooping Cough

48 Hours after commencing antibiotics

Flu

Until recovered

Head Lice

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed

Threadworms

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed

Tonsillitis

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed

Please ensure your child has the proper school uniform

Our uniform, worn by all the children, is a distinctive feature of The Palmer Academy. We place an emphasis on maintaining high standards of dress and appearance because we believe it encourages the children to take pride in themselves and their school. We belong to one team and we achieve together. We are ready, respectful, and safe. We therefore ask parents and carers to ensure that their children always wear the correct uniform and that it is clearly labelled.

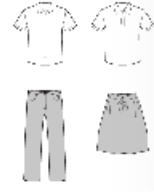
Boys

- School jumper with or without a logo- no hoodies
- White shirt or white polo shirt
- Grey or black trousers or shorts
- Plain grey, white or black socks
- Black leather shoes (no boots, trainers or sandals to be worn)



Girls

- School jumper or cardigan with or without a logo-no hoodies
- White shirt or white polo shirt
- Grey or black trousers, shorts, skirt, or dress
- Plain grey, white, or black socks or tights
- Black leather shoes (no boots, trainers, high heels, open toed shoes or sandals to be worn)



Physical Education Kit

- Black shorts or track suit bottoms
- School house P.E. T-shirt or plain white shirt
- School logo/Plain black hoodie or plain black tracksuit top
- Trainers
- No branded Tracksuits

Hair and Jewellery

- Hair should be natural in colour and for health and safety reasons, long hair must be tied back with ,hair ties, clips or bands of school colours (Burgundy/maroon, grey,white,black,and blue)
- For health and safety reasons, earrings cannot be worn during PE. Children will need to be able to remove and put earrings back themselves. We only allow stud earrings which are not dangling.

Please make sure items are clearly labelled with your child's name, including coats, hats, and scarves.

Pupils without the correct uniform

Teachers will discuss any issues with uniform with parents/carers and ask them to support the school by arranging for the correct uniform to be worn within a reasonable timeframe. Pupils without the correct PE kit will not be permitted to take part in physical activity. If your child can not meet our uniform requirements, please get in touch to organise a meeting with a member of SLT so we can support you. If your child needs a change in uniform due to a medical need you will need to contact the school to set up a medical plan using doctors advice and evidence, Any questions please contact- Thank you for your help in ensuring all our children wear the correct uniform

Uniform can be purchased from:

Stevensons
Tel: 01189 596462

Website: www.stevensons.co.uk



REACH2 Academy Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number 08452281. Registered office address: Scientia Academy, Mona Road, Buton-on-Trent, Staffordshire DE13 0UF.
Enquiring Minds for Inspiring Futures



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Twitter: [@R2PalmerAcademy](https://twitter.com/R2PalmerAcademy)

Headteacher: Miss Anne Higginbotham

Deputy Head: Mrs Alice Nash

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well.

As we prepare for the new academic year, I wanted to take this opportunity to remind everyone about the importance of school uniform. Many children are wearing the correct uniform, and I would like to thank parents and carers for their support with this.

In September, we will be having a big push on school uniform, for reference we have attached the uniform policy to this email.

Wearing a school uniform is important for several reasons:

1. **Promotes Equality:** Uniforms ensure that all students are dressed similarly, which reduces peer pressure and promotes equality among students.
2. **Enhances Focus:** A uniform sets a tone for a serious learning environment, helping students to focus on their education.
3. **School Identity and Pride:** Wearing the school uniform fosters a sense of belonging and pride in our school community.
4. **Safety and Security:** Uniforms make it easier to identify our students, ensuring their safety within and around the school premises.

Second hand uniform sales throughout next academic year.

To support our families, maintain school uniform expectations across the year, we will be holding second-hand uniform sales. This is an opportunity to purchase second hand uniforms at a reduced cost. Details about the sale, including dates and times, will be communicated closer to the events.

We'd love your help!

We'd really welcome your support with the second-hand uniform sales.

- If you have school uniform you'd like to donate, please bring clean items to the school office.
- If you would like to help by sorting out the uniform or supporting school staff with the sales, please give the office your details.

We appreciate your cooperation and support in ensuring that our pupils come to school in the correct uniform. If you have any questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

Miss Anne Higginbotham

Headteacher



REACH2 Academy Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number 08452281. Address: Henhurst Ridge Primary Academy, Henhurst Ridge, Branston, Burton-Upon-Trent, DE13 9SZ.
Email: info@reach2.org. Telephone: 01283 246433

The
Health Bus
is coming!

