



The Palmer Academy Newsletter



Edition 11

Friday 12th November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your patience and understanding for any temporary changes to staffing we have made in the last few weeks (and continue to make). We are definitely still in a pandemic.

With Christmas fast approaching, we are preparing to mark this event in the school. It is with great sadness that we have decided not to invite guests, visitors and parents into the school. This means that we will not be having a grand nativity and Nursery Christmas singing. I decided that families spending Christmas together without either suffering from COVID or having to isolate should be the priority in 2021. Thank you for your understanding.



Mr D. Prendergast

Parking

Please could I remind parents and carers to be respectful and safe to our community and neighbours, therefore PLEASE DO NOT:

- Park in or across people's drives, this includes in Ella Garrett Close, Scholar's Place and all other surrounding roads.
- Park on corners of streets, especially on Newcastle Road.
- Park on or STOP on the zig zag lines or outside the school gate.



Friday 17th December – PM Nursery CANCELLED

On Friday 17th December there will be NO afternoon nursery to allow visits for children starting after Christmas.

Nut Free School

Please remember that we are a nut free school and packed lunches must not contain any foods containing nuts. This is for all the children's safety. Thank you.

Easy Fundraising

Raise donations for The Palmer Academy whenever you shop online.

Please follow the link below for more information on how you can help us fundraise for our school.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/thepalmeracademy/>

Food Donation

With Christmas fast approaching, and with more and more families struggling to put food on the table, we would like to invite schools to participate in this year's Foodbank advent calendar appeal. As schools are not open for the 24 days of advent, we are suggesting that collection runs for 12 school days, starting on the Wednesday 1st and ending Thursday 16th December. People are free to bring what they can on any day throughout the collection period. And of

course, people do not have to bring something every day if they are unable to! We will be donating to our local foodbank Readifood. Please see link here: <https://readifood.org.uk/>
Please see a list of items below that Readifood are in urgent need of:

Urgent Food needs are; Tinned vegetables, tinned fruit, tinned potatoes, packets of biscuits and packs of teabags (80s' & 160s'), Tinned meat meals (mince & onions, hotdogs, meat pies etc.)

What have Nursery been learning about this week?

This week the Nursery children have been learning about the different events we celebrate. The children have been talking about how they celebrate birthdays, bonfire night, Christmas, Eid, Diwali, Chinese New Year, weddings and Christening at home. At Nursery we have been making cakes and talking about how the mixture changes.



What have Year 1 been learning about this week?

We have had another fab week in year 1! In English we have focused on learning our new poem 'The Perfect Porridge'. We have had fun learning about different types of poems, before adding actions to our model text and having a go at writing it ourselves! In maths we have been practicing our numbers from 11-20. As well as using some fun songs to practice our numbers, we have also been working in teams to match and order our numbers. This will help us to be able to talk about which numbers are smaller or greater next week. Also, in Year 1 this week, we have continued to learn about the History of Reading. In particular looking at Huntley and Palmer's biscuit factory, getting a chance to explore some of the difference between the old biscuit tins and some new biscuit packaging's. We even got a chance to taste some of the present biscuits too, which went down a treat! 😊

What have Year 3 been learning about this week?

This week in Year 3 we have been looking at poetry in English. We have been reading a Pie Corbett poem about candlelight which uses personification, alliteration and rhyme. Hopefully the children can remember the poem to recite to you and tell you what these features mean! We have also been learning about the three periods of the Stone Age – the Paleolithic, the Mesolithic and the Neolithic periods – and we've learnt a little about the introduction of farming and how this changed the way people lived. We have also been learning about a balanced diet in science and what a healthy plate might look like. We even got to make some models out of plasticine – see below for some fab examples. We continue to be impressed by the hard work, determination and drive of the children in our classes, and we are grateful for the support they are getting at home with completing their homework too, thank you parents.



What have Year 5 been learning about this week?

This week, Hughes have a classroom full of trophies. We are so proud of ourselves! We won the attendance award AND the times table rock stars award too. Thank you to all our parents for getting us into school every day and for helping us with our TT rocks stars. In History, we have been learning all about the Vikings and Anglo Saxons. We have explored the differences between men, woman and children’s lives and even got to make our own Viking jewelry! Some of you may have seen us wearing our Viking necklaces last week. During RE, we have been learning all about the Christmas story. As part of our learning, we had Fr. Peter visit us. It was so interesting! We spent an entire lesson asking him questions all about Christianity and the Christmas story. We learnt so much. In Science, we have been learning about animals and their life cycles. This week, we explored gestation periods and made some fantastic posters all about them. Did you know that an elephant’s gestation period can be up to 22 months! This blew our minds. Our teachers were so impressed by the research we did. We even taught them some new facts too!



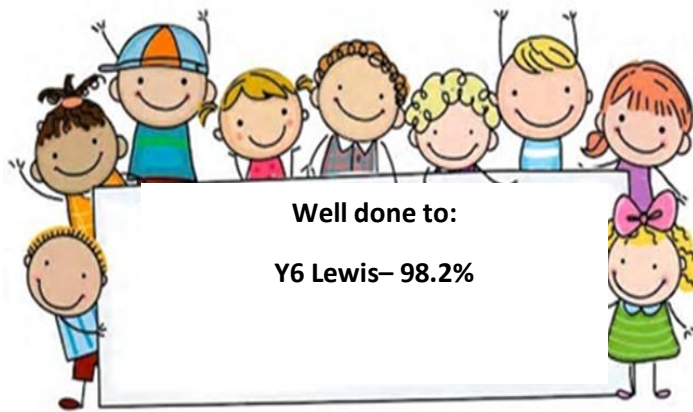
Attendance Information



Nursery AM	Nursery PM	YR Kerr	YR Rosen	Y1 Cole	Y1 Donaldson	Y2 Ahlberg	Y2 Butterworth
91.6%	90.1%	85.1%	72.7%	79.3%	89.4%	92.5%	96%



Y3 Benjamin	Y3 King-Smith	Y4 Binch	Y4 Pullman	Y5 Hughes	Y5 Morpurgo	Y6 Horowitz	Y6 Lewis
93.5%	93.7%	92.7%	96.8%	94.7%	93.2%	93.3%	98.2%



Attendance for the whole school year is currently 93.6%

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 Erin, Rauf and Daniel Well done 😊