



The Palmer Academy Newsletter



Edition 5

Friday 08th October 2021

Each year the leadership team develop a plan informed by their knowledge and evaluation of the school. This year is very different because of the challenging time the country and our community have been through, so we are really focussing on our core offer of high-quality education for all. Below is a summary of some of the key actions we are taking to deliver this.



Quality of Education

- Further embed the curriculum intent.
- Improve the quality of learning and progress in writing.
- Improve teaching to be consistently good across the school, including using assessment for learning highly effectively to inform teaching.
- Further improve the provision, systems, processes, knowledge and training to meet the needs of children with SEN[D].
- Improve the effectiveness of all staff in meeting the needs of pupils with SEN[D] by providing a structured training programme and process.

Behaviour and Attitudes

- Embed the policy, systems and processes for behaviour and attendance, ensuring attendance is never below 96% and persistent absence never above 8%.
- Develop active learning and engagement in all classes.

Personal Development

- Raise the profile of pupil leadership roles within the school.
- Provide further training and development to further improve the provision and profile for Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education; Social, Emotional and Mental Health; and Equality and Diversity.
- Re-introduce trips, visits and learning experiences, including the REACH2 11 before 11 offer.

Leadership & Management

- Induct and train staff who are new to the school.
- Develop the skills and effectiveness of subject leaders, including providing further professional development and a key focus on improving subject knowledge of all staff.
- Ensure the additional statutory grants are used highly efficiently, including pupil premium, catch up premium and sports grant premium.
- Develop the systems to capture the voices of all stakeholders to provide feedback and ideas to develop the school and community.
- Further broaden the Local Governing Body to reflect all members of the school community.
- Further develop the environments of the school, including the outdoor areas.

Early Years & Foundations Stage

- Implement the new EYFS Framework, including providing training and development for staff in EYFS.
- Develop the outdoor areas, including investing heavily in improving the provision.
- Further develop the phonics provision and communication and language provision.

Mr D. Prendergast

Just a Reminder

School Photos

We have our school photographer due to be in with us on Tuesday 12th October, please ensure all correct uniform is worn.

Road Safety

Pupil's walking/cycling home on their own please be mindful of pedestrians and vehicles.

#HelloYellow

Thank you for all the students that have participated in Hello Yellow for Young Minds charity. The school looks lovely and bright just like a ray of sunshine ready for the weekend.

Wokingham Children's Book Festival on October 16th/17th

It's a weekend of fun with both in-person sessions in the Town Hall and live online. We have big names and local talent stopping by for fun, laughter, and storytelling. They'll be armed with advice and inspiration to get your young ones writing too.

To book your sessions at <https://wokingham-tc.gov.uk/bookfest/>



Wokingham Children's Book Festival

October 16th and 17th 2021

A wide variety of authors and illustrators joining us, eager to introduce you to their world!
For ages 3 - 12

Limited in person sessions and all sessions available online
£3 a seat in person or
£3 a family pass online



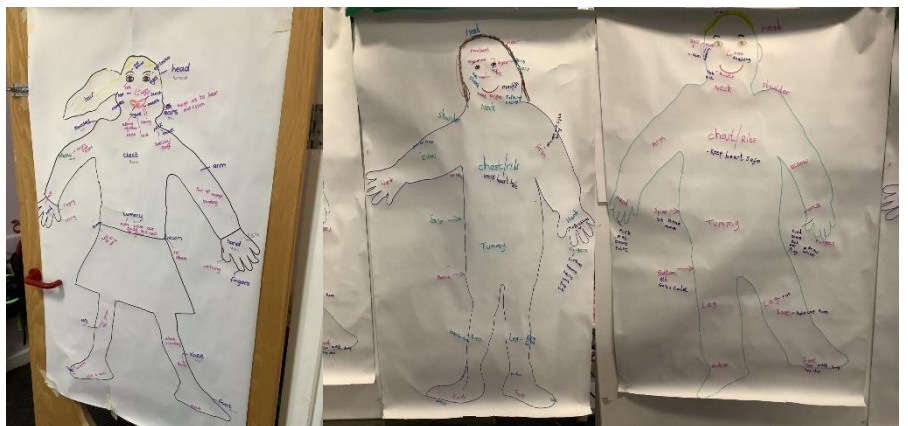
Sign up now
www.wokingham-tc.gov.uk/bookfest



What have Nursery been learning about this week?

In Nursery this week we have been learning about body parts. We have learnt the song Head, shoulders, knees and toes, read Funny Bones and tried moving on different body part.

During group time we drew around our friends and labelled the different body parts. We then spent time talking about what they body part does. The children really enjoyed this activity and many children used chalk to draw around each other during choosing time!



What have Year 1 been learning about this week?

This week in English we have started to learn how to wash a woolly mammoth! The children have enjoyed listening to the hilarious instructions, making a list of all the things they would need to collect to wash him and made a story board to explore the events in order. We look forward to hearing their own ideas about other animals they could wash, when they get an opportunity to create the instructions and make them their own!

In Maths we have been focusing on recapping how to use both a number line and a part whole model using some fun physical resources. This led to some fantastic learning using the addition symbol for the first time!

