



Reception Newsletter – Spring 2



Assistant Head – Mrs Rahman

Teachers – Mrs White (RW), Ms Dawson & Ms Begum (RB) PGCE Student teacher Ms Hurst (RW)

Support Staff – Mrs Naik, Mrs Rahela, Ms Mirza & Ms Dilkis

Below is some key information for your child's year group. Please take time to read the newsletter with your child and keep it in a safe place.

COVID – Updates

The government has announced that some COVID-19 restrictions are coming to an end, but have warned that COVID-19 has not gone away, so we need to take personal responsibility to keep each other safe. Up until the end of this half term (1st April) the following will apply:

- Parents should continue to check their child/ren for symptoms of COVID-19 each morning before leaving for school. These are: high temperature, new continuous cough, changes to sense of taste or smell.
- If an adult or child has any of these symptoms, they should take a test and stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they get the result. If the result is negative, they can stop isolating and the child can come to school.
- Adults and children who test positive will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days. On Day 5 they should take a LFT test and then again on Day 6. If both results are negative they can stop isolating. If one of the results is positive, they should continue to isolate until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days.

Those who have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive will no longer need to self-isolate, regardless of whether or not they have been vaccinated.

Good hygiene continues to be important. The school will continue to ensure children wash/ sanitise their hands regularly, including after they cough/ sneeze and ask that parents do the same at home.

Similarly, we will continue to provide good ventilation. This is also important if you have visitors in your home. Continue to open your windows slightly to allow the air to circulate, so that virus particles are not able to build up.

Following the government's announcement, we will begin to cautiously remove some of the restrictions we have in place. Morning drop off procedures will remain the same, but from Monday 28th February all pupils will be dismissed at 3.30pm. Parents of pupils in Reception and KS1 will be able to come on site to collect them from the KS1 playground. To limit social contact, we continue to ask that only one adult from each family come to collect the children and that parents leave the school grounds as soon as they have collected all their children.

Parents of children in Reception, Year 1 and 2 should arrive for 3:30 and line up outside the porch leading into their child's year group. Doors will be labelled with the class names to show where to line up. Teachers will then dismiss the children from the porch.

Parents will also be able to access the school office from 3.15-3.45pm, but must wear a face covering when entering the school building (unless evidence of exemption can be provided). Up to four parents will be able to wait in the Reception at any time. Any additional parents will need to wait outside.

We are hopeful that we will be able to remove more restrictions after the Easter break, if the number of COVID-19 cases continues to fall.

Arriving to School in the Morning

Last year, we introduced a drop off time between 8:50am and 9:02am to avoid congestion at the school gate. Recently, it has been noted that some children are pushing in front before the gates open for the school day. Staff are at the gates and positioned around the school playground, to ensure the children walk safely to the classrooms. We would like to remind parents/carers that they remain responsible for their child's safety until the child enters the school premises and should support their child to wait sensibly in the queue. We will be reminding the children this week about staying safe in and outside of school.





Check out our twitter! [@oldpalacepri](https://twitter.com/oldpalacepri)



Book Week

Old Palace Primary School will be celebrating World Book week between the 28th February to 4th March. The theme this year is **Authors**. The children will have the exciting opportunity to find out about an author and read one of their books.

Dates for your calendar:

Date	Event	Details
Monday 28 th February	Competition launch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This will be brought home by your child on Monday - They will need to draw their favourite author and write a reason why - Entries need to be submitted to their teacher by Wednesday 2nd March - Prizes for the best entries will be given out during Friday's assembly
Tuesday 1 st March	Scholastic and vouchers	We will be sending home a scholastic catalogue, along with book vouchers so your child can order books online.
Wednesday 4 th March	Parent workshop via zoom 12- 12:20	<p>We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Go through the reading we do in our school - Tips for you to help your child with reading - Look at authors your child would enjoy reading with you <p>The zoom details will be texted to you.</p>
Friday 5 th March	Dress up	Children can dress up as their favourite book character
	Book fair for years 3, 4, 5 & 6	Following on from the success of the book fair we held for year 1 & 2. Our school has been given free books which we will be displaying in a book fair. Each child will be able to choose and bring home 2 books.
Throughout the week	Author studies	The children will be taking part in a variety of tasks, including researching their author, reading one of their books and some art activities.

