

Primary Newsletter



Autumn 1. 22nd October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Where on earth have the last seven weeks gone? We are almost ready to break up for the Autumn half term, the clocks then go back an hour on the last Saturday night/Sunday morning of October and the children return to school on Tuesday 2nd November with their lessons starting at 8.30am. With their return to school sadly comes the cold weather and the need for warmer clothes - if there is one thing that I could ask of you to do, it would be for you to write your child's name somewhere in their jumpers and coats. Each and every day I find at least six jumpers/sweatshirts (often almost brand new) left around the building without any way of identifying who they belong to and sadly too often these are not reunited with their original owner.

I do know just how difficult it has been for you to get your children to school on time this term, I also know just how hard most of you are trying to do just that. There are building works all around the roads leading up to the Primary entrance which makes it difficult to drop children off safely. The main roads near the school are too often in a situation of gridlock. It really shouldn't be so hard to get your child to school. However, we are encouraging the children to understand just how important it is for them to get out of bed when you wake them up each morning so that you can all leave home on time. There are celebration assemblies each week on a Friday and the classes that have the best attendance and punctuality each week are rewarded. There are also awards for the 'Star of the Week' and for the child that has tried their very best. It is quite wonderful to see just how proud the children are when they have been nominated for an award.

Last week we had a visit from our Link Officer from the local authority. She came into school to look at how we were teaching English, Geography and RE and she was so impressed by the work of the children in the classrooms that I hadn't heard quite so many positive words from someone for a while.

She highly praised the oracy skills of the pupils - the manner in which they kept on topic and actively included everyone in the class. This was later confirmed when she spoke to the pupils themselves and they assured her they were given multiple opportunities to discuss their learning with their peers and were supported by the provision of sentence stems. She was bowled over by the manner in which the curriculum has been developed and the way in which reading was so skilfully embedded into the curriculum.

There will be a report written and sent to us in the next few weeks and when I receive this, I will send some of the key aspects on to you all. It was lovely to hear just how well we are doing, and I would like to thank you all because without your children and your support we would not be doing so well.

Included in this newsletter are the dates for Parents Evening and also for the performances towards the end of term - you will receive further information about these closer to the time.

FOREST SCHOOL – YEAR 3

The session began with the welcome chant and alliteration name game to bring out the children's outdoor voices. The children were then shown four different leaves from the main trees on site: the Ash, Hawthorn, Oak and Field Maple. We thought about the differences between them and named some of the characteristics of each leaf. The children were then challenged to locate the different trees and bring back a leaf from them. We worked together to create a pattern, placing our leaves in a given way around a log.

After this we returned to the log circle to discuss skills that Stone Age people may have needed when hunting and tracking animals. It was decided that they would need to move stealthily to avoid being heard. This led on to our game Drum Stalker.

The children then had free time to explore, building structures and hammering pegs and posts into the ground. Other children enjoyed foraging around for natural items to crush and make dye. They found blackberries and flowers which they crushed and used for tie dying material.



On Thursday 16th September 2021, Year 1 and Year 2 were invited to watch a Wildlife assembly that was run by the Ealing Borough. It was a fantastic assembly and the children thoroughly enjoyed it. They were taught about the animals and wildlife that we commonly see around our neighbourhood. They also discussed how human behaviour is affecting the wildlife. Children learnt about the habits of animals and thought about how we could grow more bushes and plants to encourage wildlife to come to our gardens and parks.



Natasha, our guest speaker, spoke about how we can help our environment.



The children were encouraged to look out for creatures and animals in the garden and to take care of them by letting our grass grow and scrubs so they can live in.

Music Dazzle Day

On Friday 1st October the children had a Music Dazzle Day. The children had great fun learning all about music, musical notation, singing and playing instruments. It was so lovely to see all the children really engaged in their music and to hear the school filled with the sounds of instruments being played!

