



Palfrey Junior School Newsletter

Dale Street ,Palfrey, Walsall, WS1 4AH Telephone:- 01922 721092

www.palfrey-j.walsall.sch.uk

Friday 17th April 2026 Issue 22

This Week In School



Year 3 - have been adding 3 digit numbers using the expanded column method in maths, they have been looking at discussion texts and balanced arguments in literacy and in topic, they have learnt about the different parts of a volcano and labelled a cross section of one.

Year 4 - have been learning to divide numbers using the chunking method in maths, they have started to look at the story 'The Bogey Men and Trolls Next Door' in literacy and in PE, they have started their cricket project and been practising throwing and catching skills.



Year 5 - have been ordering 10s,100s and 1000s numbers or identifying properties of shapes in maths, they have been reading/ discussing 'This is Not a Fairytale' and planning a new episode in literacy and in topic, they have started to learn about the importance of rainforests and where they are in the world.

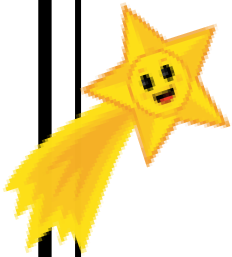
Year 6 - have been revising how to use ratio to answer a range of different questions in maths, they have been identifying different sentence types in a piece of text in guided reading and in topic, they have made models of mosques to start their new topic about The Golden Age of Islam.



Golden Certificates

Well done to the following children who have been awarded a Golden Certificate this week for fantastic work , behaviour and attitude to learning:

- Cl 1 Samuel K
- Cl 2 Dawud M
- Cl 3 Ayesha A
- Cl 4 Hameem A
- Cl 7 Zara M
- Cl 8 Aisha A
- Cl 9 I'shaaq-Haris M
- Cl 10 Nada A



- Cl 1 Idrees S
- Cl 2 Ismael K J
- Cl 3 Hardy V
- Cl 4 Hamza P
- Cl 5 Ayaan A



- Cl 1 Denis B
- Cl 2 Malak S
- Cl 7 Khadija S
- Cl 10 Mohammad I

The sponsored walk around the park was a great success! Thank you to everyone who was able to come along.

It was a fantastic morning and was lovely to be joined by so many parents, carers & family. The children and staff really enjoyed it and we hope you did too, it has also raised a lot of money towards schools funds. So a big thank you for your continued generosity and support. It is greatly appreciated.

The winner of the tablet will be announced next week.



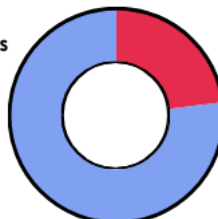
Votes for Schools

Do we need more career role models?



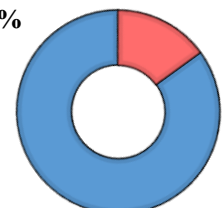
National Results

● Yes 76.9%
 ● No 23.1%



Palfrey Results

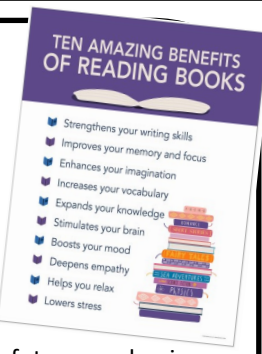
● Yes 85%
 ● No 15%



Be heard.



Reading to children from a young age significantly boosts brain development, language acquisition & vocabulary, attention span while also building strong emotional connections between children and their carers. Furthermore, it establishes a foundation for future academic success and a lifelong love of learning. Find 10 ways to encourage reading poster on p3.



| Year | Start Time | Finish Time |
|-----------|------------|-------------|
| Y 3 & Y 4 | 8:40am | 3:10pm |
| Y5 & Y6 | 8:30am | 3:00pm |



Please make sure your child is arriving to school on time everyday.



