

AUTUMN 1 2023

# ALVELEY NEWSLETTER

[www.alveleyprimary.co.uk](http://www.alveleyprimary.co.uk)



## HEAD OF SCHOOL'S INTRODUCTION

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I'm pleased to share the first newsletter of the 2023/24 academic year with you.

The year is off to a great start. We hit the ground running with our new classes and new teachers in September and our topic day was a huge success, with Norse raiders, stone age hunters and all manner of other professions dotted round the school!

We officially opened our new Quad area, and even had a reporter from the Shropshire Star to mark the event! We have introduced a raft of new initiatives in school, including our new handwriting scheme and maths challenge, as well as tweaking current initiatives to ensure they are having the desired impact. I have tried to ensure you are kept fully "in the loop" through short Tapestry videos each week and the feedback from there has been very positive. Our website has been updated to reflect our new curriculum and I am pleased with how well this has been implemented. Many of our community links have been established and we have already welcomed Open The Book, Rev. Jon Aldwinckle and the local Fire Service in to speak to pupils.

We are moving very quickly with different projects around school, including the new library, and investing money into resources for this. We look forward to working with you in Autumn 2, as we continue moving our school forwards.

Mr Marsh



## SCHOOL CALENDAR OVERVIEW

### Autumn 2 2023

- 15th Nov - Year 6 Mud Run
- 23rd Nov - Cedar Class lunch and workshop
- 24th Nov - Oak Class lunch and workshop
- 28th Nov - Elm Class lunch and parent workshop
- 30th Nov - Oak Class trip
- 1st Dec - Christmas Jumper Day
- 6th Dec - EYFS Parent workshop
- 12th Dec - Nativity (morning)
- 13th Dec - Nativity (evening)
- 20th Dec - Christmas Lunch
- 21st Dec - Christmas parties in classrooms
- 21st Dec - Last day of term

# CLASSES



## BEECH

Our topic this first half term was "Guess Who"- all about ourselves. We looked at our features by drawing our faces, making clay 3D faces and talking about them and we created crazy hair pictures showing all the different types of hair people have. We read stories which explored our emotions and ideas about people all being different and celebrating their differences.



## CEDAR

Cedar Class have had a fantastic first half term back. All the children have settled back in well. Our topic for this half term was 'Our World.' Children enjoyed dressing up for our topic day and learnt about where they are in relation to the world. Children got messy and made papier mache globes and learnt about the names of the different continents and where they are located.

The class also took a trip to the Severn Valley Country Park. The weather was on our side and allowed us to have an action packed day. Children took part in pond dipping, looking for stickleback fish and pond snails to name a few.



## ELM

Elm Class have travelled back in time to the Stone Age! We have enjoyed learning about how their lifestyle and looking at how it has changed over time.

In our art lessons we looked at prehistoric cave paintings, we then got to create our own prehistoric paint which we used to paint our own cave paintings!

Elm visited the Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre in Craven Arms and took part in Stone Age and Iron Age activities. We had a great day and got up to lots such as preparing for a hunt, spear throwing, Celtic face painting and we even saw the most complete mammoth skeleton in the whole of Britain!



## OAK

This term in Oak it has been action-packed. We have been focusing on the "Vicious Vikings". We have enjoyed learning about how they were traders, raiders and how they came to settle in England. On Topic Day,, we designed and created dragon eyes using clay. We learnt about Viking weapons and designed our own shield. In the afternoon, we worked in a group to create catapults then tested them by firing marshmallows and measuring how far they travelled.

# 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.

# New Lunch Menu

Autumn/ Winter  
2023/ 2024

## WEEK ONE

30/10/2023  
20/11/2023  
11/12/2023  
15/01/2024  
05/02/2024  
04/03/2024  
25/03/2024

## MONDAY

Option one  
Cheese and Tomato  
Pizza with Pasta Salad

Option two  
NEW Chef Mariam's  
Vegetable Couscous

Vegetables  
Vegetables of the Day

Dessert  
Lemon Drizzle

**BUILD A BURGER**  
A choice of Burger  
(Beef & Bean or  
Vegan) with  
Toppings and  
Potato Wedges

Vegetables of the Day  
Fruit Jelly  
with Mandarins

## TUESDAY

Roast of the Day, Stuffing  
Roast Potatoes & Gravy

Veg Wellington,  
Roast Potatoes & Gravy  
Stuffing.

