

# THE PALMER ACADEMY WEEKLY ROUND-UP

**Edition 109**

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

This week, we had the pleasure of welcoming our REAch 2 CEO, Cathie Paine, to the school on Tuesday. Mrs Paine led an assembly for the children, focusing on the refugee team in the Olympics and Paralympics. She observed maths lessons across the school and visited both our early years classes and The Den.

In addition, some of our children had the opportunity to meet with Mrs Paine and share their experiences regarding personal development at school. We were also proud to showcase the improvements we made last year to our reading curriculum.

Mrs Paine shared some wonderful feedback, expressing how impressed she was by the enthusiasm in the school, the pupils' excellent behaviour, and the positive progress the school has made since her last visit two years ago. I couldn't be more proud of our staff and children. Well done team Palmer!

It was lovely to see so many of you at parents' evenings. Thank you to those parents and carers who completed the questionnaire via the QR code, we had lots of responses. Your views are important to us, and we always welcome feedback and suggestions. We had a very positive response to the questionnaire. 98% of parents and carers said their child was happy at school, 100% of parents and carers shared their child feels safe at the school. 100% of parents shared their child does well in school and that Palmer supports the personal development of their child. 98% of parents and carers shared that they thought the school ensures the children behave well.

As always if you have any queries or suggestions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind Regards



**Miss A Higginbotham**

**Headteacher**

## In This Issue

- Attendance
- Important
- Informatio

## Reminders and Information for Parents

A big thank you we raised £197.67 for Young Minds and £212.94 for Jeans for Genes- The money has gone to well-deserved charities.

PE DAYS	
CLASS	DAYS
RECEPTION	MONDAY
YEAR 1	MONDAY and WEDNESDAY
YEAR 2	TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY
YEAR 3	MONDAY and THURSDAY
YEAR 4	TUESDAY and THURSDAY
YEAR 5	WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY (for next 10 weeks- Swimming)
YEAR 6	MONDAY and FRIDAY

## Important dates

### Open Events for secondary schools for Year 6

River Academy message- As previous dates being overbooked and a very successful Open Evening event last night, we are pleased to offer an additional two Open Morning dates: Friday 11<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October.

Booking is essential, please click [here](#) to register your interest

15<sup>th</sup> October Parents Evening (Year 2 Alhberg only)- Please book by Monday 7th

15<sup>th</sup> October Year 4 trip to Dinton Pastures

22<sup>nd</sup> October Reception trip to Ella's Kitchen

## Parking

A friendly reminder to please refrain from parking on double yellow lines or zig zag markings. Doing so poses a danger to our children as they enter and leave the school premises.

Additionally, we kindly ask that disabled badge holders avoid parking in these restricted areas. If you hold a disabled badge and require proximity to the school for accessibility reasons, please reach out to our office. We're here to support you in finding suitable parking arrangements.

## Uniform

Could we please ask Parents/Carers to make sure all uniforms are clearly labelled.

Nearly all the uniform emptied from the lost property bins is unnamed, making it impossible to return to the rightful owners.

## School lunches

Parents are now able to cancel and book school dinners up to 9am in the morning. Please remember to order for your child before this time and cancel any meals not required should your child be absent for the day, you will still be charged if meals aren't cancelled. Meals should only be ordered by the school office on the rare occasion that you may have forgotten to order. We are still experiencing a high number of pupils every day that have no school dinner ordered – if this continues we will phone parents to bring in a packed lunch so could you ensure you have booked for the week ahead. Please speak to the school office if you need a reminder of how to order through Parent Pay.

From 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024 Meal prices are changing to £2.57- Please see new menu attached – commencing 4<sup>th</sup> November.



## **Parent safe- keeping your children safe: online & beyond**

It's never easy to know how to keep our children safe when they aren't with us, and sometimes even when are, if we don't know what's happening in their lives or on their devices! Who are they talking to, what are they doing, are they okay? Don't despair though...scroll through this page for help or click a button to go straight to a particular topics.