Expected attendance is 96 %

The Class with the best attendance was

Class 1 & 12 with 98%

Overall our attendance was **94.71%**



Class 1 – 98%

Class 2 – 93%

Class 3 – 96%

Class 4 – 94%

Class 5 – 94%

Class 6 – 94%

Class 7 - 93%

Class 8 - 91%

Class 9 - 92%

Class 10 - 94%

Class 11 - 97%



Class 12 – 98%



Inspire Workshops

Throughout the year we like to invite parents/carers to come into school to take part in some fun & creative activities with your children. Workshops are between 1:40 and 2:45pm and due to space only 1 adult per child allowed. Thank you

Tuesday 28th April -Year 3 - Volcanoes



Thursday 18th June - Father's Day Afternoon



Monday 29th June - Year 5 Egyptian Mummies

Wednesday 8th July - Year 4 Romans



All children need to come to school wearing their **PE kit** on their PE days. **Plain white T-shirt, plain black joggers/leggings/shorts and trainers.**

| | PE Days |
|---------------|----------------------------------|
| Class 2 & 3 | Wednesday |
| Class 1 | Wednesday swimming |
| Class 5 | Tuesday-Swimming |
| Class 4 & 6 | Tuesday |
| Y4 & Y5 | Thursday—Chance to Shine cricket |
| Class 10 | Friday |
| Class 11 & 12 | Thursday |



Important Attendance Info

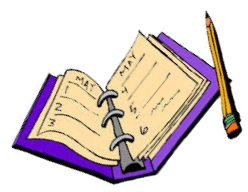
All registers are reviewed weekly. Emails are then sent out informing parents /carers of concerns over poor or falling attendance. **90% attendance or below is classed as being a persistent absentee (PA) & absences will only be authorised with medical evidence.** Please make sure you report all absence as unreported absences can not be authorised - call on 01922 721092, text or sent in app message. Any pics of any medical evidence can be sent to support@palfrey-j.walsall.sch.uk

Medical evidence will be required if your child has had multiple days off over different weeks. Thank you

Missing school is missing out!

Dates for the Diary

- 27th April –1st May - Well Being Week
- Tuesday 28th April - Y3 Inspire workshop - Volcanoes 1:40-2:45pm
- Monday 4th May - School Closed - May Bank Holiday**
- Tuesday 5th May - Online Safety Workshop for parents 9:00am**
- 11th - 14th May - Year 6 SATs week
- Friday 15th May - Year 3 visit to St Matthew's Church
- 18th - 22nd May - Science Week
- Friday 22nd May - Break up for Half Term
- Monday 1st June - School Re-opens—On time please! & Eid Parties
- Friday 5th June - Y5 & 6 Sports day



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

CREATIVE WAYS TO ENCOURAGE READING

Reading regularly has a life-long impact, yet recent data from the National Literacy Trust shows a decline in reading for pleasure among 8- to 18-year-olds, with just 32.7% enjoying it in 2025. Despite growing distractions, there are practical ways adults can spark a love of reading. This guide offers strategies and resources to help inspire young readers.

1 VALUE ALL READING

When we think about reading, it's very easy to picture a young person reading a fictional novel; however, reading is so much more than this. To help them understand, why not show them how to create a 24-hour reading diary? Jot down all reading and then discuss this with them. By doing this, you can demonstrate the many ways we turn to reading.



2 WIDEN THE SELECTION

Once we know reading can be varied, we need to think about the selection of reading material they can access. Visit a shop selling magazines, the library and a bookshop, and consider the range of material that is available within them. Then consider how you might broaden their reading choices, so all young people have access to a wide and varied selection.



3 GIFT A BOOK

One simple way to encourage reading is to make books feel special. Gifting a book adds value and shows it's something to be treasured. Whether it's as a reward or for a celebration like a birthday, let the young person choose a title or pick one you know they will enjoy. You could also include a personal note inside.



4 CONNECT WITH AUTHORS

Meeting authors can certainly spark an interest in their reading material. This might be through a live event in a school/bookshop or by using the wealth of online material that is now available. Encourage young people to look at ways to connect with authors using free resources such as Authorfy and Just Imagine's Children's Authors Live.



5 BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Access training about reading for pleasure to widen your understanding of this topic and, more importantly, how to develop it. Explore a wide range of free resources that can be found online. The more you know, the better placed you are to inspire a love of reading in others.



6 TALK BOOKS

There are times when we need silence to read and focus on our book; however, we know that reading is a social experience, so we must also factor in discussion time. Reading the same book gives two people a connection and the opportunity to voice their thoughts and questions about it. Why not buy two copies of a book and read it together? Start the connection.



7 RECOMMENDATIONS

As well as talking about the content of books, we can share what we are reading or have read recently. This can often act as a trigger for someone else to explore it. How often have you watched a film or series because someone else has recommended it? It's the same with books. If you know the young person well, you can tailor your recommendations and share why you think they'll enjoy it.