NHS

Berkshire Healthcare
Children, Young People and
Families services

School Age Sensory Processing Workshop

The Occupational Therapy Team will be visiting Wokingham on the Health Bus. Our Occupational Therapists will be delivering the **School Age (aged 5-11) Sensory Processing workshop** live at 9.30am and will be available for any questions afterwards.



Please scan the
QR code below for
more information:



Wokingham Market

Market Place, Wokingham RG40 1AS

Tuesday 27th August 2024

9am – 3.30pm



cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk

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Bookings must be made by emailing

jessicariley@spotlightuk.org

www.spotlightuk.org Reg Charity 1129258



SUMMER

AT READING MUSEUM



THURSDAY 25 JULY - TUESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

THROUGHOUT THE HOLIDAYS
READING MUSEUM TRAILS

EVERY WEDNESDAY
RHYMETIME AT READING MUSEUM
Families, 10.30am - 11am, drop in

EVERY FRIDAY
OBJECT HANDLING
All ages, 10.30am - 12pm, drop in

EVERY SATURDAY
MUSEUMS, MY WAY
A breakout space, aimed at neurodivergent visitors and their families.
Families, drop in

THURSDAY 25 JULY
BUZZY BEE BONANZA ACTIVITY DAY!
All ages, Families, 10am - 3pm

FRIDAY 26 JULY
VICTORIAN SCHOOLROOM
EXPERIENCE IN THE ABBEY GATEWAY
Ages 5+, 11am & 2pm

WEDNESDAY 31 JULY
READING MUSEUM'S TEDDY BEARS
RHYMETIME PICNIC AND CRAFT
FORBURY GARDENS
All ages, Families, 10am - 3pm

TUESDAY 6 AUGUST
MAKE & TAKE: SPOONIMALS
Families, half-hour sessions 10am - 12pm & 1pm - 3pm

WEDNESDAY 14 AUGUST
BUG CLUB: THE CREEPY CRAWLY CREW
FORBURY GARDENS
All ages, Families, 1-hour sessions starting at 10am, 11.15am, 1pm & 2.15pm

TUESDAY 20 AUGUST
GET INTO STITCHING
Ages 5+, Families, 1 hour sessions starting at 10am, 11.15am and 1pm

THURSDAY 22 AUGUST
MAKE & TAKE: MEDIEVAL TILE DECORATING
Families, half-hour sessions 10am - 12pm & 1pm - 3pm

WEDNESDAY 28 AUGUST
NATURE NAVIGATORS OUTDOOR SESSION
FORBURY GARDENS
All ages, Families, 1-hour sessions starting at 10am, 11.15am, 1pm & 2.15pm

M
READING
MUSEUM

www.readingmuseum.org.uk



WOULD YOUR CHILD LIKE TO PLAY IN THEIR VERY OWN ROCK BAND?

ROCK
STEADY™

16

CELEBRATING
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ROCKSTEADY

Enrol online today at www.rocksteadymusicschool.com
or call 0330 113 0330 (local rate)
8am-8pm, Mon-Thurs, 8am-6pm Fridays

Every child works towards an official,
exam-free, Ofqual-regulated music qualification!

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The start of a new academic year is a great time to begin Rocksteady lessons. Your child can enjoy the magic of music by learning to play in their very own band through weekly in-school rock and pop lessons. It's the perfect chance to learn new musical skills while having fun. Parents often find that Rocksteady lessons also boost children's self-belief, wellbeing, life skills and even academic achievement.

Your child will progress through the Rocksteady curriculum and collect up to 300 different musicianship, performance and instrument skills along the way.

Here's what you need to know:

- Lessons are held during the school day. There's no experience necessary and all instruments are provided, so it's inclusive and accessible.
- Your child can choose from vocals, keyboard, drums, bass, or electric guitar (subject to availability). They'll join their bandmates for a weekly 30-minute lesson, where they'll learn some of their favourite songs.
- You can proudly watch as your child performs in their end of term concerts, showing you and their friends just how far they have come. You can also follow their musical journey in your Backstage Account for regular updates on their progress and occasional photos or videos of them in lessons.
- Loved and trusted by thousands of schools, lessons are taught by experienced professional musicians who make music education fun. Your child's band leader will support and inspire your child while making sure they progress at their own pace.
- Your child will work towards an official, exam-free, Ofqual-regulated music qualification, at no extra cost. The longer your child stays with Rocksteady, the further they will progress!
- It's hassle-free with a money back guarantee for the first month. You can cancel at any time.