[Home \(lgfl.net\)](https://www.lgfl.net)

Reading FC are delighted to launch our schools competition for the Autumn term inviting all Primary aged children to design there own shirt which will using the attached template.

The winning shirt will be professionally made into the chosen design for the individual to keep.

Please see attachments

The deadline for entries is Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December

We look forward to seeing your designs!

### **1<sup>st</sup> Schools and Grassroots fixture of 2024-25 Season!**

This is a reminder that we have just under 3 weeks to go until our 1<sup>st</sup> Schools and Grassroots fixture of the season v Crawley Town on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October 12.30pm Kick off.

Across the course of the last two seasons more than 250 schools and clubs from Berkshire and the surrounding areas sold over 30,000 tickets through the scheme, which sees them earn a discount code which they can pass on to their students or players for specific fixtures in the Royals' campaign.

With Rubén Sellés' side starting to make our home a fortress, we would like nothing more than to see you bring your support as we look to continue a fine start! Full details of how to get involved can be found below so please share with all your children, friends, family and staff and let me know if you require any further information.

**You have been invited to Reading Football Club's 1<sup>st</sup> Schools and Grassroots Fixture of 2024-25!**

#### **When?**

**Reading vs Crawley Town**

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October, 12.30pm kick off**

#### **Where?**

**Select Car Leasing Stadium**

#### **How to qualify for the discount and confirm your attendance?**

To redeem, please visit <https://ticketing.readingfc.co.uk> and enter the following unique coupon code: **#ThePalmerAcademy** in the basket once you have logged in and selected your tickets which will be discounted to the below prices:

**13 and Under: £1**

**17 and Under: £4**

**18 to 24: £7**

**65 and over: £7**

**Adult: £10**

**How many tickets can we purchase?**

**There is no limit on the number of tickets you can buy using your unique code.**

**Important! This offer applies to tickets in the Eamonn Dolan Stand blocks and Y19/Y20 of the Sir John Madejski Stand. Coupon codes are valid up until 4 hours before kick-off.**

**6 great prizes to be won for your School!**

**Select your School [here](#) to cast your vote and be in with a chance to win one of 6 great prizes!**

**If you have any questions about this offer, please email [sales@readingfc.co.uk](mailto:sales@readingfc.co.uk) or call 0118 968 1313.**

**Come on URRRZZ!!**

**Yours Sincerely**

**Paul Collins**

**Head of Ticketing**

**Reading Football Club**

October updates for Hexham Community Centre, most groups are free and everyone is welcome. 😊

**October is Black History month** – there are lots of events happening across Reading <https://www.reading.gov.uk/leisure/things-to-do/black-history-month/>

We will be celebrating Black History at Hexham next month in November so please watch this space. We're sorry we couldn't run something this month but the volunteers are busy planning the event – and every month is a good time to celebrate Black History!

## **New Over 50s Coffee Afternoon starting**

### **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> Oct 2:30pm**

The first session will be a fundraiser for Macmillan. Homemade cakes and refreshments plus bingo.

Donations welcome for Macmillan.

### **Free Hexham Coffee and Computer Club - Thursday, 31<sup>st</sup> October, 11am – 1pm**

Learn what you want to know about your device or using the internet. Bring your own device or borrow one of ours. Everyone welcome.

## **Looking after yourself**

### **Free Wellbeing Walks – Every Wednesday 1:15pm – 2:30pm**

Short walk with a friendly group, suitable for all ages and abilities, focused on nature and wellbeing. Followed by free refreshments. Meet at Hexham Community Centre.

### **Free NHS Health Checks - Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> October, 9am – 1pm**

Speak to a NHS nurse, confidential appointments. Open to all Hexham residents.

### **Free Over 50s Seated exercise group – Every Monday, 2pm – 2:30pm**

Fun and friendly group, suitable for all abilities. Feel free to come along and watch for the first session. 😊

## **Children and Young People**

### **Free KICKS Reading FC Youth Group – Every Monday, 6pm – 8pm**

11- 18 year olds.

