

AUTUMN 2 2023

ALVELEY NEWSLETTER

www.alveleyprimary.co.uk



HEAD OF SCHOOL'S INTRODUCTION

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Phew! What a busy last few weeks it has been. School has welcomed painters, carpet fitters, carpenters, electricians, shepherds, three kings, Father Christmas and hundreds of members of the school community through its doors. Between Nativity performances and school refurbishments, parent workshops and tree planting, the school has been buzzing with activity all term.

A special thank you to everybody who has helped to support our school events this term. These have all been well attended and, at times, the talk of the village.

We are developing our school at a rate of knots, with a new library, new iPads and new laptops to support our renewed push on learning - particularly those 'nuts and bolts' things, such as times tables and handwriting. Thank you for your support with maths challenges, spellings, reading and handwriting at home. The improvements in school are clear to see.

Have a happy and restful Christmas holiday, I will see you all on Tuesday 9th January.

Mr Marsh



SCHOOL CALENDAR OVERVIEW

Spring 1 2024

Term Dates

- **9th Jan** - Term starts for pupils
- **9th Feb** - Last day of term
- **19th Feb - 22nd March**, Spring Term 2
- **25th March - 5th April** Easter Break

Dates for the diary

- **15th Jan** - EYFS and KS1 reading workshop for parents
- **19th Jan** - First Responders School assembly and first aid workshop with Oak class.
- **30th Jan** - Year 5 Tennis festival

Dates to keep an eye out for:

- EYFS, Cedar, Elm and Oak Class lunches
- EYFS, Cedar, Elm and Oak class assemblies
- Sports competitions
- Bike ability for Year 6
- World Book Day

CLASSES



BEECH

Beech class have enjoyed the topic 'Traditional Tales' this half term.

We enjoyed a trip to Alveley Old Chapel to have afternoon tea with 'Grandma' which linked to our Traditional Tale Topic and went on a wolf hunt along the way, discovering many wolves hiding in Alveley!

Our end of year celebrations have been a lot of fun, and we enjoyed putting on our Nativity performance for friends and family at St Marys Church in Alveley.



CEDAR

Cedar Class have had a very busy and exciting half term! Our topic for this half term was Superheroes. Learning across the curriculum was linked to this theme. In music, pupils created and performed their own superhero music. In Literacy, pupils created pieces of writing link to many different heroes and recited hero related poems. In Design Technology, pupils designed and made a 'moving monster.' In addition to this, children spent time practising songs and lines in anticipation for the Christmas Nativity Play. Which I'm sure we can all agree was a brilliant success!



ELM

This term has been busy and exciting in Elm class! Our topic this half term has been 'Escape from Pompeii'. We have enjoyed learning about volcanoes and rocks as well as what happened in Pompeii. During our parent workshop afternoon, we enjoyed planning and making volcanoes with our families. The best part was experimenting and making the volcanoes erupt, some more than once! As well as learning about our topic we have also been preparing for the Christmas Nativity at the church! The children have worked really hard on singing the songs for KS1's Nativity performance and they did an incredible job!



OAK

Oak Class have had an action-packed term! We have enjoyed learning about Charles Darwin and Evolution. Oak visited Shrewsbury Art Gallery and took part in Evidence of Evolution activities. We had a great day and got up to lots such as looking at artefacts and a tour of the museum. We have also had lots of fun in our Art topic '3D Installation Sculptures' creating our own small-scale installations. We have enjoyed our 'Forest Friday' afternoons in Forest School and have had a recent visit from the local Search and Rescue team.

LITTLE SQUIRRELS NURSERY

NURSERY TIMINGS

Morning Sessions

8.45-11.45AM

Afternoon Sessions

12.15-3.15PM

OUR LEARNING

Each day, children have adult led activities, including a daily phonics lesson delivered to all children. Following their adult led learning, children work with a teacher to complete scaffolded activities. While some children are completing work with their teacher, others engage in child initiated learning, supported by other adults. To maximise learning opportunities, children have daily access to both an indoor and outdoor classroom, where independence and choice are encouraged. All areas of the EYFS framework, including reading, writing and mathematics are planned coherently across all ages and activities and opportunities are appropriately adapted to meet each child's needs, deepening and extending their understanding. Within the carefully planned environment, stimulus and enhanced provision is used to excite, capture and motivate the children and provide learning opportunities .



JOIN OUR NURSERY!

A positive ethos is at the heart of our EYFS unit. It is extremely important that the children feel happy and comfortable within the setting; where they are constantly supported and encouraged. The children's achievements are recognised and celebrated. This ethos allows for and encourages problem solving, resilience, curiosity and high levels of engagement. All adults recognise the importance of developing a strong, positive, trusting relationship with each child, knowing each of them as an individual. If you are interested to know more, please contact our School Office.

Friends of Alveley School



A special thanks to:

River Severn Canoes
David Dexters
Valley Commercials
D and K Garden Maintenance
Alveley Groom Room
Alveley First Responders
Peepos Bridgnorth
Alveley Football Juniors
Costa Coffee
Feel Kneaded
Dudley Zoo
Mike and Sarah's Butchers
Alderson's Butchers
Bill Leighton Studio
KA Horses
Alveley Village Vets
Dexter Lawley
West Mids Safari Park
The Royal Oak Alveley*
Alveley Chutneys
Phil Richardson Barbers
Jungleland Telford
Reel Cinema
Adam Evans Staffordshire FA
John Woodhall Wakemans LTD
Not Just Travel

We have had a great start to the school year holding two extremely successful events; The Halloween Extravaganza and Christmas Fayre.