Vegetables of the Day  
Freshly Chopped Fruit  
Medley

## WEDNESDAY

## THURSDAY

Spaghetti Bolognese with  
Garlic Bread

Veggie Bolognese with  
Garlic Bread

Vegetables of the Day  
NEW Jam and Coconut  
Sponge

## FRIDAY

Fishfingers with Chips &  
Tomato Sauce

Cheesy Bean Pasty with  
Chips & Tomato Sauce

Vegetables of the Day  
Oaty Cookie

## WEEK TWO

06/11/2023  
27/11/2023  
18/12/2023  
22/01/2024  
19/02/2024  
11/03/2024

Option one  
Tomato Pasta

Option two  
Cheesy Swirl with New  
Potatoes

Vegetables  
Vegetables of the Day

Dessert  
NEW Carrot Cake

**CHICKEN SHACK**  
A choice of BBQ or  
Lemon & Herb Chicken  
or Vegan Quorn, with  
Seasoned Potatoes and  
Salads

Vegetables of the Day  
Fruit Medley

## CHICKEN SHACK

Chef Shilpa's Chicken  
Korma with Rice

Veggie Meatballs in  
Tomato Sauce with Rice

Vegetables of the Day  
Chocolate Drizzle Cake with  
Chocolate Sauce

Fishfingers with Chips &  
Tomato Sauce

Cheese Omelette with  
Chips & Tomato Sauce

Vegetables of the Day  
Vanilla Shortbread

## WEEK THREE

13/11/2023  
04/12/2023  
08/01/2024  
29/01/2024  
18/03/2024  
26/02/2024

Option one  
NEW A choice of  
Tomato or  
Carbonara  
Pasta with  
Toppings

Option two  
Mexican Beef  
with Rice

Vegetables  
Vegetables of the Day

Dessert  
Iced Sponge

Veggie Sausages,  
Onions and Gravy with  
Roast Potatoes

Vegetables of the Day  
NEW Chocolate  
Orange Cookie

Sausages, Onions and  
Gravy with Roast Potatoes

Vegetables of the Day  
Fruit Platter

Chicken Pie with  
Mashed Potatoes

Macaroni Cheese

Vegetables of the Day  
Peach Upside Down Cake  
with Custard

Fishfingers or Salmon  
Fishcake with Chips &  
Tomato Sauce

BBQ Quorn Fillet with  
Chips

Vegetables of the Day  
NEW Melting Moment  
Biscuit

## MENU KEY

Added Plant Power

Vegan

Chef's Special

Available Daily: - Freshly cooked jacket potatoes with a choice of fillings - Bread freshly baked on site daily - Daily salad selection

### ALLERGY INFORMATION:

If you would like to know about particular allergens in foods please ask a member of the catering team for information. If your child has a school lunch and has a food allergy or intolerance you will be asked to complete a form to ensure we have the necessary information to cater for your child. We use a large variety of ingredients in the preparation of our meals and due to the nature of our kitchens it is not possible to completely remove the risk of cross contamination.

**caterlink**  
feeding the imagination

# 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](http://www.ttrockstars.com) (for supporting times table knowledge)
- [www.purplemash.com](http://www.purplemash.com) (for all areas of the curriculum)
- [www.mathsbot.com/primary/ks2](http://www.mathsbot.com/primary/ks2) (Year 6 arithmetic practise- really good resource!)
- [www.mathsframe.co.uk](http://www.mathsframe.co.uk) (great maths resources, particularly the Year 4 times table check game)
- [www.letterjoin.co.uk](http://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 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"> <li>• What does the word ..... mean in this sentence?</li> <li>• Find and copy a word, which means .....</li> <li>• What does this word or phrase tell you about.....?</li> <li>• Which word in this section do you think is the most important? Why?</li> <li>• Which of the words best describes the character/setting/mood etc?</li> <li>• Can you think of any other words the author could have used to describe this?</li> <li>• Why do you think ..... is repeated in this section?</li> </ul> | <p>Example questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why was..... feeling.....?</li> <li>• Why did ..... happen?</li> <li>• Why did ..... say.....?</li> <li>• Can you explain why.....?</li> <li>• What do you think the author intended when they said.....?</li> <li>• How does ..... make you feel?</li> </ul> | <p>Example questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Look at the book cover/blurb - what do you think this book will be about?</li> <li>• What do you think will happen next? What makes you think this?</li> <li>• How does the choice of character or setting affect what will happen next?</li> <li>• What is happening? What do you think happened before? What do you think will happen after?</li> <li>• What do you think the last paragraph suggests will happen next?</li> </ul> | <p>Example questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who is your favourite character? Why?</li> <li>• Why do you think all the main characters are girls in this book?</li> <li>• Would you like to live in this setting? Why/why not?</li> <li>• Is there anything you would change about this story?</li> <li>• Do you like this text? What do you like about it?</li> </ul> | <p>Example questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What kind of text is this?</li> <li>• Who did.....?</li> <li>• Where did.....?</li> <li>• When did.....?</li> <li>• What happened when.....?</li> <li>• Why did ..... happen?</li> <li>• How did .....?</li> <li>• How many.....?</li> <li>• What happened to.....?</li> </ul> | <p>Example questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can you number these events 1-5 in the order that they happened?</li> <li>• What happened after.....?</li> <li>• What was the first thing that happened in the story?</li> <li>• Can you summarise in a sentence the opening/middle/end of the story?</li> <li>• In what order do these chapter headings come in the story?</li> </ul> |



## 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.



## ALVELEY CHARITIES

Alveley Charities is a local Charity who support people in the village and surrounding area. Not only do they support our school, but have helped people with wide variety of needs, including funding for higher education and training or those struggling to make ends meet in the current economic climate. They have asked us to promote them as they are always looking to support Please don't hesitate to get in touch with them should you require.