Booking for September is now open. Places are offered on a first come, first served basis. Selecting different instrument options will give you the best chance of joining a band as soon as possible.

For more details on availability and cost, visit rocksteadymusicschool.com and find your school on the sign up page or call 0330 113 0330.

Best wishes,
Rachel Hawker | Director of Education

P.S Did you know, in the last year more children have achieved Rocksteady's unique exam-free music qualification than the total number of students who took A-level Music?



WELLBEING RESOURCE OF THE YEAR
EDUCATION TODAY AWARDS 22/23

HERE'S WHAT SOME PARENTS AND HEADTEACHERS
HAVE TO SAY ABOUT ROCKSTEADY LESSONS →



Berkshire Healthcare
Children, Young People and
Families services

A dose of Health & Wellbeing

Your bitesize guide to a healthier lifestyle,
from your School Nursing team

July 2024

Hello and welcome from your School Nursing team

This newsletter is full of
useful information, hints and
tips for keeping your family
healthy.



What do you think of our newsletter?

Do you find this newsletter
helpful? What would you like
to hear about?

[Let us know here](#)

Thank you!

In this issue

- [Getting moving](#)
- [Junior parkrun](#)
- [Struggling to get your kids to eat veg?](#)
- [The importance of breakfast](#)
- [Healthy snacks](#)
- [Keeping safe in the sun](#)
- [Heat stroke and heat exhaustion](#)
- [Cycle safety](#)
- [Staying safe in water](#)
- [Drowning facts](#)
- [Eczema](#)
- [National Child Measurement Programme](#)
- [Support with bedwetting, day wetting and soiling](#)
- [Vaccinations](#)
- [Moving up to secondary school](#)
- [Contacting the school nursing team](#)



Reading Community Outreach Plus!

Transforming Lives, Uplifting Communities

Join our Drop-In Sessions!

What We Offer:

- Emotional Support: Non-clinical listening support.
- Psychoeducation: Manage emotions with grounding and mindfulness techniques.
- Safety Planning: Identify triggers and prevent mental health crises.
- Daily Planning: Support in daily and weekly schedule planning.
- Goal Setting: Help in identifying and achieving personal goals.
- Signposting: Connect to local support groups and organizations.
- Form Assistance: Help with benefits or housing applications.
- Referral for Further Support: Up to 9 weeks of 1-2-1 community support post-hospital discharge.
- Additional Services: Access to Breathing Space and Managing Emotions Program (Together, Reading services)

Special Features:

- Social Wellbeing Workshops

Session Details:

- Lyndhurst Road Community Centre – every Wednesdays, from 10am to 1.30pm starting on 22/5, for 3 months (Lyndhurst Rd, Tilehurst, Reading RG30 6UB)
- Hexham Road Community Centre – every Tuesdays, from 10am to 1.20pm starting on 21/5, for 3 months (1A Bamburgh Ct, Reading RG2 7UD)

"We're here to support your community with accessible and convenient drop-in sessions."

How to get in touch

To access support, please call us or email us at

outreachplus@together-uk.org or call us on **0203 962 8201**



FREE HEALTH CHECKS



Find out more about local activities and support available to you, and get a free health check from NHS staff that will help spot if you have any early signs of:



STROKE



KIDNEY DISEASE



HEART DISEASE



TYPE 2 DIABETES



DEMENTIA

**HEXHAM ROAD
COMMUNITY CENTRE
1A BAMBURGH CLOSE RG2 7UD**

9am to 1pm

**Monday 15 July 2024
Monday 19 August 2024
Monday 16 September 2024
Monday 21 October 2024
Monday 18 November 2024
Monday 16 December 2024**

For more information, and to book an appointment, visit:
rva.org.uk/cwo



For any questions, call
0118 304 8841.

Spoken translation is available when you call.

Community Roadshow

Find the following organisations at:

Coley Park Community Centre - Third Tuesday of the month
2 to 4pm

Hexham Road Community Centre - Last Thursday of the month
3 to 5pm

Lyndhurst Road Community Centre - Third Thursday of the
month 3 to 5pm

Whitley Wood Community Centre - Second Wednesday of the
month 3 to 5pm



Reading



Berkshire Vision
Supporting The Visually Impaired



Hexham Road Community Centre

Calendar - June to August 2024

Contact hexham.roadcc@reading.gov.uk to make a booking.

