



The Palmer Academy

Newsletter



Edition 50

As I come to my last few days at Palmer, I am looking back at such a busy and eventful term. A few weeks ago, we had our Ofsted inspection, the results of which we hope we can share with you soon. I am extremely grateful to all the staff for supporting me in this and demonstrating to the inspection team what life is like at Palmer for our children. Over the last week, we have seen the return to some of our 'normal' annual events such as the nativities, carol services and our Christmas dinner. Our festive lunch was held on Wednesday, and the children had a great time, many of whom were trying our Brussels sprouts for the very first time – some liking them, and some not so much!

If I don't manage to see you all before the end of term on Tuesday, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support and patience over the last six months since I've been back at Palmer. You have such a lovely school and community, and fantastic children who I am very privileged to have got to know. I know the school will go from strength to strength with your new Headteacher, Miss. Higginbotham. Have a fantastic Christmas break when it arrives, and I look forward to popping back to Palmer in the future to see how you are all getting on!

Mr. Wanford

Executive Headteacher

16th December 2022



Christmas Fayre

Well done we raised £400 - this is going towards 11 before 11 – Thank you all!

Useful Links

We have set up a dedicated page on the Family Information Service (FIS)/SEND Local Offer, so that parent carers can easily find out about local services and support available throughout the Christmas holiday. [Christmas & New Year 2022/23 Local Services & Support Information](#)

This page will be updated daily, as and when we receive updates from services, partner agencies etc..

We also have a page for food, clothing and warm spaces [Support - Food, Clothing & Warm Hub](#)

SEND Short Breaks over the Christmas Holidays [Reading Directory | Christmas Holiday SEND Short Breaks - December 2022](#)

There is the Christmas Activities page, please use the following link for more details, the page will be updated regularly. [Activities in Reading over the Christmas Holiday 2022](#)

General Holiday Activities can be found on the following search list - [Holiday Activities](#)

For parent carers who need information on childcare, holiday clubs, childminders etc for the school holiday – www.readingfis.org/childcare

Please also find below a useful link for parents from the NSPCC.

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/services/speak-out-stay-safe>

What have Reception been learning about this week?

What a busy week! We started the week with a rehearsal of our Carol Concert on Monday and then on Tuesday we welcomed our parents for the real thing! The children made us very proud, and we hope they made their parents proud too. Thank you to everyone who came to watch. A big well done to Jaylen who played We Wish You a Merry Christmas on the piano for us. The children have enjoyed making the hot chocolate stirrers to sell at our Christmas fayre and learning about how Christians and Catholics celebrate Christmas around the world. We hope you have a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas break.



What have Year 2 been learning about this week?

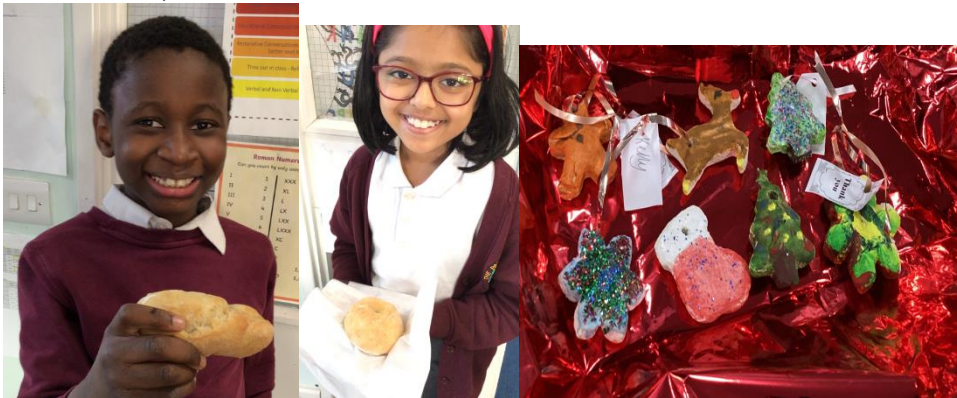
What another busy week it's been. The year 2s have been very busy practising for their nativity, and what a fabulous job they did indeed! It was so good to see them all up on stage in their costumes. It's safe to say Bethlehem was 'baarmy' with all the fun and festivities that took place on stage. Thank you to everyone who came to watch, we hope you enjoyed the show. We've been getting into the Christmas spirit by creating craft for our Christmas Fayre that took place on Thursday afternoon. Once again, thank you to everyone who came along to buy some goodies. We thoroughly enjoyed going to the Church to perform our Christmas carol, 'Santa Claus is coming to Town'. Have a lovely Christmas break and we'll see you all in the new year!

What have Year 4 been learning about this week?

This week has been lovely. We have completed some amazing learning such as finishing our DT unit "On a Roll". We researched, designed, made and evaluated our handmade artisan bread products. Take a look at some of our fantastic rolls below! In English, we have been writing persuasive adverts to try and convince Father Christmas to buy a new sleigh from SUPER SLEIGHS! For our stall at the Christmas Fayre, we applied our brilliant Art skills to make stunning, hand-crafted ornaments. We have included a photo of some below.

We just want to say a huge thank you and well done to the children of Year 4 who have been excellent this term. Please ensure that you make happy memories over the Christmas break and please try and squeeze in some Times Table practice if you can 😊. Take care and Merry Christmas

Mrs Watkins, Miss Fernandez and Mrs Goldwater.



What have Year 6 been learning about this week?

What a hectic week it has been. We were so lucky to start off by watching the KS1 Nativity which brought back wonderful memories of our Nativity. We even remembered some of the songs and dances and may have joined in 😊. We have spent much time this week sharing our knowledge and showing what we know on our end of unit assessments which has been interesting to reflect on our learning journeys so far. Then came our Christmas lunch and craft activities which we really enjoyed. We were so excited to share our crafts at the Christmas fair and play games to raise money for our school. Many children have really excelled in this, and we will possibly see them in the future with their own little businesses. Year 6 would like to wish everyone a happy holiday season and all the best for the New Year!



It's time for the results of the final competition of the year. There will be a break over the holiday period and then the competitions will start again year when we return to school. Let's see who our final winners:

Year group	Winning Class	MVPs	MVPs
Year 2	<i>Ahlberg</i>	2A Elham – Ellen-White - Maya	2B Ruth - Niranjana – Norika
Year 3	<i>King-Smith</i>	3B Karmarli – Zion - Joshua	3K-S Mohammed - Aurush – Taneisha
Year 4	<i>Binch</i>	4B Gadi – Reena - Emir	4P Rupa – Khirad - Arthur
Year 5	<i>Morpurgo</i>	5H Inaayah - Arjun – Amelia	5M Shanice – Inesa - Arjela
Year 6	<i>Lewis</i>	6H Salim – Shinuna - Megan	6L Hope – Jaya - Ahmed

Many different names this week... WELL DONE!!!

Attendance Information



Nursery AM	Nursery PM	YR Kerr	YR Rosen	Y1 Cole	Y1 Donaldson	Y2 Ahlberg	Y2 Butterworth
80.5%	85.6%	92.3%	84.1%	83.9%	82.8%	87.0%	87.7%



Y3 Benjamin	Y3 King-Smith	Y4 Binch	Y4 Pullman	Y5 Hughes	Y5 Morpurgo	Y6 Horowitz	Y6 Lewis
78.5%	83.3%	93.4%	82.6%	84.5%	90.5%	90.0%	87.8%

Attendance for the whole school year is currently 91.9%

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.



Well done to: MUSTAFA, ARMEL and KILARNI on winning the attendance raffle!

A special well done to **JOHNSON HOUSE** who won the most HERO (here, every day, ready on time) tokens!