



The Palmer Academy Newsletter

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A visit by the author David Lucas – Miss S Davies, Miss Druce & Miss Caldwell

We had a visit by the author David Lucas who has written and illustrated many children's books. All the children listened to David tell one of his most popular stories and then follow some simple steps to illustrate and bring the story to life. At the end of the day he signed books and posed for pictures. Look out for his books in the book shops!



Year 6 Class Assembly – Mrs Berry & Miss Hand

Year 6 told the story of Kensuke's Kingdom through drama and role play at our first class assembly performed to pupils and parents. Thank you to all the parents who came to watch and support the children.

World Book Day 2016 –

Characters from across fiction came alive at TPA on Thursday, well done to all the pupils and staff for making such a superb effort! See the school website for a full gallery of pictures.



Year 5 publish their Dragonology books! – Mrs Pickett-Jones & Miss E Davies



The children created imaginative information texts all about some of the local Whitley dragons. These have been published in beautifully bound books and will be on display for your viewing at parents' evenings next week. Well done Year 5 for using their brilliant imaginations and taking such care when presenting the final piece!

Eggs and chicks in EYFS – Miss Harriss & Miss Kershaw

Pupils in Nursery and Reception have been caring for some special visitors. Eggs have been hatching and chicks opening their eyes to the world for the first time. There were great observations from everyone. Amaan said: "We stroked the chicks and they were fluffy and cute."



Terracotta warriors from the Shang Dynasty – Mrs Pickett-Jones & Miss E Davies



Pupils in Year 5 have been studying the Shang Dynasty and have created terracotta warriors out of clay. They look very similar to the real warriors and could almost come alive! The children are now in the process of painting them. The final pieces will be put on show around the school for all to see so keep your eyes peeled!

An Arts Quest for Year 4 – Miss Kershaw

Last Thursday (25th February) some of the children from year 4 were lucky enough to take part in the Great Arts Quest. They were invited to Reading Museum by Children and the Arts to take part in a workshop with a story teller and artist. The children thoroughly enjoyed the workshop and are excited to continue the project next week when the artist and story teller visit the school.

Mr Thomas reports: the children were able to take part in drama sessions and create clay boats as part of an incredibly interesting afternoon! The organisers were overwhelmed by the enthusiasm of the children (and staff!) and will now work with the children in school in a few weeks' time. In addition, the boats the children created will be on display at the museum in the coming weeks and months- more details to follow when we have them!

Healthy body, healthy mind! – Mr Prendergast



Key Stage 1 pupils were visited by James, the development chef for our caterer, Chartwells. He taught them all about how to live a healthy lifestyle by having five portions of fruit and vegetables a day, healthy portions, the importance of regular exercise and eating healthily for energy. The children had a go at making and tasting healthy smoothies.

PTA Family Quiz Night – Friday 15th April – Vicky Scott (Chair) & Suzan Ferguson (Treasurer)

The PTA will hold a Family Quiz Night on Friday 15th April from 6pm – 7:30pm. Tickets will go on sale next week so look out for poster in your child's bag and around the school. Prices include a pizza dinner, juice and little treats.

Our Sport Relief Mini Mudder – The P.E. Team

For Sport Relief, the PE team are running a mini mudder assault course on Thursday 17th March. Throughout the day each class will get the chance to manoeuvre their way over, under and through an assault course on the school field. Letters have been sent home with more details.



The Sports Report – The P.E. Team

On Monday 7th March The Palmer Academy have a team of gymnasts heading off to Reddam House School in Wokingham to represent us and Reading in the Berkshire School Games. Three children have also been selected to represent the school and Reading in a Boccia competition at Bisham Abbey National Sports Centre in Marlow on 16th March. Good luck to all children that have been selected.

Notices –

2016-17 term dates: the term dates for next academic year have been published on the school website.

Polling days: the school will be closed on Thursday 5th May as it is a polling day. It is also highly likely to also be closed on the 23rd June due to the EU referendum.

Dropping off & parking: please do not mount pavements outside school when dropping off children – this endangers the lives of adults and children. Please park a safe distance away from school and walk onto the school grounds. Thanks

Dates for your diary

Date	Event	Times
7 th March	Years 3-6 Key Steps Gymnastics at Reddam House (selected pupils)	All day
8 th March	Edible Playground Planting Day	All day
8 th March	Parent/Teacher Meetings	3:30pm – 7:00pm
9 th March	Year 5 INSIDE OUT trip (selected pupils)	School day
9 th March	Parent/Teacher Meetings	3:30pm – 5:30pm
10 th March	Years 3&4 tag rugby at Crosfields (selected pupils)	Afternoon
15 th March	Years 3&4 cross country at Crosfields (selected pupils)	Afternoon
16 th March	Years 5&6 football vs Alfred Sutton at Alfred Sutton (selected pupils)	After school
16 th March	Years 5&6 netball vs Alfred Sutton at Alfred Sutton (selected pupils)	After school
17 th March	Mini-Mudder (£1 per entry)	All day
18 th March	Year 2&3 trip to Legoland	9am – 6pm
22 nd March	Year 1 trip to Woolley Firs	School day
23 rd March	End of Term	3:15pm
11 th April	Start of Term	8:50am
15 th April	PTA Family Quiz Night	6pm – 7:30pm