Online Safety

Early use of digital technology has shown to improve language skills and promote children's creativity and social development. It is not without risks though for young children, who may come across inappropriate content or begin to see/hear things online that aren't very nice. The following link provides a leaflet, in different languages, about the areas of risk <https://www.childnet.com/resources/supporting-young-people-online/>

Keeping up to date with new technology can be a challenge, but there is lots of information out there to support, <https://www.internetmatters.org/> and <https://parentzone.org.uk/advice/parent-guides>, are great resources. If you need support or advice on parental controls, Abdullahi (our ICT Technician) is more than happy to help. Just contact Forida/Shelly to book an appointment.

PSHE

This half-term's unit is on 'Healthy Me'. In this unit, the children will be learning about their bodies: the names of some key parts as well as how to stay healthy. They talk about food and that some foods are healthier than others. They discuss the importance of sleep and what they can do to help themselves get to sleep. They talk about hand washing and why it is important. The class also discuss 'stranger danger' and what they should do if approached by someone they don't know.

Bedtime Reading Night

We are organising an evening to invite children to come along with an adult for a bedtime reading night in school. Please come along to this fun exciting event which will be a very memorable experience for your child. Wednesday 2nd March at 5pm – 6pm in the top hall. A separate letter has been sent out to all parents. Please check your texts.



Comic Relief

We will be taking part in 'Comic Relief' week from Monday 14th March until Friday 18th March. There will be activities happening throughout the week that the children can take part in to help raise money for the 'Red Nose Day' charity. Some of the activities that the children can get involved in during the week include 'Design a Red Nose', 'Penalty shoot-out!', and 'Pyjamas and Red Noses day' on Friday 18th March. A letter will be sent home outlining the cost of each activity. There will also be Red Nose Day merchandise on sale in the KS2 playground each morning.





Maths

This half term the children will be learning the following units in mathematics:

- Heavy and Light
- Number composition – Part whole model
- Partitioning numbers
- Pattern

Time 2 Engage

We are going to invite groups of parents to take part in family learning projects this half term. The focus will be on Reading. There will be a total of 3 sessions held after school this half term (1 a week) between 3.30-4.30pm. Mrs Rahman will get in touch with the families that have been selected for this project. First session on 03.03.22.

Reading and Bug Club

Please support your children with their enjoyment of reading by encouraging them to read a little bit each day at home! This can be their library books, other books you have at home, magazines, articles, recipes, instructions, and more! We recommend reading for 10-15 minutes each evening! Bug club accounts have been updated and all children should have new books to read. Please remind your child to access their account each week to read one of their books and complete the quizzes at the end. Each child also has 2 bi-weekly library books.

DT Day – Textiles



This half term will see the return of the DT day! The children will be working with a range of textiles to create a product. Reception will be making tote bags. Having looked at existing products, the children will then make their own and then evaluate how well their product suited their design! Their DT days will be on:

Thursday 10th March: RW & Tuesday 15th March: RB

Tapestry

Thank you to all the parents who have been using their Tapestry account and uploading photos and videos of special experiences and events they have taken part in.

It's great to see parents making comments to observations uploaded by their staff. Please activate your account if haven't yet done so.

Topic

This half term Our topic is about 'Festivals and Celebrations' children will be learning about different cultural celebrations and religious festivals. They will be focusing on Vaisakhi and will be visiting a local Gudwara to recognise the key features and discuss similarities and differences between other places of worship they are familiar with.

Homework

Children will continue to bring home weekly English and Maths homework, please ensure your support your child with their homework and praise them for their efforts. Homework will continue to be sent out on the Friday along with their book bags. Please remember to send your child with their reading books and Key words in their book bag every Friday.

PE

We have planned weekly PE lessons, each class will have a lesson on a separate day, **RW Tuesdays and RB Wednesdays**. This half term they will focus on fitness and team games. Please ensure your child wears trainers to school on their PE day. PE kit is not required for reception children!

Trips

Trips will continue to take place this half term and we will also continue to take into account the COVID safety procedures. This half term Reception will be visiting Harley Grove Gudwara in Mile End. The children will be learning about Sikh festival Vaisakhi and understand what the 5K's symbolise and their importance. There is no cost to pupils for the trip. We are still awaiting for the Gudwara to confirm the date of visit. We will let you know as soon as it's confirmed.

Key dates

Bug Club & Google Classroom coffee morning: Tuesday 1st March
Reception Parent reading workshop puppet making Monday 28th February 9am – 10am
Book Week: Week beginning Monday 28th February
Book Week: Dress up day Friday 4th March
Comic Relief Week: March 14th -18th
Comic Relief Pyjama day: Friday 18th March

Curriculum

For further information on what your child will be learning this half – term please click here

<https://oldpalaceprimary.co.uk/our-learning/curriculum/>

