



The Palmer Academy

Weekly Round-up



Edition 9

Friday, 27th November 2020

Note from the Executive Headteacher

No doubt you will have heard about the revised tier restrictions which come into effect next Wednesday, where Reading is part of tier 2. Although this does not affect the academy or how education is delivered, it is important to remember that our area is still classed as a 'high alert' and you must not socialise with anyone you do not live with or who is not in your support bubble in any indoor setting, whether at home or in a public place. Like you, I understand the challenges of the situation with seeing friends and family, but for our own safety it is important that we continue to adhere to the rules and do our bit to contain the spread of the virus. We will be continuing to wear face masks in and around the school site, limiting adults coming into the building and ensuring we maintain regular handwashing or hand sanitising. Over the last week I have been working with the leadership team to look at how well our children are learning to decode words (we call this phonics) when they start to read. I have been impressed by the technical vocabulary our children use, such as understanding the term pseudo (for a word that is made up) and a diagraph (one sound made up of two letters). Please continue to ensure you read with your child regularly at home and write in their reading records – every little helps with reading! Have a great weekend and see you on Monday.



A. A. Wanford

Mr. Aaron Wanford

Christmas School Dinner

Our Christmas school lunch will be served on Wednesday 16th December this year. Please order your child a meal on Parentpay.

Bags2schools

Today your child will be bringing home a charity bag for you to fill with unwanted clothes and bedding to raise funds for the school. Please only return the bags on **FRIDAY 4TH DECEMBER**. We cannot store the clothes you donate because of COVID so if you could bring the filled bags in to school with you on the morning of 4th December we will be delighted to pass them on to Bags2schools in return for cash for the school. Thank you in advance of your support.

Informing the school of a child's absence

If your child is absent from school please notify us by phoning 01189 375481 and press option 1 to leave a message or alternatively please use the new absence email which is absence@thepalmeracademy.com.

Medical Appointments

Medical Appointments should not be made during school hours. Please avoid booking GP and Dental appointments during the school day. Hospital Appointments are unavoidable so therefore we ask that you provide at least 48 hours' notice in writing should you need to pick up your child earlier than usual.



Parking Responsibly

Please can all parents park your cars responsibly. Do not block our neighbours drives or park across peoples dropped kerbs. Please do not park illegally when dropping off or picking up your child/ren.

Face Coverings

Thank you all for continuing to wear a face covering whilst on the school premises, it is much appreciated. For the very few parents who are still not wearing a face covering, can we plead with you to do so for everybody's safety.

Pick Up Time

Parents, when picking up children from Reception please make sure the older siblings are not playing with the balls on the fenced in section of the field or with any of the toys in the top garden. The staff clean all the equipment at tidy up time and if other children outside our bubbles are playing with them, we have to reclean then and quarantine them for 72 hours which means our children are unable to play with them.

Easy Fundraising

Did you know that we're registered with easyfundraising and you could help us to raise funds for the school at no extra cost to yourself?

Since our fundraising events are on hold, this is a great opportunity to keep raising much needed funds for the school. When you shop online, with over 4,100 of your favourite retailers, including John Lewis & Partners, Amazon, eBay, notonthehighstreet, you will raise FREE donations for The Palmer Academy.

If you're not already signed up, it only takes a few minutes, then you can begin using the easyfundraising website or app straightaway - simply shop online as normal. This will be an enormous help to the school, at no extra cost to yourself.

Visit our easyfundraising page to get started:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/thepalmeracademy/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=s-e2

Lost Property

Please continue to check in the lost property for any missing items of uniform. We ask that everything your child brings to school is named including water bottles and lunch boxes etc.

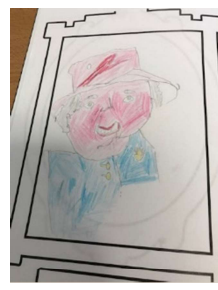
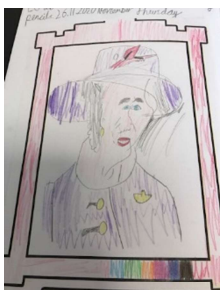
What have Reception been learning about this week?

This week the Reception children in Kerr and Rosen class have been learning about 'Healthy Eating'. They have all discussed in their lessons, the healthy food that they can have in their lunch boxes and their picnic baskets.



What have Year Two been learning about this week?

