



Primary Newsletter



Autumn 2. 17th December 2021

Dear Parents and carers of our wonderful children,

We have had a successful, busy term and your children have worked really hard to achieve their potential in all of their lessons and clubs - you should be really proud of them - as we are. I should like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and peaceful break. Stay safe, everyone, and thank you so much for your messages of kindness and thanks for the teachers and staff at school.

Thank you to all of our parents and carers that took the time to fill out our questionnaire at Parent's Evening. Some parents took the time to add comments both of praise for the Academy and for some areas where they feel we could develop. We take these comments very seriously and will be looking to see how we can further improve.

Over the Christmas period, there will be a number of children that will be lucky enough to receive electronic devices and games as presents that will increase the amount of time that they will be spending online. It is important that parents and carers are confident in their ability to understand the risks of spending time online and how to advise their children to keep safe. The NSPCC website provides an excellent guide for parents - offering support and key information. A link to their website with some key information follows. www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/

It may feel daunting to talk about staying safe online - especially when your children are using the internet differently to you. The NSPCC has advice and support to help: From setting up parental controls to advice on sexting, online games and video apps, the NSPCC can help you to understand the risks and keep your child safe. Book a free online safety webinar. The NSPCC are offering free webinars for groups of parents and carers, making it easy for you to keep your family safe online. Whatever your worry, the NSPCC helpline is here to help. Call on 0808 800 5000 OR email help@nspcc.org.uk

In September 2021, the safeguarding guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (KCSIE) was updated with some additional key information. I will share some of this with you through our next few newsletters and explain what we as a primary school are doing to keep our children safe.



OUR FIRST SAFEGUARDING FOCUS IS ON PEER-ON-PEER ABUSE.

Peer-on-Peer abuse is defined as: 'any form of physical, sexual, emotional and financial abuse, and coercive control exercised between children, and within children's relationships (both intimate and non-intimate), friendships, and wider peer associations.'

This website gives parents lots of good information about peer-on-peer abuse.
<https://www.childnet.com/our-projects/project-deshame/i-am-a-parent-or-carer>

At ARA Primary we do lots of work with the children to help them understand:

- *What makes a good friend?*
- *How to behave with each other—personal space, kindness, respectful communication, no touching*
- *What to do if you are worried or something has happened*
- *That children must talk to a trusted adult if they feel they are being bullied online or bullied in school*
- *That sharing or seeing nude or semi-nude images is not ok*
- *That nasty comments, jokes, embarrassing others is never ok*
- *That anything sexual between children is not ok*
- *Children are never allowed to be physically aggressive*
- *It is never ok to look up a girl's skirt*

We take these very seriously and will always deal with incidents quickly and effectively. We are always here to listen to children and parents. We have an open-door policy, please come and speak to a member of staff if you have any concerns.

POINTS OF INFORMATION

Changes in Contact Details/Medical Conditions

Please remember to update the School Office with any changes in contact details and/or health needs or allergies your child may have.

Please ensure that the school has a valid number to contact you on during the day. If you are unable to access your mobile phone during the day, please provide us with an alternative number in case of any emergencies.

PARKING

Please can we ask that parents are considerate to our neighbours when they are dropping off/picking up their children, by not parking across driveways - including the driveway to the flats at the end of the school entrance. Thank you.

Our neighbours, like you, also have to take their children to school and blocking their driveways stops them from getting in or out. We thank you for your co-operation.





FEEDBACK FROM PARENT/CARER QUESTIONNAIRE

Many thanks to everyone who completed the Parent/Carer Questionnaires. The results from these were very positive and will help us to continue to develop our practice. Where you have identified an area for development, please do speak to the class teacher or a member of the Leadership Team to discuss this further. We appreciate and value your feedback.



