

**Masthead
contest**

**Book and
film tips**

**Charity
support**

**Fun at
home ideas**



Issue 1

This edition was created by Year 5

Spring 2021

Our new paper!

First issue

By Florence and Haya

THIS is the first Sutton Success newspaper Alfred Sutton Primary is producing.

Different pupils will get the chance to contribute! However, Year 5 had the honour of being chosen to design the first edition for pupils and parents to enjoy.

Pupils took great pleasure from the writing experience. Rebecca, from Buzzard, told us, "I felt really excited about writing the newspaper."

Another young girl added, "It was a little difficult but when we got into it, it was fun."

It was the team work that Max enjoyed. He stated, "It felt good that I got to make an article with a group of friends."

As the challenge neared its conclusion, children were eager to see the results. Rachel said, "I



Read all about it: Pupils in Eagle class working hard on edition one.

am excited for it to be published!"

Head of Year, Mr Watson, is very proud of the effort all the children have put in to this challenge.

He told us, "Buzzard, Falcon and Eagle classes all worked incredibly hard to make this paper a reality and should take great satisfaction in their amaz-

ing writing."

Overall, Year 5 have concluded that this is a great addition to the school's methods of communicating with parents and family members.

We hope they all enjoy learning more about school events and things going on recently in the wider world.

NEWS • FEATURES • COMPETITION • STORY

Charity news

Fundraising success

School raises £800 for Children in Need

By Kaamil, Lee and Zahra

ALFRED Sutton Primary School collected over £800 for Children in Need, a fantastic amount!

Have you ever wondered how non-uniform days and the pound coin you toss at your teacher makes a difference to others?

On November 13, the children of Alfred Sutton Primary School dug through their drawers and clawed through their cupboards to search for their brightest and boldest items of clothing in order to show their support for Children in Need.

Each child paid one pound to-

wards the charity and enjoyed dressing up in the gaudy garments.

Furthermore, many of the children had the pleasure of seeing Mr Holmes dressed up as Pudsey Bear!

In total, ASPS managed to raise over £800 for Children in Need, an absolutely astounding amount, especially considering the current economic climate.



Children in Need was originally set up in 1980 as a fundraiser by the BBC and became a registered charity a few years later. In this time, they have raised over one billion pounds to help support children in need. The money that is raised is used in many different ways, split up and given to different organisations that support young people.

Children in Need has given to many charities local to Reading, including Berkshire Youth Ltd, which supports young people experiencing difficulties. It has also aided Home Start Reading, which works with families, and Me2 Club in Woodley that helps children with disabilities take part in activities.

Children pledge support for Young Minds

By Nirvik, Isabella and Roshan

ALFRED Sutton Primary has successfully raised over £500 for the charity Young Minds. On October 23, the children were encouraged to come into school wearing their own clothes in exchange for a £1 to the charity.

Young Minds supports children and teenagers who are experiencing mental health difficulties. It also helps their families. School council was in charge of organising the event and could not believe how much money

was raised. School council member Eiman said, "Well I was really impressed by the amount raised – the school community was really generous." Students across the school are glad to help children and young people maintain their mental health by raising money and were also amazed by the amount raised.

We are currently living in a very difficult time and young people's mental health is more important than ever. School council leader Mrs Gurr explained why this particular charity was chosen. "We chose

this charity because it was clear from the information on the website that Young Minds charity supports children in a wide variety of ways and in particular with mental health issues caused by the lockdowns and restrictions we have had to live with this year." She went on to say, "It is more important than ever to support each other as we go through this difficult time."

It is more important than ever that we support each other and our own mental health at this difficult time and it is great that charities like Young Minds are there to help us all.

Charity news

Food donation drive

Fantastic food-fest fills helpful harvest hampers

By Rebecca, Haya and Theo

THIS school year, Alfred Sutton Primary School has helped a charity called ReadiFood that gives people in need food, which they cannot afford to buy themselves.

Usually, following a harvest assembly, parcels are made from children's donations and sent to those most in need. In fact, across the country in churches and schools, people of all ages are encouraged to bring small donations. Sadly, this year, gathering to celebrate the generosity of those donating food is a much trickier thing to do. Nevertheless, food is still being collected and appreciated. Generous pupils and families at Alfred Sutton donated enough for a dozen crates.

Alison, ReadiFood's manager, explained, "It is very important that we can provide a good range of items to the people we support. Our parcels must include foods for breakfast, lunch and dinner."