We have had a brilliant week in Year 2. We have created our own portraits using tints, tones and different 3D shading. Have a look at some of our portraits of the Queen that we have drawn. We have loved taking part in the independent writing challenge this week and our teachers have loved seeing our progress since our last writing task. In history we have been sequencing and re-telling the Great fire of London events. Do you know where the Great Fire started? We have also been learning about money in maths. Do you think the year twos could help you at the shop this weekend? As always, we are so impressed with the children's behaviours and attitudes to learning. Keep it up!



What have Year Four been learning about this week?

This week in Year 4, we have been learning about what life was like in Ancient Greek times. We worked together in groups to create posters, showing what life was like in a variety of areas, including leisure, food and clothes. We also talked about how we use sources to find out about the past, and how useful these are. In our Art lessons, we got to have a go at potato printing to make a block print last week, and this week we have planned our wallpaper tile (inspired by William Morris), which we will create using Styrofoam prints and creating a background. We hope we will be able to share a photo of our finished class wallpaper before the end of term.

We have also had our first chance at playing the recorders this week in Music. We have been learning the word to the Beatles song Blackbird, and we are now learning how to play some of the notes on a recorder, so we might be able to join in.

In our Science lessons, we have been learning about how to keep our teeth healthy and why this is important. We are moving on to look at our digestive systems this week and learning about how they work. Hopefully if you ask us some questions about this at home, we might be able to answer them!



What have Year Six been learning about this week?

Wow! What a week we have had in Year 6. We began the week by taking part in a Victorian school room in History. Miss Gundry and Miss Thomassen were very strict. We learned about what children would be taught and how they would be expected to behave in the classroom – We had to stand to answer a question and sit with our hands behind our backs. We recited a text, practiced our handwriting and completed some maths on pounds, shillings and pence. Using our experience, we then compared the day to a modern school day. We much prefer life at The Palmer Academy.



In Science, we continued to look at the circulatory system and carried out an investigation into how exercise affected our heart rate. We concluded that, in order to keep our muscles oxygenated, our heart rate must increase. We enjoyed working together in groups to plan and carry out the investigation. In responding to feedback, we thought about how this might also affect our breathing.



In maths, we finished our work on fractions and completed end of unit assessments. We have been working so hard on improving our understanding of fractions and using bar models to support us. Elsewhere in the curriculum, we have enjoyed the creativeness of playing instruments along to jazz music and exploring, analysing creative works in Art, ahead of us planning our own portraits.

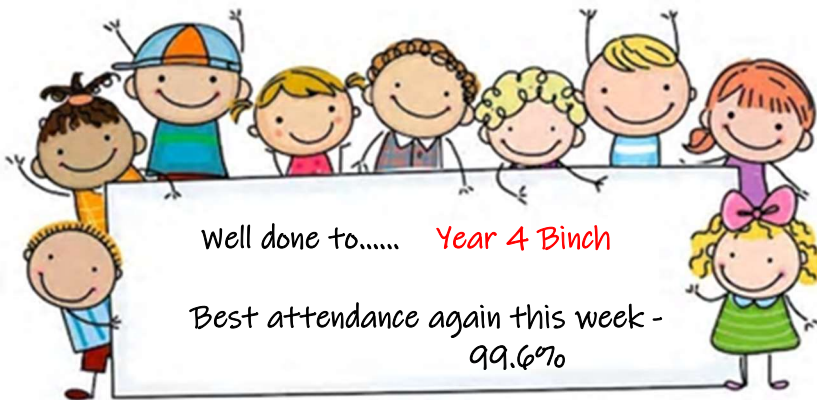
Attendance Information



Nursery Carle AM	Nursery Carle PM	YR Kerr	YR Rosen	Y1 Cole	Y1 Donaldson	Y2 Ahlberg	Y2 Butterworth
95.5%	97.8%	93.8%	95.2%	96.0%	96.4%	98.5%	97.1%



Y3 Benjamin	Y3 King-Smith	Y4 Binch	Y4 Pullman	Y5 Hughes	Y5 Morpurgo	Y6 Horowitz	Y6 Lewis
96.6%	96.4%	99.6%	98.2%	97.4%	99.2%	98.4%	98.5%



Attendance for whole school to date this academic year: 96.1%

What's happening next week at Palmer?

Monday 30th	
Tuesday 1st	
Wednesday 2nd	
Thursday 3rd	
Friday 4th	Bags2schools