Year 1 and 2 Concert

On Wednesday 15th December 2021, the Year 1 and 2 children put on a fantastic Christmas Performance this year! The children had practised extremely hard throughout the term, singing their Christmas songs and acting out their parts. They loved each and every minute of the show and enjoyed the experience of having their performance recorded. All children shared their talents and we were really proud of them. Our Christmas Nativity is always a highlight of the term with such special performances. A huge well done to Year 1 and 2!



Year 3 and 4 Christmas Concert

On Tuesday 14th December, the Year 3 and 4 children put on a superb Christmas Performance! The theme this year was a twist to the classic fairy tale, 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' to 'Goldilocks and the Elves.' Despite the limited time the children had, they performed extremely well and had put a lot of time and effort into their performance throughout the days leading up to the performance. Children practised their singing of the Christmas songs whole heartedly and acted out their parts with confidence. They loved each minute of the show and performing it to camera so it can be shared with their families. All children displayed their talents and we were proud of them. Well done to all of Year 3 and 4 children and teachers!



Year 5 and 6 Concert

Are you in the holiday spirit? On Monday 13th December, our wonderful Year 5 and 6 students put on a joyful Christmas performance that left everyone feeling festive. Although our pupils only had a limited amount of time to prepare, they have shown tremendous talent, dedication and hard work in their practices and rehearsals. They loved every minute of the final show, performing well-known Christmas tunes that made everyone watching want to sing along. We are incredibly proud of our Year 5 and 6 pupils and wish them a well-deserved rest over the holiday season!

TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

TTRS- Times Table Rock Stars is a carefully sequenced programme of daily times table practice. Learning your times tables is key to many areas of mathematics and it is our aim that children will develop instant recall of their times table facts. The expectation is that by the end of Year Two, children will know their 2, 5, and 10 times tables. By the end of Year Four, children should know all of their times tables up to 12 x 12.



Please ensure your child is frequently practising their times tables on TTRS- The app is available to download on your smart phones and devices. www.ttrockstars.com

YEAR 1 SCOOT FIT

On Friday 12th November, the Year 1 had an amazing opportunity to receive a visit from Scoot Fit, a professional scooting company, who use scooters as a secret exercise machine. Their aim was to get children confident and competent at scooting. The children in Year 1 thoroughly enjoyed scooting to music helping them develop skills, abilities and confidence. James, the professional instructor, was full of energy encouraging the children to be enthused about scooting! Keep scooting children!



FAREWELL JEANETTE

Last half term, we sadly said farewell to Jeanette who has worked at the academy for 32 years. During this time, she has inspired many young people and staff members. She has played an important role at Alec Reed, and she will be greatly missed by all. We wish her a relaxing retirement.

We will miss you





Together, we can **MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

This year we wore our pyjamas to school in order to raise money for BBC Children in Need. Teachers and pupils (even some of the parents too!) all came into school in their cosy jim jams on Friday 19th November. The pupils all learnt about how important it is for us to raise money for charities and how we can help others. We raised a total of £330.50! The money you helped to raise is already on its way to fund crucial work supporting thousands of children in local communities across the UK. We hope you'll take a moment to feel proud of the amazing difference you've made!



A healthy lunchbox in 5 steps

1. Fill up on starchy foods by making a sandwich with bread, pitta or a roll, or make a salad with pasta, potato, couscous, lentils, rice or chickpeas.



2. Add a piece of fruit and add salad to a sandwich or eat vegetable sticks as a snack.



3. Add a little protein to sandwiches or salad.



4. Include yoghurt or cheese as a snack.



5. Pack water.



1 minute packed lunches for £1



50p



10p



30p



0p

TOTAL COST: £0.90



70p



5p



20p



0p

TOTAL COST: £0.95

Cost of healthy vs unhealthy lunchbox

45p



10p



20p



0



TOTAL COST OF HEALTHY LUNCHBOX: £0.75

60p



28p



50p



30p



TOTAL COST OF UNHEALTHY LUNCHBOX: £1.68

The Best Diwali Ever

with Sonali Shah and Chaaya Prabhat

On Tuesday 2nd November, Year 5 discovered the magic of Diwali with Sonali Shah and Chaaya Prabhat during a virtual live event! We learnt all about the festival of lights and how very special the celebration can be. We especially enjoyed the fun draw along where we created artwork influenced by intricate, colourful rangoli patterns that adorn Hindu houses during Diwali celebrations. We finished the session with a reading from Sonali and Chaaya's new book, *The Best Diwali Ever*, and learnt how they celebrated Diwali as children in England and India.