8 GO DIGITAL

With the rise in online digital material, we can easily focus on the negatives; however, it also brings a wealth of opportunities. Resources can aid and enhance the reading experience for young people. They can read along with audiobooks, translate, and track their reading goals with resources like PolyIno and apps like Goodreads for older children. Augmented reality books also bring books to life and offer a great way for engagement.



9 RECONNECT

There can come a time when a love of reading seems to disappear. It does not mean it's gone forever; it generally means they have lost the connection. How do we get it back? Find the next piece of reading material that sparks their current interests. The National Year of Reading focus of 'Go All In' captures this well as it is their key theme. As children grow and change, so do their interests. A visit to the local library is a great way to support the reconnection.



10 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let them see you reading. If you make time to read, you send a strong message to children: reading matters. Share why you enjoy it. Is it to relax, escape the world, learn something new or to be entertained? When children see reading as a normal and valued part of everyday life, they are more likely to adopt it themselves.



Meet Our Expert

Carl Pattison is a literacy advisor and early reading expert at The National College. Through his programmes, he supports schools to enhance reading and writing. In addition to his independent work, he also works for a large academy trust in the East Midlands as the strategic lead for their English Hub and Literacy Excellence Centre.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website

X @wake_up_weds

f /wuw.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 04.03.2026



ARE YOU STRUGGLING TO PAY YOUR BILLS?
NEED SOMEONE TO HELP YOU MAKE SENSE OF IT?
NEED SOME ENERGY SAVING ADVICE?
Book an appointment with our ECAO today!!
01922 644006
Note that Aaina Community Hub is a women's centre, and its services are primarily for women, including this one. Thank you for your understanding.

| | Morning | Afternoon |
|------------------|---|--|
| Monday | Advice & Support - 10:00am - 12:00pm Women's Health and Well-being - 10:00am - 12:00pm (£1.00 per session) | Advice & Support - 12:30pm - 2:00pm |
| Tuesday | Advice & Support - 10:00am - 12:00pm Sewing - 10:00am - 12:00pm (£1.00 per session) | Advice & Support - 12:30pm - 2:00pm |
| Wednesday | Advice & Support - 10:00am - 12:00pm Palfrey Park Cycling Session - 10:00am - 12:00pm | Advice & Support - 12:30pm - 2:00pm |
| Thursday | Advice & Support - 10:00am - 12:00pm | Advice & Support - 12:30pm - 2:00pm Employability Search - 12:30pm - 2:30pm |
| Friday | Ladies Bingo - 10am-11am Women's Well-being Clinic - 10.00am-12.00pm Strength and Balance Class - 11.00am-12.00pm (£1.50 per session) | Women's Well-being Clinic - 12:00pm-3:00pm |



funded through



Walsall Council




UK Government NHS
For parents' questions, BIG & small.
Why is my baby crying?
What should I pack in my hospital bag?
How do I apply for childcare support?
Get advice and support at BestStartInLife.gov.uk

If you have babies or toddlers at home or are expecting a new baby there is a new government website called

which offers lots of support and advice.
[Click on this link to take you to the Best Start In Life website](http://BestStartInLife.gov.uk)

NASHDOM - 01922 616444

Free Advice & Support



Monday - Friday
9:30 am - 5:00 pm

- Financial & Housing Support
- Homelessness
- Safe Spaces
- Energy advice and support (WEAP)
- Multilingual assistance: Romanian, Slovakian, Polish, Russian, Ukrainian, Latvian Lithuanian, Bulgarian, Urdu, Panjabi, Gujarati



Walsall Family Hubs
Supporting families to live happier lives.

DADS GROUPS

We know Dads play a vital role in their children's lives.

We have lots on offer for you at Walsall Family Hubs;

- Dads Stay and plays (weekdays and weekends)
- Dads 4 Dads Peer Support Groups
- One to One support
- Parenting Workshops - Henry
- DadsPad App

and much more

No booking, just turn up

For more information contact Ed
07584 521955 or email
EarlyHelpParentingTeam@walsall.gov.uk

[walsallfamiliesintheknow](https://www.facebook.com/walsallfamiliesintheknow) www.walsallfamilyhubs.co.uk

"Stay and play gave me confidence to be myself without fear of feeling judged"
Quote from a Dad

SCAN HERE TO TAKE A LOOK AT OUR FREE AND EXCITING ACTIVITIES.