### **Free Grassrootz Youth Group – Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> 6pm – 9pm**

**Free Brighter Futures Youth Group** – Every Wednesday, 4pm – 6pm

Two sessions each week, 8 – 13 year olds first and then 14 – 18 year olds

**Free Becoming Mums** – Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month, 10am – 12pm

Friendly group for mums, children welcome

**FREE BIKE AND PARKOUR DISPLAY** – Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October, 12pm – 3pm

<https://youtu.be/wQgig2goF70?si=k4wPB0s6YGrN-kK>

**At John Madejski Academy**

An urban theatre experience by Justice in Motion to raise awareness of the risks of knife crime and exploitation. *A spectacular blend of physical theatre, parkour and trials bike stunts with live rap and music. On an urban playground, skilled athletes and performers show what is happening to our young people exploited by organised drug crime gangs.*

## **Halloween / Half Term**

**Free Halloween craft and lantern walk for families** – Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> Oct 1pm – 3pm

Fun crafts, activities and refreshments, followed by an optional short lantern walk

Perfect for younger children and families.

**Free Pumpkin Carving with Brighter Futures for 14yrs +** – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November  
2:30pm – 4pm

Carve a pumpkin – everything you need is provided plus some tasty Halloween treats.

**Half Term at South Reading Leisure Centre**

Kids can swim and play football for £1

Family programme <https://www.better.org.uk/leisure-centre/reading/south-reading/holiday-activities>

# Teen Writing Group

## AT WOKINGHAM LIBRARY

JOIN IGNITING WRITING,  
WOKINGHAM LIBRARY'S TEEN CREATIVE WRITING CLUB

FACE TO FACE SESSIONS EVERY SATURDAY  
(EXCEPT SCHOOL HOLIDAYS)

SESSION FOR YEAR 6-8 9.45AM TO 11.15AM

SESSION FOR YEAR 9-13 11.45AM TO 1.15PM

THE SESSIONS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO ALL  
YEAR 6 TO YEAR 13 STUDENTS

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SESSIONS WILL INCLUDE:

- FUN WRITING ACTIVITIES
  - USEFUL WRITING TIPS
  - GROUP DISCUSSIONS ON STORY IDEAS
- 

ALL SESSIONS NEED TO BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE  
TO SIGN UP FOR SESSIONS, VISIT THE EVENTS PAGE ON OUR  
WEBSITE: [HTTPS://WWW.WOKINGHAM.GOV.UK/LIBRARIES](https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/libraries)



**WOKINGHAM**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL



# Pumpkin Trail

A family event during half-term at:  
**The Look Out, Bracknell**  
**26th Oct – 3rd Nov**

**Fun events for all the family**

[www.firstdays.net/event-list](http://www.firstdays.net/event-list)

Registered Charity: 1157855



A family event at:  
**Dinton Pastures, Wokingham**  
**Saturday 16th November**

SPOTLIGHT  
RAY OF HOPE



DISCOUNTED  
FAMILY PASSES

## BEALE PARK, PANGBOURNE



**BEALE**  
WILDLIFE PARK

VARIOUS DATES AVAILABLE

Spotlight UK are offering discounted days out to Beale Park for all families weekdays and weekends available throughout October including half term

£5 PER PERSON ON FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS

THIS IS AN EXCLUSIVE BOOKING FOR SPOTLIGHT UK  
Please send booking enquiries to [jessicariley@spotlightuk.org](mailto:jessicariley@spotlightuk.org)  
[www.spotlightuk.org](http://www.spotlightuk.org) Reg Charity 1129258