As well as this we have continued our Science focus of Seasons, and our Geography topic of 'On the farm'.

Year 1 classes have either been enjoying listening to, learning about and using instruments to play along with new hip hop songs in music, or exploring different computing skills on the iPad's - both of which have been a hit in our afternoons! Well done for another fantastic week Year 1.



What have Year 3 been learning about this week?

We have had some very exciting lessons in Year 3 this week, including learning how to catch a troll! When we came into class on Monday morning, there was a small cave set up in 3 King Smith classroom. Most of us had our first 'caving' experience when we went into the cave in pairs to experience darkness and see which colours and materials would show up best in the dark. Our teachers assured us there were no trolls in the cave at the time, but since reading our instruction text in English, we wonder if we might catch one in there soon?

We were also very proud of the children who contributed towards 3 King Smith being times tables champions, and we're hoping 3 Benjamin might win soon to make us a winning year group.



We were very impressed last week with the quality of writing the children produced on the story of Little Red Riding Hood. It was clear they were keen to impress us and took care over their work, which they should be very proud of. We hope you all get a chance to see this in their books when we have Parents' Evening in November.

What have Year 5 been learning about this week?

In Hughes, we have been learning all about George Rhoards. He was a contemporary American painter, sculptor, and origami master and is famously known for his marble runs. We have been exploring what makes an affective









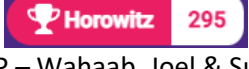

structure through several challenges like, 'Who can make the strongest bridge?' . Over the next few weeks, we are going to make our own! We can't wait to show you. In Morpurgo, we have been learning about the coding language of Scratch! Scratch is an interactive website that teaching the basics of computer programming. We've been learning how to choose backgrounds, sprites, and add sound clips to our projects. Throughout the rest of the term, we are going to be programming our own maze games!



TTROCKSTARS Battle of the bands!

Here are the results for Week three. Again, we are seeing the comeback of some classes...And WOW! What an amazing score 5 Hughes! Who can clinch the next valuable point this week? Remember, TTRockstars can be used on desktop, laptop, tablets or phones and can be accessed through a search engine or through the free app. 😊

I wonder who can knock the MVPs off the top spot in Year 3? They have been the same children a couple of week's running...

Class one	Class Two	Running total
Ahlberg  MVP – Aqsa, Chidinma & Taneisha	Butterworth  MVP – Zaayan, Divina & Fletcher	Ahlberg 2 – 1 Butterworth
Benjamin  MVP – Raif, Rupa & Dominik	King-Smith  MVP – Richardson, Gadi & Junior	Benjamin 0 – 3 King-Smith
Binch  MVP – Arjun, Advay & Lola S	Pullman  MVP – Inesa, Noah & Inayah	Binch 1 – 2 Pullman
Hughes  MVP – Godwill, Salim & Zephan	Morpurgo  MVP – Godwin, Emilia & Levi	Hughes 2 – 1 Morpurgo
Horowitz  MVP – Wahaab, Joel & Suyog	Lewis  MVP – Rizma, Chisom & Aaron	Horowitz 2 – 1 Lewis

A massive shout out to our MVP's (Most Valuable Players) for rocking their times tables this week! I look forward to seeing some even closer battles next week.

Who will become a Rock Hero this year and be invited to the Rock Hero party in Summer Term?

- Miss Gundry 😊

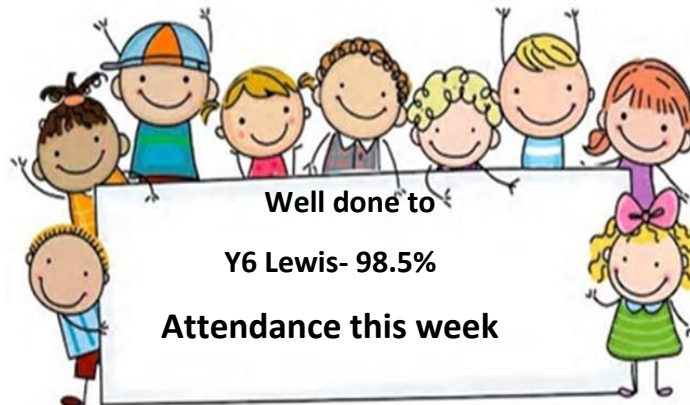
Attendance Information



Nursery AM	Nursery PM	YR Kerr	YR Rosen	Y1 Cole	Y1 Donaldson	Y2 Ahlberg	Y2 Butterworth
89.9%	86.7%	93.5 %	82.6%	92.2%	88.2%	97.1%	92.9%



Y3 Benjamin	Y3 King-Smith	Y4 Binch	Y4 Pullman	Y5 Hughes	Y5 Morpurgo	Y6 Horowitz	Y6 Lewis
84.9%	95.8%	91.1%	96.8%	96.3%	98%	97.3%	98.5%



Attendance for the whole school year is currently 94.3%

An exciting attendance raffle has started at The Palmer Academy.

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 KS2, KS1 and Early Years will be selected and win a special prize. We are always looking for exciting prizes so if you have any new items which would make good attendance prizes please feel free to donate to the office.

This week's winners are Aurelia, Mudasair and Eli Well done 😊