POLICE TALK GENERAL SAFETY

On Monday 6th December, representatives from the Metropolitan Police came in to talk to our Year 6 students. We covered a range of topics including road safety, keeping safe on public transport, avoiding theft, online safety and using mobile phones responsibly. This session equipped our Year 6 pupils with essential knowledge, which they will hopefully remember for life.



Something I learnt today:

Today, I learnt that if there is a fight you should not record take a video instead get a teacher.

Something I learnt today:

Today I learn 't that you should give your phone and money to a robber and call the police. I also learn 't that if someone texts you a rude message you ignore it.

KEEPING YOU UP TO DATE

We are working hard to make sure you are fully informed about your child's learning and the key events taking place at school. In addition to letters home, here's a summary of what's available:

- Half termly Newsletter
- Half termly Reading Bulletin
- Social Media updates
- Curriculum Newsletters
- Knowledge Organisers for each topic



Visit our website to access these materials.

Please contact the Primary Office for further guidance.

Remember to always check your emails to avoid missing out on latest updates.

WEBSITE: WWW.ALECREEDACADEMY.CO.UK

FACEBOOK: ALEC REED ACADEMY PRIMARY

INSTAGRAM: @ALECREEDACADEMYPRIMARY

TWITTER: @ARA_PRIMARY



**ALEC REED
ACADEMY**
PROUD TO LEARN

Ealing Council is pleased to offer the Winter Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme, funded by the Department for Education to provide free holiday activities for school-aged children (Reception to Y11 academic year 21/22) who are in receipt of benefits-related free school meals.



www.ealingfamiliesdirectory.org.uk

For more information, to speak to someone or if you do not have access to the internet to book please contact:

Ealing's Family Information Service
020 8825 5588, Mon-Fri, 9am to 1pm
or send an email to HAF@ealing.gov.uk

Visit our website for more activities and family support services information.

www.ealingfamiliesdirectory.org.uk



Visit our Local Offer for advice and information for children and families with Special Educational Needs and / or a Disability (SEND).

www.ealinglocaloffer.org.uk

Keep up-to-date with news and information for families in Ealing on Facebook.



www.facebook.com/ealingfis
www.facebook.com/ealinglocaloffer



Department
for Education



Children & Families

Free Winter Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme



Full of amazing activities, opportunities to have fun, get creative, make new friends and learn new things.

Code:

This is your opportunity to:

- Be more active
- Have fun
- Get out and about and meet new people or connect with friends
- Understand nutrition better
- Find out about local services and how they can help you

Ealing's Winter HAF Programme will run

**Monday 20th – Friday 24th
December 2021 and**

**Wednesday 29th – Friday 31st
December 2021**

Throughout the borough, there will be over **30 HAF providers**, offering a range of free activities and healthy meals.

Eligible children can attend for a maximum of 5 days over the Winter holiday – you can attend multiple HAF provisions for your 5 days. Siblings of eligible children may be able to attend using the same code if providers are able to accommodate their age range.

Activities may include:

- Arts and crafts
- Sports
- Outdoor activities
- Drama and music
- And much more ...