Making Connections Walsall

Get Connected, Stay Connected



Making Connections Walsall is a friendly service for residents of all ages in Walsall that aims to address loneliness, social isolation and to empower residents to take responsibility for their own health and well-being

0121 380 6690

Walsall Council 

*FREE COMMUNITY COURSES AVAILABLE AT WALSALL COLLEGE

Including Photography & Videography, Healthy Lifestyles, Introduction to Digital Marketing and Introduction to Fashion & Textiles

Contact 01922 657000 or CommunityDevelopment@walsallcollege.ac.uk to register your interest

*subject to eligibility



Your place to **grow**
Your place to **shine**

Dates for the Diary



| | |
|--|---|
| Friday 27th March | Break up for Easter Holidays |
| Monday 13th April | Back to school- on time please! |
| 27th April –1st May | Well Being Week |
| Tuesday 28th April | Year 3 Inspire Workshop - Volcanoes |
| Monday 4th May | School Closed - May Bank Holiday |
| 11th - 14th May | Year 6 SATs week |
| Friday 15th May | Year 3 visit to St Matthew's church |
| 18th - 22nd May | Science Week |
| Friday 22nd May | Break up for Half term holiday |
| Monday 1st June | School Re-opens—On time please! |
| Monday 1st June | Eid parties & non uniform day |
| Tuesday 2nd June | French Day |
| Thursday 4th June | Year 3 & 4 Sports Day am |
| Friday 5th June | Year 5 & 6 Sports Day am |
| Monday 8th June | Climate 180 Day |
| Tuesday 9th June | Year 4 Roman theatre and workshop |
| Thursday 11th June | Continents Day |
| <u>Friday 12th June</u> | <u>School closed for Staff Training Day</u> |
| Thursday 18th June | Father's Day Celebration Afternoon |
| Friday 19th June | Year 5 Trip to Birmingham Museum |
| Thursday 25th June | Summer Fayre |
| Friday 26th June | Year 5 Trip to Birmingham Museum |
| Friday 26th June | D&T Day |
| Monday 29th June | Year 5 Inspire Workshop - Egyptian Mummies |
| Tuesday 30th June | Joseph Leckie Transition Day |
| Tuesday 30th June & Wednesday 1st July | Blue Coat Academy Transition Days |
| Wednesday 1st & Thursday 2nd July | Wood Green Transition Days |
| Tuesday 7th July | Children's University Graduation |
| Wednesday 8th July | Year 4 Inspire Workshop |
| Monday 13th July | Culture Day |
| Thursday 16th July | Year 6 Leavers Assembly |
| Friday 17th July | Break up Summer Holidays Early finish Y5&6—1:15pm & Y3 &4 - 1:30pm |



Dates may change and more events and extra details will be added to the newsletter throughout the



Useful numbers

If you need help, support, advice or are concerned or worried these services can help.

CRIME STOPPERS –0800 555 111 or 101 or in emergencies 999

Black County Women’s Aid– 0121 553 0090 (Domestic Abuse Support)

SAYA multilingual Phone line - 0800 389 6990 (Domestic Abuse Support)

Early Help Hub- 0300 555 2866 (option 1)

CGL (old Sure Start, South Street) 01922 6423382



Family Information Services- 01922 653383

Citizens Advice Bureau -0300 3301159

www.walsallcab.org.uk



NSPCC - 0808 800 5000

CHILDLINE -0800 1111



Bereavement Services - Child & Family Helpline: 01922 645035 www.wbss.org.uk



The Samaritans– 116 123



If you are finding it difficult to feed you family during these difficult time we are now partnered with Black Country Food Bank and can issue Food Vouchers that can be re-deem locally. Please call us or email support@palfrey-j.walsall.sch.uk and we will get back to you. This is strictly confidential.

If you need additional support or guidance ,you can also contact the Early Help Hub on 01922 6423382, Family Information Services 01922 653383 or Walsall Council on 0300 555 2855 or

[Cost of living support website](#)



[The Hub of Hope](#) is the UK’s leading mental health support database. It brings local, national, peer, community, charity, private and NHS mental health support and services together in one place. Simply type your post code into the search bar, then select the area of support you need and it will show you information and contact details of all the local organisations and support available for you to access.



[Ollee](#) is a virtual friend aimed at 8-11 year-olds and their parents, Ollee is a browser-based app that helps children and families explore feelings and emotions, and gives advice to help resolve issues. You can [try it here](#)