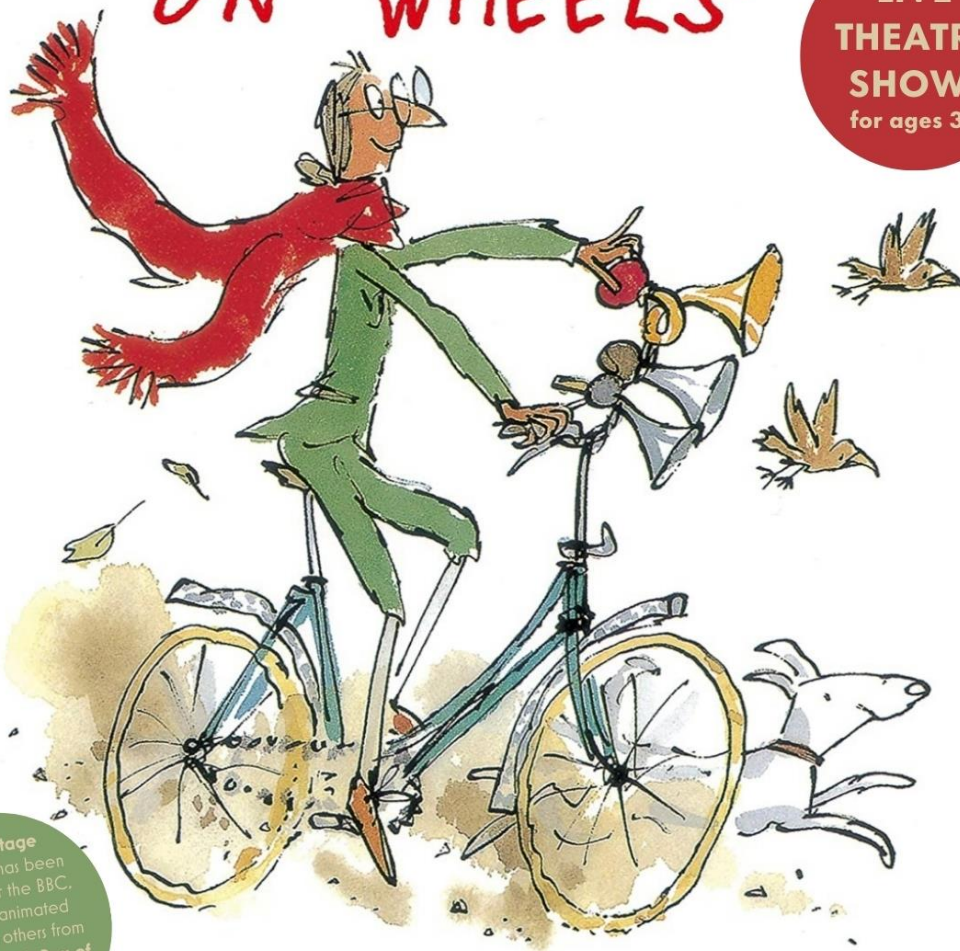
SCOOT  
THEATRE

farnham **maltings**

Scout Theatre and Farnham Maltings present

Quentin Blake  
**MRS ARMITAGE  
ON WHEELS**

LIVE  
THEATRE  
SHOW!  
for ages 3+



Mrs Armitage on Wheels has been adapted for the BBC, watch the animated special and others from 'Quentin Blake's Box of Treasures' on BBC iPlayer

**An interactive, energetic family show, celebrating the joy of getting outside!**

★★★★ The Telegraph\*

\*on previous Scout Theatre production of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream!'

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PARTNERSHIP  
SURREY

ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND

Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

WALK TOGETHER ON A WEDNESDAY



MEET AT HEXHAM ROAD COMMUNITY CENTRE

1:15PM TO 2:30PM

ALL AGES AND ALL ABILITIES WELCOME

SEPTEMBER 4TH, 11TH, 18TH, 25TH

OCTOBER 2ND, 9TH, 16TH, 23RD

NOVEMBER 6TH, 13TH, 20TH, 27TH

HEXHAM.ROADCC@READING.GOV.UK

0118 937 3352

FOUR REASONS  
TO GO ON A WALK



MOVING YOUR BODY FEELS NICE



CONNECT WITH NATURE



VITAMIN D



LOVE YOUR  
NEIGHBOURHOOD



Reading  
Borough Council



FUNSA

# HEXHAM COMPUTER AND COFFEE CLUB

## Hexham Community Centre

Suitable for all  
abilities, including  
beginners

**FREE!**

Last Thursday of  
the month 11am -  
1pm





# Why choose a Caterlink School Meal

Sign-up today!

