

Palmerston Primary School

Head Teacher's Newsletter

'Together we will succeed'



Attendance:

Autumn - 91%

News this half term:

Dear Parent/Carers,

What a busy term it has been since we came back in September. The children across the school have been learning all about **'Team Spirit'** in all sorts of exciting ways. As part of our **'Health and Wellbeing'** focus, Year 4 have discussed and designed their own logo to help them feel that team spirit. They came up with and voted for the lovely motto - 'Community in Unity'. Year 5 have designed and prepared a sports circuits for their families! Well done all who managed to get active and take part! Year 6 have been busy voting on their nominated charity and have prepared a charity event for families. Year 3 have been busy becoming independent learners through lots of 'outside tasks' to build upon previous learning. Reception have been thinking about ways to help them connect and work as a team and a fun way to do this was through learning traditional playground games together. Year 2 have been creatively designing their own Sports T-shirts and can't wait to welcome you to their Sports Ceremony next term. Watch this space for more news!

As you are aware we have been sharing the Palmerston **'Value of the Month'** with our children. This Autumn term we have been exploring what **'determination'** means to us. In September we focused on **'resilience and tenacity'**, in October we looked at **'self-control'** and in November we will be focusing on developing **'curiosity'**. By developing curiosity, we are supporting our children to ask questions and find out about the world. Being curious helps us think more deeply and gain a greater understanding of ideas. Please can you support your child at home by spotting these positive behaviours.

We are also supporting children by using our **'Palmerston Learning Muscles'**. Ask them about **'Have a Go Hettie'**, the **'Co-opers'** and **'Tourtout Tortoise'** – who never gives up! These characters, created by our pupils help children develop the strategies needed to succeed in life. This term we have welcomed our new cohort of student teachers from Cardiff Metropolitan University. Miss Jones in Y6, Mr Truemner in Y5, Mr Murphy in Y3 and Mr Wyatt in our Nursery. They will be with us until the end of term and we hope they have an enjoyable time during their time with us at Palmerston.

Thank you for all your generous donations towards our Harvest Festival. The Year 5 class assembly was wonderful and a chance for families to celebrate and share their children's learning so far this year. We really value the time you give to see what goes on in school

Access

Attitude

Achievement

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and the children have really benefitted from talking about their learning journeys. Every child will have an opportunity to share their learning with their families after their class assembly. The whole school has also thoroughly enjoyed working on a wellbeing project led by the amazing Jordan Forse - a wellbeing mural celebrating this will be installed before the end of Autumn term.

We are always looking to improve our systems and appreciate constructive feedback. Thank you so much for taking the time to give us feedback through the questionnaires we shared at the pupil progress meetings. This can be completed throughout the year and if you have any ideas on how we can further improve our school please feel free to share them with us! Your opinions are so important and following feedback we now offer an art and Welsh club for Year 1 and next half term we will be offering a 'Cooking with Tracey' club for parents. This expands upon our existing wide variety of after school clubs that include including STEM, choir, art, football and Welsh.

We are always looking to improve communication, so please talk to your class teacher during our morning 'walk and talk' if there is anything you would like to discuss. Regular school attendance is extremely important and is high on the agenda for all schools across Wales. Our school attendance is steadily improving, but we can do better, so please keep reinforcing the importance of being in school with your child. We continue to run our monthly parental workshops. In September we had the school nurse in the Oasis room, this month we ran reading workshops and our regular Cardiff and Vale College workshops on a Tuesday continue to be well supported. Please keep an eye out for future workshops. It has been a very long term and I am sure everyone is ready for a well-deserved break.

Dates for you diary:

- Monday 13th November** – Year 3 Dance
- Wednesday 15th November** – Year 2 Dance
- Friday 17th November** – Children in Need
- Monday 27th November** – Inset Day (school closed to children)
- Thursday 30th November** – PTA Christmas Fete
- Wednesday 13th December** – School Concert
- Thursday 14th December** – School Concert
- Tuesday 19th December** – Christmas Party Foundation Phase
- Wednesday 20th December** – Christmas Party Key Stage 2

Rights Respecting Article



Article 19 – You have the right to be protected from being hurt or badly treated

Value of the Month



November & December – Curiosity



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Home School Task

This half term we would love you to decorate this poppy. You can colour or paint it. This will form part of a school 'Remembrance Day' display.

Challenge

Research and find out why the poppy is used as a symbol on Remembrance Day?

Please return this to school on **Monday 6th November.**

We hope you have fun enjoying this task. Happy Half term!