Both events were well supported and enjoyed by our School and local community, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. All the money raised by the Friends of Alveley is fed straight back into school to provide the children with excellent resources for learning.

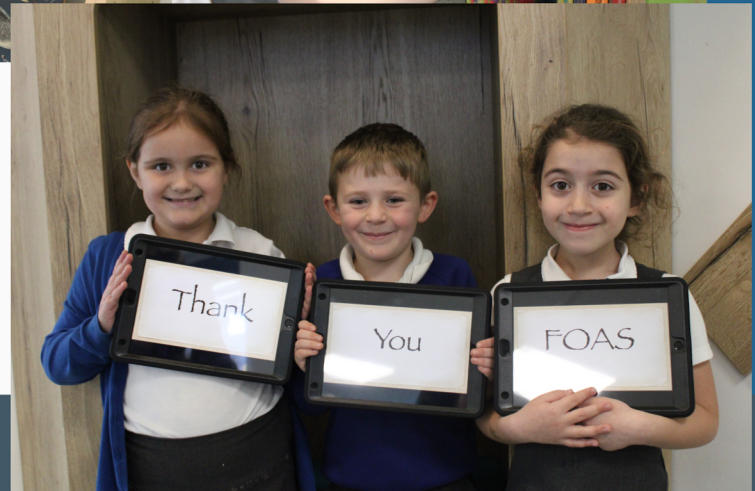
These two events this year have enabled us to provide a huge selection of new books suitable for Early Years to KS2 to restock the new library and purchase a set of new iPads for use across the entire school to support learning in literacy, maths, phonics and handwriting.

FOAS would also like to thank Norma and the team at the village hall for letting us be part of the Village Christmas Market.

We are always looking for new ideas for fundraising and new members to help plan and deliver the events. If you would like to join or get in touch please contact the school office.

On behalf of FOAs we would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mrs Carr
Chair of the PTA



For the generous prizes that were donated for our Christmas Fayre!

***AN EXTRA SPECIAL THANK YOU TO STACEY MORGAN THE ROYAL OAK PUB, WHO HAVE GENEROUSLY DONATED 2 IPADS TO SCHOOL!**

Our Library Refurbishment

Before...



During...



After...



AROUND SCHOOL



Fruit tree planting



Diwali Assembly



Open The Book Assembly



Hygiene and handwashing demonstration



Search and Rescue in Forest School



Parent Workshops

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

SUPPORTING LEARNING AT HOME

Several parents at Parents' Evening asked how best to support learning while at home. We hope that reading and spellings are practised through the week, daily where possible. However there are a few other resources that you might find useful. All of these are either free to use or ones which your child already has a login. Please contact school if you don't have this login and we can provide it:

- www.ttrockstars.com (for supporting times table knowledge)
- www.purplemash.com (for all areas of the curriculum)
- www.mathsbot.com/primary/ks2 (Year 6 arithmetic practise- really good resource!)
- www.mathsframe.co.uk (great maths resources, particularly the Year 4 times table check game)
- www.letterjoin.co.uk

Here are some examples of questions you could ask while reading. These will help with reading comprehension knowledge and deepen understanding of what has been read.

Vocabulary	Infer	Predict	Explain	Retrieve	Sequence
Draw upon knowledge of vocabulary in order to understand the text.	Make inferences from the text.	Predict what you think will happen based on the information that you have been given.	Explain your preferences, thoughts and opinions about the text.	Identify and explain the key features of fiction and non-fiction texts such as: characters, events, titles and information.	Sequence the key events in the story.
<p>Example questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does the word mean in this sentence? • Find and copy a word, which means • What does this word or phrase tell you about.....? • Which word in this section do you think is the most important? Why? • Which of the words best describes the character/setting/ mood etc? • Can you think of any other words the author could have used to describe this? • Why do you think is repeated in this section? 	<p>Example questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why was..... feeling.....? • Why did happen? • Why did say? • Can you explain why.....? • What do you think the author intended when they said.....? • How does make you feel? 	<p>Example questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at the book cover/blurb - what do you think this book will be about? • What do you think will happen next? What makes you think this? • How does the choice of character or setting affect what will happen next? • What is happening? What do you think happened before? What do you think will happen after? • What do you think the last paragraph suggests will happen next? 	<p>Example questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who is your favourite character? Why? • Why do you think all the main characters are girls in this book? • Would you like to live in this setting? Why/why not? • Is there anything you would change about this story? • Do you like this text? What do you like about it? 	<p>Example questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What kind of text is this? • Who did.....? • Where did.....? • When did.....? • What happened when.....? • Why did happen? • How did.....? • How many.....? • What happened to.....? 	<p>Example questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can you number these events 1-5 in the order that they happened? • What happened after.....? • What was the first thing that happened in the story? • Can you summarise in a sentence the opening/middle/end of the story? • In what order do these chapter headings come in the story?



FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Please scan the QR code above to see if you might be eligible for free school meals. Not only does this give support for school meals, it also allows us to support with the paying of school trips and other experiences, as well as helping with uniform, forest school, PE kit and other clothing.



SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL!

Easy Fundraising is a free and easy app that you can download and sign up to. Every time you shop online, a small amount of money is donated to school (by the company, NOT you!). While it will cost you nothing to support us this way, it might make all the difference to the projects that I'm keen to develop in the future. Go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friends-of-alveley-school to support us!