Please speak to reception.

We have won a number of awards for using **honest, local produce** and pride ourselves on making **fresh and nutritionally balanced** meals.



## Per meal, we provide:

- 1 portion of protein
- 1 portion of carbohydrates
- 2 portions of vegetables
- A choice of salad available daily
- Freshly baked bread
- One homemade dessert



Behind **every meal** is a team of dedicated **chefs and nutritionists**.  
**Did you know?** Most of our meals are made completely from scratch in-house!



Our **desserts** are **handmade** in house.

On average, our meals contain **37% less free sugars** than the government recommendations for school meals.



We **don't** add any salt to any of our meals!

Our **pizzas** are **homemade** and made using **50/50 wholemeal flour** for extra added fibre! And our **meat products** are **freshly** delivered from our **local butchers**.



We often have **Meat Free Mondays** to support **sustainable eating**. We also have recipes with **Added Plant Power** identified by this logo



Many of our desserts contain hidden **wholegrains** and are **sweetened with fruit** so they count toward **one of your child's 5-a-day!**



We ensure the menu adheres to the **School Food Standards**. That means your child is getting a **well balanced and nutritious** meal through out their school day.



**caterlink**  
feeding the imagination

# My Caterlink School Lunch



Water is served with all our meals

All our meals contain a portion of carbohydrates and a portion of protein. All meals are portioned in line with the School Food Standards regulations.

Our fish is sustainably sourced MSC fish

Scan the QR code to explore the School Food Standards we adhere to.

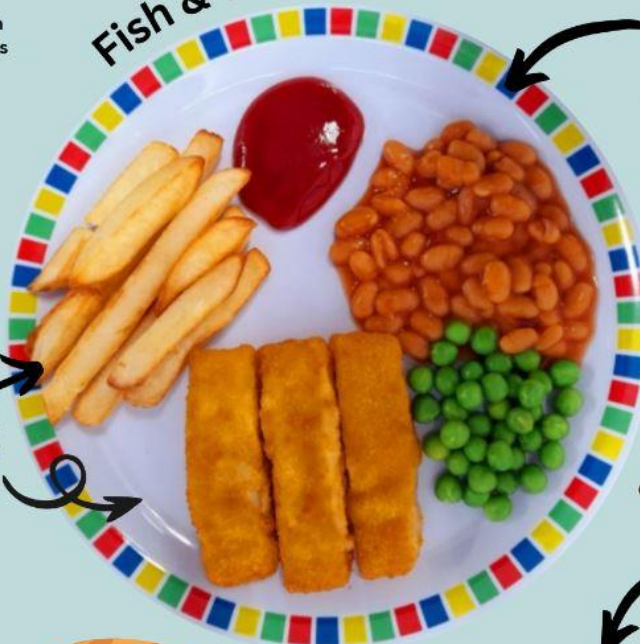


**caterlink**  
feeding the imagination



50/50 wholemeal bread is freshly baked everyday in our kitchens and served alongside our meals for children to enjoy.

## Fish & Chips



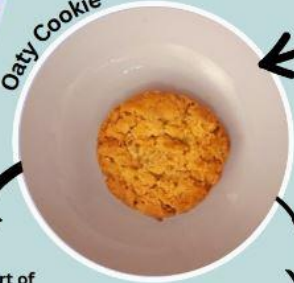
Two different vegetables are offered with all our meals. Totalling at 50g.



Salad is available each day, with five different vegetables on offer!

We provide homemade desserts, lots of which are made with 50% fruit to count toward the 5-a-day guidelines.

### Oaty Cookie



A dessert of fruit & yoghurt is also offered daily.

I contain hidden wholegrains for fibre!