Year 5 Playing the djembe drums:



Year 5 playing the ukeleles:



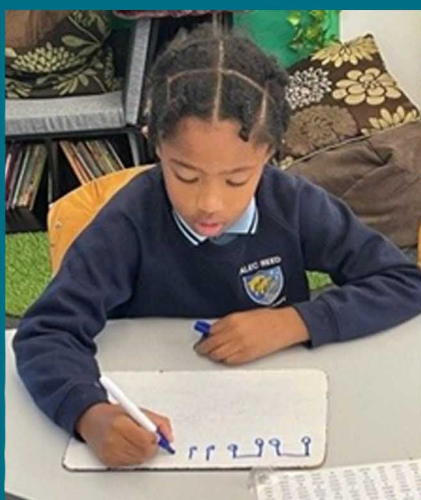
Year 3 composing body percussion:



Year 3 Playing Glockenspiels:



Learning notation:



A finished maraca

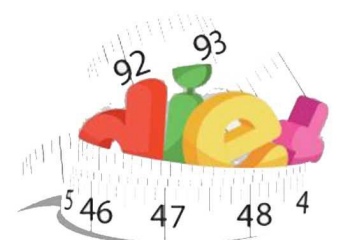


Year 4 making musical instruments:



HEALTHY PACKED LUNCH COMPETITION

This half term pupils were set a challenge to design a healthy packed lunch box. There were some fantastic entries which made it difficult for the judges to decide. The judges were so impressed by all of the designs and would like to say a massive well done to all students!



TERM 1 SPORTS CLUBS

This term we have a variety of sports clubs on offer to our children with even more to come next term.

EYFS and KS1 have enjoyed dance club and an archery taster day with the club starting after half term. KS2 have had the opportunity to dance and refine their football and basketball skills in after school clubs.

Next term, basketball will continue along with dance club, but we will also be offering archery to year 1 and 2 and a drama club across the school. Please look out for information on how to sign your child up.

COMPETITIONS

The competition calendar is jam packed this year and we have already seen success in the boys' football competition with the team winning four out of six matches.

The girls' team will be competing after half term, good luck girls!



PUNCTUALITY AND ATTENDANCE

Well done to everyone for making sure our children get to school on time every day. A reminder that school and our learning starts at 8.30 a.m. Congratulations to the following classes who were awarded best punctuality and attendance this half term. EYFS will be celebrating punctuality and attendance from next half term.

Phase 1



	Best Punctuality	Best attendance
10.9.21	Owl and Peacock	Turtle
17.9.21	Squirrel and Starfish	Koala
24.9.21	Starfish	Panda
1.10.21	Starfish	Panda
8.10.21	Owl	Lobster
15.10.21	Owl	Lobster

Phase 2



	Best Punctuality	Best attendance
10.9.21	Lynx and Albatross	Giraffe
17.9.21	Lynx	Lynx
24.9.21	Manatee	Albatross
1.10.21	Lynx	Albatross
8.10.21	Giraffe	Manatee
15.10.21	Octopus and Peacock	Manatee



DAILY REFLECTION



This half term, children of ARA have been looking at the British Value, Mutual Respect. During their time of reflection, children have learnt that everyone should be treated the way they would want to be treated and this is true for everyone despite your age, race, or gender. Mutual respect is expected in different environments, this includes the home and the school environment. We have looked at our class rules to see if they have displayed mutual respect. Children have even spoken about whether people that commit crimes deserve mutual respect.

Yrgen Kastrati in Year 3 has stated that the daily reflections have made him realise that: "I have learnt that to receive respect, I need to give respect." Next half term, children will be learning about the British Value Tolerance and will link the ideas of Mutual Respect with the value.

DATES FOR THE DIARY



DATE	EVENT
Mon 1 st Nov	Staff PD day Pupils to return to school on Tuesday 2nd November 2021
Mon 15 th and Thurs 18 th Nov	Parents evening (Further details will follow regarding this)
Mon 15 th Nov - 26 th Nov	Scholastic 2021 Book Fair (Further details will follow regarding this)
Mon 13 th Dec 9.30a.m and 2p.m	Years 5 and 6 Christmas performance
Tues 14 th Dec 9.30a.m and 2p.m	Years 3 and 4 Christmas performance
Weds 15 th Dec 9.30a.m and 2p.m	Years 1 and 2 Christmas performance
Thurs 16 th Dec 9.30a.m and 2p.m	EYFS
Weds 1 st Dec Thurs 2 nd Dec Fri 3 rd Dec	Year 2 Phonics Screening Check Year 2 Phonics Screening Check Year 2 Phonics Screening Check