➤ MONDAYS

9:00 to 13:00 - COMMUNITY WELLNESS OUTREACH, MONTHLY, EVERY 3RD MONDAY OF THE MONTH

14:00 to 15:00 - GET BERKSHIRE ACTIVE SEATED EXERCISES

18:00 to 20:00 - READING FC KICKS YOUTH GROUP

➤ TUESDAYS

10:00 to 13:00 - TOGETHER YOUR WAY FOR MENTAL HEALTH

17:30 to 21:30 - GRASSROOTZ YOUTH CLUB, FORTNIGHTLY

➤ WEDNESDAYS

16:00 to 17:00 - BRIGHTER FUTURES FOR CHILDREN YOUTH CLUB (8 - 13 yrs)

17:00 to 18:00 - BRIGHTER FUTURES FOR CHILDREN YOUTH CLUB (14 - 18 yrs)

19:00 to 20:30 - JASON COOPER MARTIAL ARTS

➤ THURSDAYS

11:00 to 13:00 - COMPUTER GROUP, MONTHLY, EVERY 4TH THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

15:00 to 17:00 - CITIZENS ADVICE READING COMMUNITY INFORMATION DROP IN, MONTHLY, LAST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

➤ FRIDAYS

9:30 to 12:30 - BECOMING MUMS, MONTHLY, 3RD FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

➤ SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS

VARIOUS RELIGIOUS GROUPS ALL DAY

AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE HIRE - BIRTHDAY PARTIES, CELEBRATIONS, ETC



Looking for summer activities for children aged 7 and over? Why not send them for group rides to explore the local area?

Rides alternate between Hexham Road and Whitley Wood Community Centres every Tuesday evening during July and August.

The rides are free of charge. They are funded by Reading Borough Council and run by Brighter Futures for Children and Avanti Cycling, who provide Bikeability in schools.

Please see this page for details: <https://avanticycling.co.uk/join-our-summer-24-fun-rides-in-whitley-for-ages-7/>

Bikeability Holiday Courses:

Learn to ride session for Year 2 and above, £10

(This is open to children who cannot yet independently pedal and steer their cycle.)

More learn to ride sessions to be added soon

Prospect Park, 29th July, 9:00-10:45, 3 children

Level 1 & 2 Bikeability Training for Year 5 and above, one day course, £10

(This is open to children who are confident cyclists and who are in Years 5, 6 and 7)

Highdown School: 29th July, 9:00-3:30pm, Level 1 & 2 course, 4 children

Highdown School: 30th July, 9:00-3:30pm, Level 1 & 2 course, 4 children

Highdown School: 31st July, 9:00-3:30pm, Level 1 & 2 course, 8 children

Highdown School: 1st August, 9:00-3:30pm, Level 1 & 2 course, 4 children

Highdown School: 6th August, 9:00-3:30pm, Level 1 & 2 course, 4 children

Highdown School: 12th August, 9:00-3:30pm, Level 1 & 2 course, 8 children

Highdown School: 13th August, 9:00-3:30pm, Level 1 & 2 course, 8 children

Highdown School: 14th August, 9:00-3:30pm, Level 1 & 2 course, 8 children

Highdown School: 19th August, 9:00-3:30pm, Level 1 & 2 course, 4 children

Highdown School: 28th August, 9:00-3:30pm, Level 1 & 2 course, 4 children

Prospect Park: 19th August, 9:00-3:30pm, Level 1 & 2 course, 8 children

Prospect Park: 21st August, 9:00-3:30pm, Level 1 & 2 course, 8 children

Prospect Park: 22nd August, 9:00-3:30pm, Level 1 & 2 course, 8 children

Prospect Park: 27th August, 9:00-3:30pm, Level 1 & 2 course, 8 children

Prospect Park: 28th August, 9:00-3:30pm, Level 1 & 2 course, 8 children

Level 3 Bikeability Training for Year 6 and above, one day course, £10

(This is open to children in Year 6 and above who have completed Bikeability Level 2)