FSE



# FOODSEQUAL

## FSE in Whitley

We have been doing our research about food in Whitley from 2021! Yep, it's been awhile!

Below is what we have gathered from various conversations through workshops, interviews, focus groups that we've held.

### 🍌 Views about food from Whitley 🍌



we don't want unhealthy chemicals and additives



we want more fresh fruits and vegs



Keeping families well-fed and happy is challenging!

End  
the  
Stigma  
Stop  
the  
Shaming

🚫 to stigma and inequality!

What are your thoughts on these ?



DO YOU KNOW  
ABOUT...

**FREE**



UNIVERSAL INFANT  
SCHOOL MEALS?



**EVERY** child in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2  
can have a cooked school lunch

**FRESHLY MADE**

**HEALTHY**

**NUTRITIOUS**

at absolutely no cost to you! -  
funded by the Government

Please contact your school for more information!

**caterlink**  
feeding the imagination



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!**



# Do I need to keep my child off school?

<b>Chicken Pox</b> Until all spots have crusted over	<b>Conjunctivitis</b> No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	<b>Diarrhoea &amp; Vomiting</b> 48 hours from last episode	<b>Glandular Fever</b> No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	<b>Hand, foot &amp; mouth</b> No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	<b>Impetigo</b> Until lesions are crusted & healed or 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
<b>Measles or German Measles</b> 4 days from onset of rash	<b>Mumps</b> 5 days from onset of swelling	<b>Scabies</b> Until after first treatment	<b>Scarlet Fever</b> 24 hours after commencing antibiotics	<b>Slapped Cheek</b> No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	<b>Whooping Cough</b> 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
<b>Flu</b> Until recovered	<b>Head Lice</b> No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	<b>Threadworms</b> No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	<b>Tonsillitis</b> No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed		

## 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

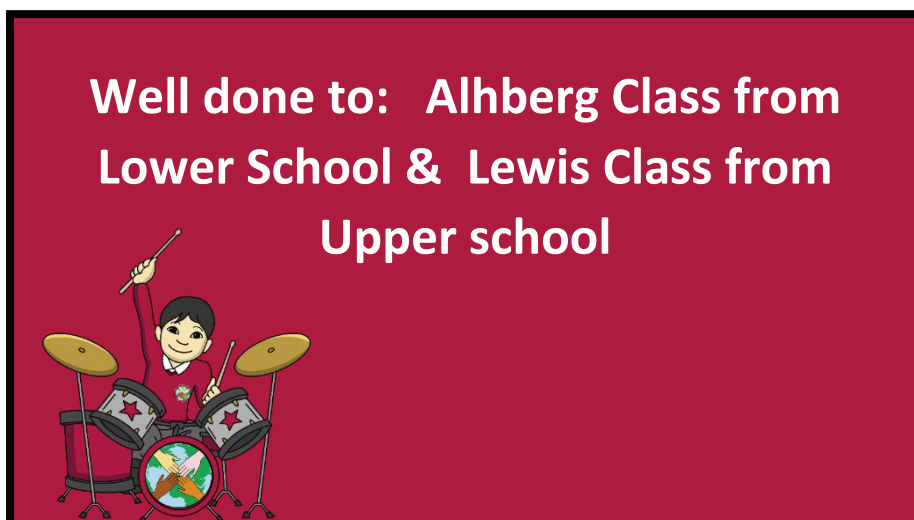


Nursery		Reception		Year 1		Year 2	
am	pm	Kerr	Rosen	Cole	Donaldson	Ahlberg	Butterworth
76.0 %	74.8%	92.1 %	94.9%	95.6 %	94.1%	95.7%	88.9%
Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Year 6	
Benjamin	King-Smith	Binch	Pullman	Hughes	Morpurgo	Horowitz	Lewis
95.2%	93.0 %	91.9%	94.1%	93.0%	92.3%	95.4%	97.9%

**Attendance for The Whole School Year Is Currently 93.4%**

### 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!



**wins House of the week-  
Congratulations.**