



# The Palmer Academy Newsletter



**Edition 55**

**10th February 2023**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you all so much for your support over the last half term. We have had a wonderful term of learning and fun at Palmer. Our children have worked hard and demonstrated kindness and integrity. It has been a joy getting to know them all and hearing their thoughts about school.

We have said goodbye to some staff members today. Christine has retired from her role as cook. She has worked at the school for over 10 years, ensuring our children have a delicious lunch. We will miss her and are very grateful for her hard work. Miss Bond who you will have met in our office, is leaving. She was employed to cover Miss Mason's maternity leave, who is returning after half term. Miss Bond has done so much to support staff, children and families and we are thankful for her hard work.

Mrs Berry and Mrs Sonaware are leaving from their role as Lunchtime Supervisors and we thank them for their hard work supporting our children. We wish them every success in their new jobs.

I hope you all have a lovely half term and look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February.

**Miss A Higginbotham**

**Headteacher**

## **Turkey and Syria Appeal**

We are sure you will have seen the heart-breaking news coverage of the recent earthquakes that have killed thousands of people in Turkey and Syria. Following two big earthquakes and over 60 aftershocks, the scale of destruction is vast and we can only imagine the fear and grief families are dealing with.

As a school community, together with the other academies in our REAch2 Trust family of schools we want to help get life-saving supplies to people who have been affected. By donating to the Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal, we'll help DEC charities provide vital medical care, emergency shelter, food and clean water. Donations through this appeal will be matched by the UK Government.

We raised £160 from today's cake sale and will donate this money to the appeal. Thank you all so much for bringing cakes and supporting this fundraising event.



## **GO BEANIES BREAKFAST AND AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB @ THE PALMER ACADEMY - Places Available**

The Breakfast club runs from 7.45am to 8.45am and the Afterschool club runs from 3.15 to 5.45pm for working parents with children from FS2 to Year 6.

Go Beanies daily programme offers outdoor activities. sports, games, art & crafts, play and relaxation with breakfast and afternoon tea also included.

Please email [info@gobeanies.org](mailto:info@gobeanies.org) or text message on **07710566727** to book your child's place.

Spaces are allocated on a first come/first booked basis.

## **Easter Menu Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

Please find the attachment for an Easter School dinner menu which is planned for Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March - This will be available to book from half term. Please note any pre orders for this day will have been cancelled so will need to be re-booked. Thank you.

**Gymfinity Kids in Reading are a Gymnastics and Ninja club offering classes to children of all ages and ability.**

<https://gymfinitykids.box.com/s/acyb9pof2womqxrwhk605f22nkmp8k>

## **What have Nursery been learning about this week?**

In Nursery we have finished our topic Once Upon a Time by learning the story of The Three Billy Goats Gruff. The children have enjoyed retelling the story and creating their own collage of the setting. In group time we have been making our own story maps and practising retelling the story by heart. The children have also enjoyed practising their scissor skills to cut and make masks of the characters. In maths we have been thinking about things that are big and things that are small. We went on a shape walk around the school to see what we could find, the children were very excited to find lots of different examples of big and small things.

We hope you have a lovely half term!

## **What have Year 1 been learning about this week?**

In Year 1 this week we have finished off our half term with a visit to the school library. The children enjoyed some reading for pleasure as well as a group story time. As well as this, we have been writing our own version of 'Fairy Tale Villains' in English. This is a non-chronological report, in which we wrote about our own evil characters this week. This included – a wicked witch, a troll, the evil stepmother and Captain Hook.

In Maths we have been using our knowledge of addition and subtraction to work out missing number problems. The children showed great understanding of how to use a number line and which way they would need to jump in order to find out what number is going to fit the gap.

We hope that you all have a lovely half term, and we will see you all after the break 😊





**What have Year 3 been learning about this week?**

Over the past week year 3 have had a lots of fun with their learning! In writing, the children have been innovating non-chronological reports, we have written about all sorts of mythical creatures. In science we have continued our investigation into plants and have become keen botanists. Using celery and food colouring to experiment with, we have discovered that stems need warmth for water to travel through them. In art, we took our weaving knowledge outside and created some beautiful fence installations on the football court. The children’s teamwork, motivation and patience were really impressive, the children should be very proud of themselves! Well done Year 3! 😊



**What have year 5 been learning about this week?**

This half term, Year 5 have been working extremely hard in all lessons. One piece of work that we are particularly proud of is our sculptures in Art. We have been studying the work of Antoni Gaudi and have been creating our own clay chimneys. We learnt a range of techniques to do this including: making a clay slip and carving. Once we had made the sculptures, we had to let them dry so we could paint them. We deliberately chose vibrant, block colours when painting as we found these mimicked the style of Antoni Gaudi most closely. We think our sculptures look brilliant. Have a look!





And the results are in... Let's see who has come out on top and reigns victorious over half term.

Year group	Winning Class	MVPs	MVPs
Year 2	<i>Butterworth</i>	2A Elham – Sameksha - Catalina	2B Fatimah – Lucy - Niranjana
Year 3	<i>King-Smith</i>	3B Shanaya – Zion- Miray	3K-S Benjamin – Taneisha - Matas
Year 4	<i>Binch</i>	4B Gadi – Reena - Junior	4P Yazan – Rupa - Leon
Year 5	<i>Morpurgo</i>	5H Tamiyah – Inaayah - Martyna	5M Halima – Inesa - Kairos
Year 6	<i>Lewis</i>	6H Emilia – Shinuna – Eshal	6L Hope -Ahmed - Matilda

### Attendance Information



Nursery AM	Nursery PM	YR Kerr	YR Rosen	Y1 Cole	Y1 Donaldson	Y2 Ahlberg	Y2 Butterworth
84.7%	85.6%	88.0%	94.0%	91.5%	87.3%	84.8%	89.7%



Y3 Benjamin	Y3 King-Smith	Y4 Binch	Y4 Pullman	Y5 Hughes	Y5 Morpurgo	Y6 Horowitz	Y6 Lewis
84.1%	90.7%	96.3%	87.8%	93.2%	92.2%	91.7%	94.5%

**Attendance for the whole school year is currently: 91.3%**

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: **AGAMJOT, AZIA and ZACHARIAH** on winning the attendance raffle!

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