Highdown School, 5th August, 9:30-3pm, Level 3 course, 3 children

COME RIDE WITH US

Have fun exploring on bikes

FREE

Girls and
boys aged
7+

Whitley
Wood

16 July
30 July
13 August
27 August

We meet at the
community
centres
at 5pm and
return at 7pm

Hexham
Road

23 July
6 August
20 August

Rides led by Brighter Futures for Children and Avanti Cycling



avanticycling

avanticycling.co.uk

Multi-activity



Football



Summer



HOLIDAY CAMPS



BOOK NOW >>

Inflatables

Colour run

Farm Visits

Water games & slide

Use Code: **SUM24**
for **15% off** **EARLY BIRD**
Offer ends 23rd June **DISCOUNT**

Holiday Camps run from 9am-3pm*, 29th July- 30th August. Ages 5-12 years old.

Visit our Booking Website for full dates and more information.

MULTI-ACTIVITY

FOOTBALL

Hungerford:
Lambourn
Primary School

Reading:
Calcot
Junior School

Reading:
Calcot Junior School

Newbury:
Winchcombe
School

Maidenhead:
Courthouse
Junior School

Newbury:
Winchcombe School

Book 12 days or more and receive a **FREE 'LET THEM PLAY' Camp T-Shirt!**

HAF

Funded spaces available. Lunch included with all multi-activity and HAF bookings*

@MNRCoaching

@MNRCoaching_

@MNRCoaching

Extended day 8:30am-5pm*
Newbury Camp only



For Holiday Camp Enquiries- email holidaycamps@mnrcoaching.com

SPOTLIGHT
RAY OF HOPE



DISCOUNTED
FAMILY PASSES

BEALE PARK, PANGBOURNE



BEALE
WILDLIFE PARK

VARIOUS DATES AVAILABLE

SPOTLIGHT UK ARE OFFERING DISCOUNTED FAMILY
DAY PASSES TO BEALE PARK BETWEEN NOW &
NOVEMBER

£5 PER PERSON ON FIRST COME FIRST SERVED
BASIS

THIS IS AN EXCLUSIVE BOOKING FOR SPOTLIGHT UK

Bookings must be made by emailing

jessicariley@spotlightuk.org

www.spotlightuk.org Reg Charity 1129258

Have some serious fun on bikes

Summer
holidays
2024

Sign up for a Bikeability course

Pick your time and place - book online

Prospect Park

Learn to ride

21, 25, 26,
27, 29 July

Level 1 & 2

29, 31 July, 27,
27, 28 August
0900-1200

Level 3

29 August
0900-1200

Highbury School

Level 1 & 2

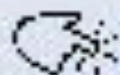
29, 30, 31 July 1,
4, 12, 13,
14, 18, 20, 28
August
0900-1200

Level 3

15, 22 August
0900-1200

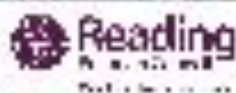


Learn to ride - Year 1 and above age 8
Level 1 & 2 - Year 2 and above age 9
3 - Year 5 and above age 10



Please reserve your place online

avanticycling.co.uk/holiday-courses



avanticycling



avanticycling.co.uk/holiday-courses

Christchurch Meadows 🌳 Sunday 8 September 2024 🌳 11-4pm



Free and fun day out for all the family!

- Stunt displays • Try out bikes • Meet local groups
- Obstacle course • Pump track • Free bike checks
- Face painting • Ice cream • Delicious food
- Great music • Lots more...



Summer 2024 timetable

29 July - 30 August

There are lots of fun activities and support groups running over the summer. Have a look at what's happening in our children's centres across Reading.