She further explained that the number of people in need of help had risen sharply since the outbreak of Covid-19. Alison said, "The food donated by schools is essential. If we did



Finding out more: Year 5 pupils Rebecca, Theo and Haya from Buzzard class interview ReadiFood manager Alison in front of Alfred Sutton's dozen boxes of food donated by families.

not receive it, we would not be able to help nearly as many individual people or families as we do." The tradition of Harvest collections began in 1843, when the amazing Reverend Robert Hawker invited his parishioners for a very special service at his church (in Morwenstow, Cornwall). In Britain, for centuries before this, thanks had been given for a successful harvest but the idea of sharing it with those in need was new.

Hymns such as 'We plough the fields and scatter' helped spread the amazing idea of harvest collections.

Traditionally, harvest celebrates the bringing in of crops from the fields, with a lot of merriment, eating and music. On

Harvest Day, prayers are said for the year to come. For Christians, Harvest is a time to remember all the good food and nutrition God has given them.

Even today, Harvest remains a time to help those in need. Florence from Buzzard class told us she had donated cocoa powder, dried rice and tea bags. "I know it is important for everybody to be properly nourished and full of food," she added after being asked how it felt knowing that there are some people in the world who are going hungry a lot of the time.

Hopefully, in 2021, sharing wonderful food will be more straight forward than in 2020 and the numbers of people in need will drop as the nation's health improves.

School news

Coronavirus changes Back to school - then home learning again

By Hana, Ihtsham and Eiman

IN THE last year, coronavirus has changed the daily routines of hundreds of children across the UK, including those of the children at Alfred Sutton Primary School. The changes included children waking up earlier to come to school while others left for school later and lunch time across key stage two lasting only 30 minutes.

During the return to school, several children complained about less break and longer lesson time. However, others enjoyed the longer lessons as it meant they had more time to work with less chance of staying in at their shortened break time.

Many are now learning from home again while some are still

in school. Many children and adults are finding it difficult to adjust, while others find it easy. For example, all teachers must wear a mask while going into other classes and around school.

Additionally, students cannot bring anything from home into school and homework is now being posted on the learning platform, doing away with homework books and massive amounts of printing – a win for the planet perhaps?

While some of us having been finding all the changes enjoyable in some ways, others are finding the frequent pumps of hand sanitizer annoying. One student, Aaila, said, “I find it quite annoying really because you have to use hand sanitizer after everything,” while another, Benjamin, said, “I find all the changes easy

now because I am quite used to it.”

An interview with Mr Howell revealed that he did not enjoy applying these rules. When asked how he feels about these changes, his reply was, “It would be great not to have them, really, but I think most people have adapted.” When asked whether wearing masks helps protect people. His reply was, “Yes, the research proves that it does. If everyone in a meeting wears a mask, it will help protect everybody.”

Although the changes have affected the school, this could go on until later this Spring or until the vaccine is rolled out completely. Hopefully, as they ease the lockdown, we can begin to return to normal with trips and clubs. We hope to go back to normal as soon as possible.

School council busy making a difference

By Aliyah, Ibrahim and Seher

COVID 19 has had a massive impact on school council. Members of school council saw many changes in the Autumn term including social distancing in all meetings, which only lasted ten minutes.

All in-person meetings took place in year groups (three children – one from each class) with Mrs Gurr. They were outside with social distancing of two metres.

Despite all the changes, the school council have still been

capable of coming up with great ways to improve life at school. One area they have been focused on has been ensuring every class has a wide range of playtime equipment as well as being in charge of raising money for the charity Young Minds – a charity to support young people and their mental health.

The new council members this year are: Year 2 Toby, Elena and Mary; Year 3 Emilie, Peyton and Aariz; Year 4 Eddie, Nathan and Inaaya; Year 5 Eiman, A and Cristian; Year 6 Orlando, Isra and Ines.

School council leader Mrs Gurr said, “It’s great getting to know lots of different children around the school.” When asked how she and the children are coping with the changes she said, “It has been quite difficult because I have got to repeat meetings five times but also it’s been a really strange experience for the children as they don’t get to work together with the other children across the school.”

School council have many exciting plans, including helping the school achieve an eco-award. They will continue to try their hardest to make our school the best it can possibly be.

School news

School video filmed

Excitement at video visit

By Amy, Kwame and Ahnaf

THIS year, with covid-19 making it impossible for parents interested in sending their children to Alfred Sutton to visit, it was decided that a film could act like a virtual tour.

Wanting to capture the amazing learning that takes place across the key stages, the production team hoped to film in as many classrooms as possible. Moreover, pupils were not just going to be left in the background. Along with a variety of staff members, children were to be interviewed and given the chance to share their thoughts and ideas about the school.

One class lucky enough to be filmed was Buzzard, in Year 5. They were filmed in the middle of a maths lesson. We spoke to some of the participants about the experience. When asked about how she felt when she first saw the camera, one pupil, Haya, told us, “I felt very apprehensive. It was nerve wracking.”

Even Mr Watson admitted, “I felt nervous for myself, although I was confident that Buzzard class would do me proud.”



