

SPRING 1 2024

ALVELEY NEWSLETTER

www.alveleyprimary.co.uk



HEAD OF SCHOOL'S INTRODUCTION

Dear Parents/ Carers,

In the blink of an eye, the half term is over! After a mammoth 7 weeks leading to Christmas, less than 5 weeks seems like such a short time to fit in all of our learning!

During this term, classes have been learning about Romans and electricity, toys through the ages and Tudors. I can see handwriting and spellings improving, and the classes are enthusiastic about their topics.

Our classes are at the beginning stages of preparation for the assessments that will happen later in the year. Year 6 are obviously beginning to focus on their SATS tests and Miss Betts will be holding a SATS workshop for parents, to explain what is involved in these tests. Year 4 are focusing on their times tables, ready for their multiplication tables check (MTC), taking place at the start of June. Cedar Class are focused on their phonics and early reading work, preparing for their phonics screening test, which takes place towards the end of the year. However, with the mornings starting to draw out and the lighter evenings starting, we are looking ahead to the warmer weather. We will soon be weeding forest school and filling the planters with seasonal flowers and vegetables!

As a school, we have invested in a brand new class set of laptops that will be shared between Oak and Elm class primarily, supplementing the iPads that were purchased before Christmas. We are looking forward to seeing how much these can enhance our learning in the years to come.

Have a lovely half term holiday. I look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 19th February.

Mr Marsh



SCHOOL CALENDAR OVERVIEW

Spring 2 2024 Dates for the diary

- **19th Feb** - First day of Spring 2 term.
- **20th Feb** - Oak Class SATS parent Workshop
- **21st-22nd Feb** - Y6 Bike Ability
- **4th March** - Parents Evening 1
- **6th March** - Parents Evening 2
- **7th March** - World Book Day and second hand book sale
- **14th March** - Y5 trip to Bridgnorth Endowed (Oliver production)
- **19th March** - Cedar Class lunch and parent workshop
- **22nd March** - Last day of term

General dates for later in the year

- **8th April** - First day of the Summer 1 term.
- **20th April** - Shrewsbury Half Marathon
- **13th-16th May** - SATS week
- **24th May** - Last day of Summer 1 term
- **3rd June** - First day of Summer 2 term.
- **10th June** - Multiplication tables check
- **10th June** - Phonics screening
- **July 19th** - Last day of Summer 2 term.

CLASSES



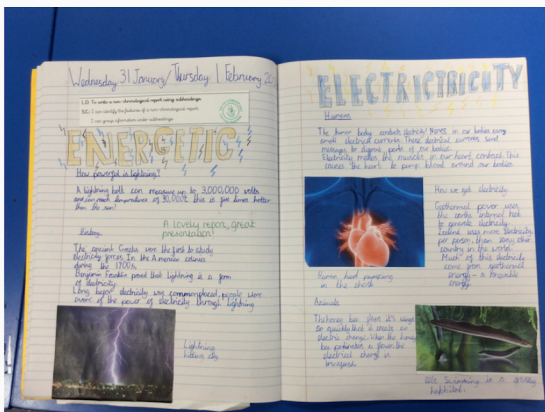
NURSERY AND BEECH

Little Squirrels Nursery and Reception have enjoyed learning all about Space during this last half term. They have learnt the names of some of the planets, imagined what it would be like to live in Space and thought about what they may find if they visited another planet. The children in Little Squirrels used their imagination to draw and create their own aliens, whilst the children in reception used their literacy skills to write about what they thought space would be like. We all enjoyed a trip to Alveley Old Chapel Tea Rooms where we were welcomed with a tea party to enjoy whilst listening to the story 'Tea Time in Space'.



CEDAR

This half term Cedar Class' topic has been Amazing Animals. The children have engaged well with this topic, developing a fondness for Plop the barn owl. Plop is the main character from the focus book we have been learning about: The Owl Who Was Afraid of The Dark by Jill Tomlinson. In Literacy children have completed guided reading activities based on the story, writing about the characters and they have even written an additional chapter. Closely linked to our topic, pupils have been learning about animals, including humans in science. In maths children have been practising their times tables, learning about place value, shape and money.



ELM

In Elm this half term we have travelled back in time to the Romans! We have enjoyed learning all about Roman battle strategies and armour! We even had a Roman visit us and Mr Marsh transformed into a Roman soldier for the afternoon! We got to ask lots of questions and found out all about their life. We have also been learning all about electricity and produced some amazing non-chronological reports to show case our learning!



OAK

Oak Class have had a very energetic and exciting half term! In PE, we have been focusing on problem solving and teamwork. We used pieces of equipment to travel around the room and to complete group tasks. Year 5 represented the school in the Tennis Festival at Oldbury Wells, taking part in doubles games and several children being recognised for demonstrating school games values. They all represented the school well when completing the activities.

Year 6 had a visit from Alveley First Responders and completed some first aid including performing CPR and learning about how a defibrillator works. They answered any questions we had and showed us some ways they assist those in need. The team showcased their specialised equipment and explained its use. Some of us even had the opportunity to try it out!

LITTLE SQUIRRELS NURSERY

NURSERY TIMINGS

Wrap Around

7.30 - 8.45 AM

Morning Sessions

8.45 - 11.45 AM

Afternoon Sessions

12.15 - 3.15 PM

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



Friends of Alveley School have hosted their first event of the year, a film night at school, the event was well supported and enjoyed by all.