Other useful information you'll find on this website:

- More activity ideas and resources
- Information on healthy eating, cooking and maintaining a healthy weight.
- Details of key services i.e. employment, financial advice, family support.
- Services for families with children or young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and access to Ealing's Local Offer.

www.ealingfamiliesdirectory.org.uk



To book your place or to find out what is available please visit the 'Ealing HAF' pages at www.ealingfamiliesdirectory.org.uk, you will need your school code from the front of this leaflet.

www.ealingfamiliesdirectory.org.uk

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2021



Alec Reed Academy was proud to recognise Anti-Bullying week this term. Kindness is more important today than it has ever been. The isolation of the last year has underlined how little acts of consideration can break down barriers and brighten the lives of the people around us. This is one of the reasons, that 'One Kind Word' was chosen as the theme of Anti-Bullying Week.

The focus of our anti-bullying work was around the positive and kind things we can do to halt hurtful behaviour in its tracks.

The National Call to Action is the following:
Ask if someone's OK. Say you're sorry. Just say hello.

In a world that can sometimes feel like it's filled with negativity, one kind word can provide a moment of hope. It can be a turning point. It can change the course of a conversation and break the cycle of bullying.

Best of all, one kind word leads to another. Kindness fuels kindness. So, from the playground to Parliament, and from our phones to our homes, together, our actions can fire a chain reaction that powers positivity.

FAITH & BELIEF WORKSHOP – YEAR 6

On Wednesday 15th December 2021, the Year 6 pupils participated in a Faith and Belief workshop.

The workshop involved speakers from different faiths and beliefs sharing stories about their lived experiences within their faith. Pupils were able to hear about different faiths and had an opportunity to ask thoughtful questions. Pupils developed skills of empathy, respect, tolerance and were able to challenge any misconceptions that may exist about people from different backgrounds.



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

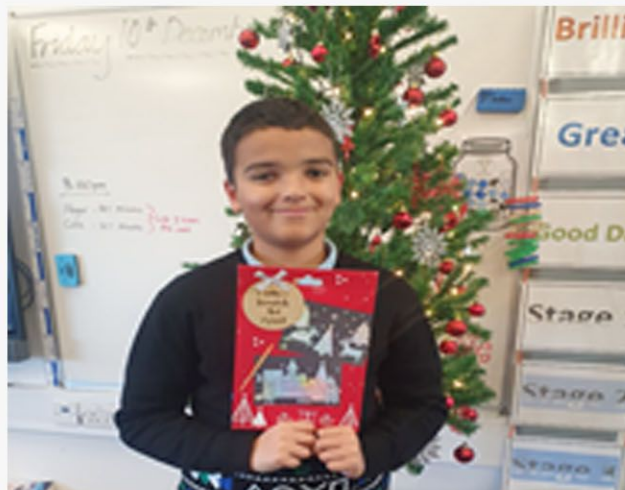
On 10th December, pupils were invited to wear Christmas Jumpers to school in support of the Charity, Save the Children. It was lovely to see so many children turning up in their bright and colourful jumpers and enjoying the spirit of Christmas. The school councillors were overjoyed to see everybody and found it very difficult to pick a winner from each key stage! Please join us on congratulating all of our children and our competition winners.



EARLY YEARS



KEY STAGE 1

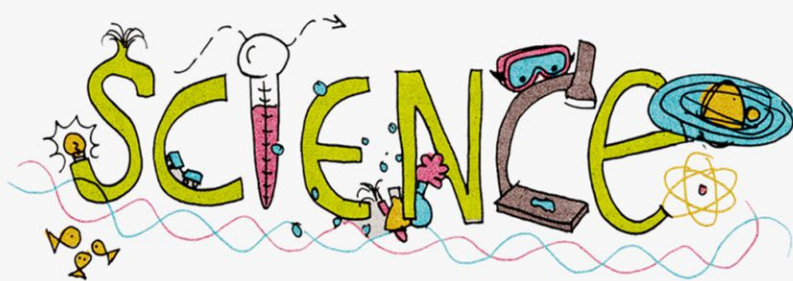


KEY STAGE 1



We would also like to say a big thank you to all pupils and parents/carers who donated and enabled us to raise a fantastic £238! Your generous donations will go towards supporting vulnerable children around the world. We thank you all greatly for your donations.