Monday

Bumps & babes
10-11am
Sun Street CC *under 1s*

Stay & play
10-11am
Whitley CC *under 5s*

Rhyme & song
11-11.30am
Battle library *under 5s*

Portage (invite only)
1-2.30pm
Whitley CC

Well-baby clinic
19 August, 1.30-3.30pm
Sun Street CC *under 1s*

Tuesday

Bumps & babes
10-11am
Whitley CC *under 1s*

Meet the health visiting team
20 August, 10-11am
Whitley CC

Stay & play
10-11am
Southcote CC *under 5s*

Bumps & babes
1-2pm
Ranikhet CC *under 1s*

Meet the health visiting team
20 August, 1-2pm
Ranikhet CC

Wednesday

Well-baby clinic
14 August, 9.30-11.30am
Caversham CC

Bumps & babes
10-11am
Battle Library *under 1s*

Meet the health visiting team
14 August, 10-11am
Battle Library

Stay & play
1-2pm
Sun Street CC *under 5s*

Bumps & babes
1-2pm
Southcote CC *under 1s*

Meet the health visiting team
14 August, 1-2pm
Southcote CC

Well-baby clinic
7 August, 9.30-11.30am
Whitley CC

Thursday

Well-baby clinic
1 August, 9.30-11.30am
Ranikhet CC

Well-baby clinic
22 August, 9.30-11.30am
Southcote CC

Bumps & babes
10-11am
Caversham CC *under 1s*

Meet the health visiting team
22 August, 10-11am
Caversham CC *under 1s*

Portage (invite only)
10-11am
Sun street CC

Stay and play
1-2pm
Southcote CC *under 5s*

Friday

Stay & play
10-11am
Ranikhet CC *under 5s*

Stay & play
1-2pm
Whitley CC *under 5s*

Visit our page for more info & link to our parent portal



Little Sips BIG ADVENTURES

Dear parent/guardian,

We would like to inform you of an important update regarding the school milk scheme, administered by Cool Milk. Mid-morning milk provides a much-needed nutritional boost and keeps children hydrated between breakfast and lunch. Children receive free milk until the age of 5. After that, they can continue to reap the benefits of mid-morning milk at a subsidised* cost.

Due to challenging weather conditions this spring and summer resulting in reduced milk volumes and anticipated increases in winter feed costs, the price of milk for children over 5 will soon increase. This adjustment will help Cool Milk continue to support our valued dairy partners.

However, there is good news! If your child is already 5 or will be turning 5 soon, you can still lock in the current price. Simply register your child at www.coolmilk.com/register and make a payment. You even have the option to pre-pay at the existing rate for the entire academic year.

For children who are already over 5, you can make payment immediately. If your child is still under 5, we will email you shortly before their 5th birthday with easy steps to continue their milk deliveries. Rest assured, we will continue providing free milk automatically until they turn 5.

If you already have a Cool Milk account, simply log in to your existing account and make the payment for the upcoming year. To register a sibling, select 'Add Child' and fill in their details—it's that simple!

Should you need further assistance, our customer service team is always here to help.

Kind regards,

Cool Milk

☎: 0800 321 3248

🌐: www.coolmilk.com



SCAN TO REGISTER

*Milk for under-5s is fully funded by DHSC via the Nursery Milk Scheme. Milk for over-5s is subsidised by Defra via the School Milk Scheme.

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Thanks
for being
amazing



"A room without
books is like a
body without a
soul."

— Marcus Tullius
Cicero



**If you would like
to purchase books for our new
reading spine, scan the
code and shop away!**

Attendance Information

Attendance is a key priority for our school this term. We want to ensure that all children's attendance percentages are in line or above national average of 97%. Children with an attendance of 97% above are more likely to be happier attending school, make better progress and eventually achieve better in formal exams. Please see below how even missing a few days of school can lead to many hours of learning missed

Yearly Attendance	Days Missed	Hours Missed
100%	0	0
97%	6	30
95%	10	50
90%	20	100
80%	40	200

Whole School Attendance is currently 92.0%

Nursery		Year R		Year 1		Year 2	
AM	PM	Kerr	Rosen	Cole	Donaldson	Ahlberg	Butterworth
89.0%	92.2%	86.7%	75.6%	95.6%	90.2%	86.5%	88.9%
Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Year 6	
Benjamin	King-Smith	Binch	Pullman	Hughes	Morpurgo	Horowitz	Lewis
94.0%	87.0%	92.5%	90.1%	94.4%	89.7%	88.9%	85.6%

Well done to Cole (Lower school) and Benjamin (Upper school) Classes and Anning/Johnson Houses for the attendance raffle.

Attendance Raffle

You have to be in it to win it! If you attend school every day you will automatically be put into our attendance raffle which will be drawn on a Friday afternoon. A winner from each class will be selected and win a special prize. We are also now holding a half term raffle for those children who have 100 percent attendance where they can win prizes such as amazon vouchers, roblox points, art kits and pencil cases. All the children have to do to be in with a chance of winning is to be in school every day

Important dates

Start of Autumn Term Year 1-Year 6 4th September 2024

Start of Autumn term for Nursery 9th September 2024

Start of Autumn Term for Reception 6th September 2024

Wishing everyone a great summer break