We have some more events planned during the next half term which we hope the children will look forward to:

- **Spring Disco Thursday 14th March 5.30-7pm**
- **Used Book Sale Thursday 7th March, this will coincide with World Book Day.**

All the money raised is fed directly back into school to further support the children through new resources, school trips and more.

If you would like any further information regarding FOAS or would like to offer your support by helping at events please get in touch, we wouldn't be able to run these events without the help of our wonderful parents and carers!

Mrs Carr - Chair of FOAS



Around School

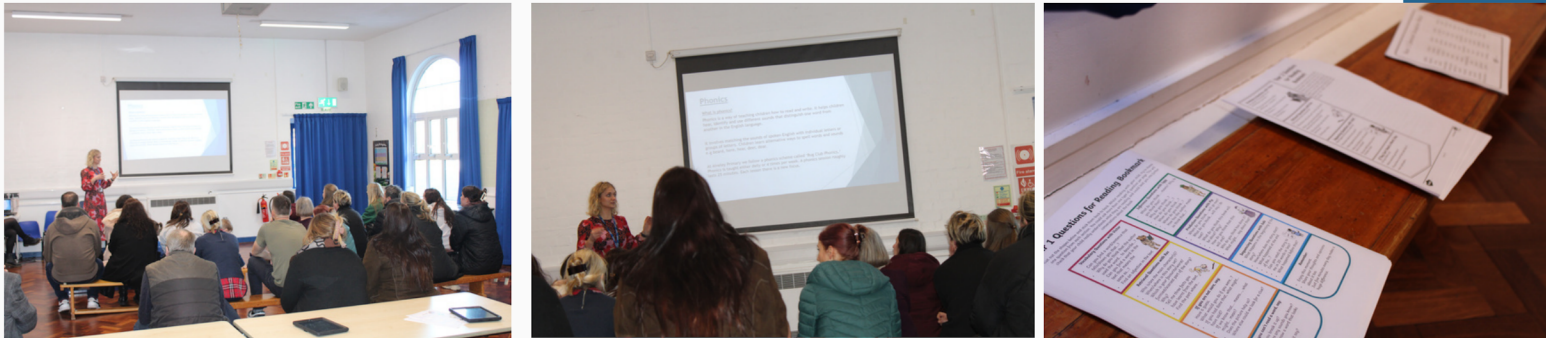
First Aid Training



Baking Flapjacks



Early Reading Parent Workshop



Fire Safety Assembly



After School Clubs

Over the upcoming half term, we will be offering a variety of new after school clubs which will run alongside our existing after school club for 5 weeks (apart from Movie Night, which will be our regular after school club). These clubs will be from 3.15pm – 4.15pm then if needed, your child will be able to join our existing after school club until 5.15pm. If your child wishes to join our regular after school club, not one of these extras, this is no problem and will work exactly the same as it does now.

The cost of the clubs will be £20 for 5 weeks, if you would like to book onto these club, please book and pay via parent pay.

Please note that, due to the limited numbers in some extra clubs, anybody who has not booked before half term, or books in on the day, will join the regular after school club.

Alveley Primary School
Movie Night
 Monday Evenings
 3.15pm - 4.15pm

19th February
 26th February
 4th March
 11th March
 18th March

Please book and pay via Parent Pay! £20 for 5 weeks

JUST DANCE
 Tuesday Evenings
 3.15pm - 4.15pm

20th February
 27th February
 5th March
 12th March
 19th March

Please book and pay via Parent pay £20 for 5 weeks

GIRLS FOOTBALL
 for years
 3, 4, 5 & 6 girls
 Wednesday Evenings
 3.15pm - 4.15pm

21st February
 28th February
 6th March
 13th March
 20th March

Please book and pay via Parent pay £20 for 5 weeks

MINECRAFT
 Friday After School Club

23rd February
 1st March
 8th March
 15th March
 22nd March

3.15pm - 4.15pm
 32 Places

£20 for 5 weeks please book and pay via Parent pay

Term Dates 2024/ 25 and Attendance

Please remember that good attendance is vital to your child's education.

We have had quite a lot of illness during this half term. However with mild illnesses such as colds and coughs, I ask that you make every effort to get your child into school. In most cases, they will be fine. As long as they come in, we are able to assess and send home if necessary but to reiterate, no lessons in our school are repeated so high attendance is vital to your child's success. For more information on mild illnesses, there is government advice here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

All holidays must be booked for during school holidays, as per as our school's attendance policy:

<https://www.alveleyprimary.co.uk/media/53733/attendance-policy-2023.pdf>

I cannot authorise holidays during term time and have a duty to report term-time holidays to our Education Welfare Officer.

		August 2024							September 2024							October 2024							November 2024							December 2024						
M		5	12	19	26			M		2	9	16	23	30	M		7	14	21	28	M		4	11	18	25	M		2	9	16	23	30			
T		6	13	20	27			T		3	10	17	24		T		8	15	22	29	T		5	12	19	26	T		3	10	17	24	31			
W		7	14	21	28			W		4	11	18	25		W		9	16	23	30	W		6	13	20	27	W		4	11	18	25				
Th		1	8	15	22	29		Th		5	12	19	26		Th		10	17	24	31	Th		7	14	21	28	Th		5	12	19	26				
F		2	9	16	23	30		F		6	13	20	27		F		11	18	25		F		8	15	22	29	F		6	13	20	27				
S		3	10	17	24	31		S		7	14	21	28		S		12	19	26		S		9	16	23	30	S		7	14	21	28				
Su		4	11	18	25			Su		8	15	22			Su		13	20	27		Su		10	17	24	31	Su		8	15	22	29				
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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.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!