DAZZLE DAY!

All pupils have had lots of fun participating in this year's, 'Science Dazzle Day' which took place on Thursday 9th December. The children have had the opportunity to take part in practical science lessons and develop a love for Science. This year's British Science Week theme was growth and was therefore a focus during the Science Dazzle day. The children started off their day discussing the safety within science when carrying out experiments and made some posters and acted out a range of scenarios. Children then took part in a range of experiments from looking at growing shadows, growing plants and even human growth. It was a fun filled day and the children really developed a love for Science. We ended the day with a BANG!

A Wriggly Nativity



For children who just can't sit still !

Let's Wriggle!

Can you feel the thrill? This festive season, our amazing Nursery and Reception children have been working hard to learn all their lines and songs for our Christmas production 'Wriggly Nativity.' Every angel, sheep, shepherd and lamb have been using their excited energy to wriggle their way through this little musical. Well done to all of our EYFS children, you are all super stars!

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.

EYFS

Best Punctuality for Autumn Term: Coral

Best Attendance for Autumn Term: Coral



Phase 1

	Best Punctuality	Best attendance
1.11.21	Owl and Peacock	Koala
8.11.21	Owl and Peacock	Koala
15.11.21	Peacock	Lobster
22.11.21	Owl	Starfish
29.11.21	Owl	Peacock
6.12.21	Squirrel and Peacock	peacock

Best Punctuality for Autumn Term: Squirrel and Peacock

Best Attendance for Autumn Term: Peacock

PHASE 2

	Best Punctuality	Best attendance
1.11.21	Octopus and Giraffe	Albatross
8.11.21	Giraffe	Octopus
15.11.21	Giraffe	Elephant
22.11.21	Octopus	Manatee
29.11.21	Manatee and Octopus	Albatross
6.12.21	Albatross, Dolphin, Octopus	Albatross

Best Punctuality for Autumn Term: Albatross, Dolphin and Octopus

Best Attendance for Autumn Term: Albatross

We had over 100 pupils across the school who achieved 100% attendance this term. This is an incredible achievement. Well done!



SMART VIDEOS

For Parents (6-9 year olds)

Childnet have produced a series of six short videos based on the SMART rules which parents can use to discuss a range of online safety issues with their children. You can view all of the videos: www.childnet.com/resources/video-lessons

GOLDILOCKS BOOK

For Parents and School (early years)

Goldilocks is quite an old book but I find that not many are aware of it. It's a twist on the original fairy tale with a social media slant to help educate children about the potential consequences of being unking, getting carried away with selfies and oversharing images.

You can download a PDF version of the book and an activity sheet [HERE](#). Great to use in the classroom or send the link to parents

www.vodafone.co.uk/mobile/digital-parenting/goldilocks

NEW INSTAGRAM GUIDE FOR PARENTS

Instagram have released a brand new guide for parents containing lots of useful information such as:

- Tips for parents.
- Tips for talking to teens.
- Managing account privacy.
- Balancing screen time.
- Filtering offensive comments.
- and much more.

Although the guide is targeted at parents of younger teenagers, we all know that younger children are using Instagram, so at your own discretion you may want to share the guide which can be found here: www.rb.gy/reel9

ONLINE PORNOGRAPHY - FACTS AND ADVICE

Despite promises and election manifestos it looks unlikely that the government will do anything whatsoever in relation to pornography anytime soon, particularly in regard to the ease of access by children and young people. It's an area which is difficult for schools to tackle, it's also an area which can be incredibly difficult for parents to talk to their children about.

Thankfully, help is at hand. Internet Matters have put together a really useful advice hub for parents, which includes a guide to have age-appropriate conversations, a video about why the conversation matters, how to protect children and what to do if a child is exposed.

The advice hub: www.rb.gy/reel9