

THE PALMER ACADEMY WEEKLY ROUND-UP

Edition 67

Friday, 26th May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of another half term, I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with some updates on what has been happening in our primary school.

Firstly, I would like to thank all of our pupils for their hard work and dedication. It has been a pleasure to see them engage in their learning, demonstrating focus, collaboration and independence.

We have enjoyed enriching activities, such as Amazing Me Day and the Coronation celebrations. Next term we have more exciting adventures, extending learning beyond the classroom, through trips and our 11 before 11 promise.

I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable half term and we look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 5th June.

Thank you for your continued support.

A Higginbotham

Miss A Higginbotham

Headteacher



In This Issue

- What have Nursery been learning about?
- What have Year 1 been learning about?
- What have Year 3 been learning about?
- What have Year 5 been learning about?
- Attendance

Healthy schools

We want our children to be as happy and as healthy as possible at our school and we are working towards earning our **Healthy School kitemark award**. We are asking you to ensure that your child is sent to school with a healthy snack and healthy lunchbox. To promote this, we are holding a competition – **can you design the contents of a healthy packed lunch?!** If your child is interested in taking part, they can request a template from their class teacher with further instructions. The winner will receive a £20 Smiggle gift voucher to purchase their very own lunchbox/snack container. The winning entry will also be published in the Newsletter and posted on our Twitter! **The closing date is Tuesday 6th June so get those entries in after half term!** Many thanks, Mrs Watkins

Lost Property

The lost property bins will be emptied and the contents put out in the playground at the end of the school day on Monday 5th and Tuesday 6th June. Please check for and collect your child's belongings. Non school uniform items not claimed after Tuesday will be donated to charity.

What Have Nursery Been Learning About This Week?

This week Nursery have had lots of fun finishing our topic Up, Up and Away by learning all about kites and hot air balloons! We have read two stories – The Great Balloon Hullabaloo and Kite Day. We were hoping for a good kite day ourselves on Friday when we took to the field to fly our own kites. Thankfully, there was a little bit of wind, so the teachers managed to demonstrate their kite flying skills and the children all had a go as well! We have very much enjoyed this topic and are looking forward to starting our new topic Celebrating People, at the beginning of next term. On Monday the children all came to school in clothes that represented their own cultures. We loved seeing all the different outfits and celebrating the diversity within Nursery. The children had a wonderful time showing their outfits and talking about where their families are from. We hope you all have a lovely half term break!



What Have Year 1 Been Learning About This Week?

This week, year 1 have been innovating our instructional text all about jam sandwiches. We had some time to make our own sandwiches and then wrote down the steps to make them. In Maths we explored directions – we learned how to move forwards, backwards, left and right. Finally, we completed our Geography unit by creating weather reports and did a science assessment on Animals including Humans. We have learned a lot this term and are looking forward to a well deserved break!

What Have Year 3 Been Learning About This Week?

This week, year 3 have wowed us with their Amazing Me outfits! It was lovely to see the children talking about their cultures and what makes them special. Year 3 have been learning how to tell the time in maths. This is a really tricky skill, but the children have impressed us with their resilience. We would really appreciate it if you could keep practicing this important skill at home. In writing, we have been writing a play script for Little Red Riding Hood. We have been thinking about what a good playscript needs to do to make sure the actors know how to use it. In RE, we have been talking about how Sikhs share Langar. To think about what sharing means to us, we all worked together as volunteers to make a fruit salad which we then shared together on the carpet as equals.

Keep practicing your times tables every day!

What Have Year 5 Been Learning About This Week?

This week, year 5 have had the pleasure of being part of a STEM science workshop in which the children were given the task to create basic designs as prototypes that made use of different of different shapes. The children learnt that ancient engineers were very creative with their columns, making them artistic and beautiful but also extremely strong. The children were presented with the opportunity to explore questions such as: Why are shapes so important in engineering design? Why do we see different shapes in structures around us? We have learnt a lot this term, including presenting a balanced argument and devising a playscript. Keep up the good work and remember to focus on your times tables as much as possible during the half-term break.



Amazing me day!

On Monday, it was wonderful to see all of the children representing their culture in school. They had an opportunity to share this with the class, as well as discussing further what culture is. We created whole class jigsaws to show how diverse we are as a school, with children stating how 'Palmer is special and diverse as we don't have restrictions to any religion or background'. They celebrated how our school is 'equal and respectful' and how days like this make 'everyone feel included'. If you have not had a chance to already, head over to our Twitter to see some photos of the day! Some of our children have spoken about our amazing me day on a local radio station. This will be broadcast on Sunday 28th May at 8pm. Here is the link:

<https://www.bradio.co.uk/berkshire/>

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		Year R		Year 1		Year 2	
AM	PM	Kerr	Rosen	Cole	Donaldson	Ahlberg	Butterworth
90.5%	91.8%	95.6%	92.6%	94.1%	95.9%	87.7%	92.6%
Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Year 6	
Benjamin	King-Smith	Binch	Pullman	Hughes	Morpurgo	Horowitz	Lewis
92.0%	98.7%	98.7%	93.5%	82.1%	97.7%	94.4%	93.7%

Attendance for The Whole School Year Is Currently 91.6%

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! The winners of this term's attendance raffle are Tristan, Jesse, Zoey, Adrian, Eryk, Chloe and Tyler Paul.



**A special well done to
Johnson House who
won the most HERO
(Here, Every Day,
Ready on Time) tokens**