Star power: Children in Buzzard class working during filming.

When asked about the end result, everyone raved about the finished film. Madiha told us, “To be honest, I was surprised by how professional it looked.” Haya added, “It was so good it made me feel gleeful – especially as my interview was part of the film!”

On being interviewed, Mr Howell explained, “We haven’t received the bill yet. As a result of this we don’t know how much it cost! Also, I am the one who thought to film, everyone was doing something similar. The film is called Alfred Sutton for people who are interested.”

In the future, teachers hope that this film will inspire other children to come to this school. We

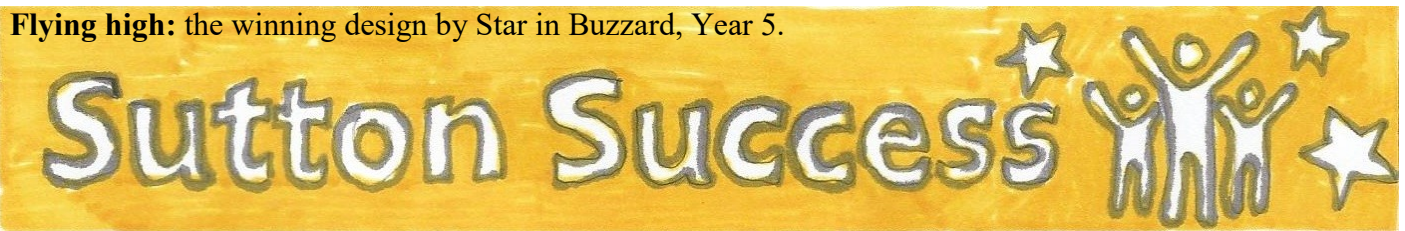
hope that, if you are looking for a school for your children or your child wants to go to a wonderful school, then you will watch the film and see what a special place Alfred Sutton Primary school is.



Interviewed: Haya from Year 5 giving her views during the promotional film.

Masthead competition

Flying high: the winning design by Star in Buzzard, Year 5.



Masthead contest

Pupils showcase their art and design skills

By Joseph, Chris and
Rushil

THIS school year, pupils across the school have been involved in a competition to create the masthead for our new school newspaper Sutton Success.

Children of all ages across the school entered the competition.

Over 50 entries were submitted and a winner has finally been picked. Now Year 5 are pub-

lishing the first ever copy of Sutton Success. Year 5 have been busy preparing and writing articles, including interviewing children and teachers across the school.

However, we were all lucky enough to be able to take part in the competition to name the paper and then design the masthead for the publication.

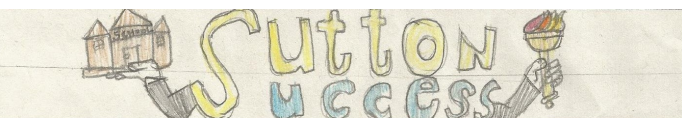
Children were given the opportunity to explore their creativity

and were given a set of simple instructions.

The reason Mrs Renshaw and Mrs Lawson started up the newspaper is because they thought it would be an exciting idea. They decided the winning masthead competition entry early in the autumn term.

The winner is Star in Buzzard class in year 5.

“The winner’s entry was cheerful,” said Mrs Renshaw.



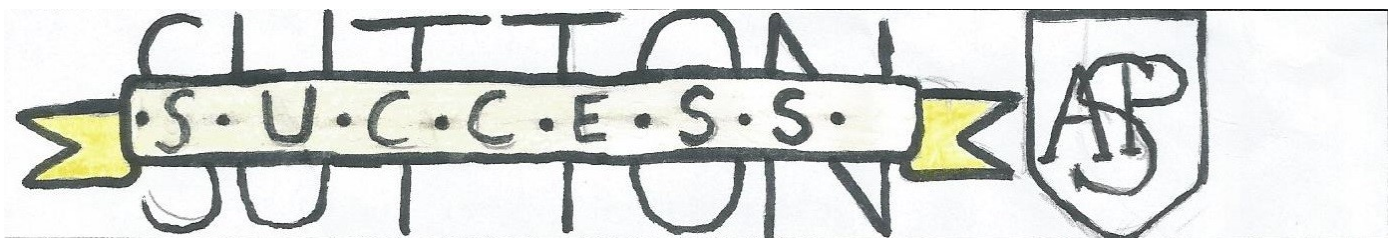
Artistic flair: Clockwise from the top right, designs by Mahika (Lynx Year 6), Eessa (Wolf Year 6), Pratyusha (Fox Year 4), Harnoor (Fox Year 4), Roshan (Eagle Year 5) and Aamina (Wolf Year 6)

**Want a chance to see your winning entry in print?
See p12 for details of our new poetry competition!**

Masthead competition

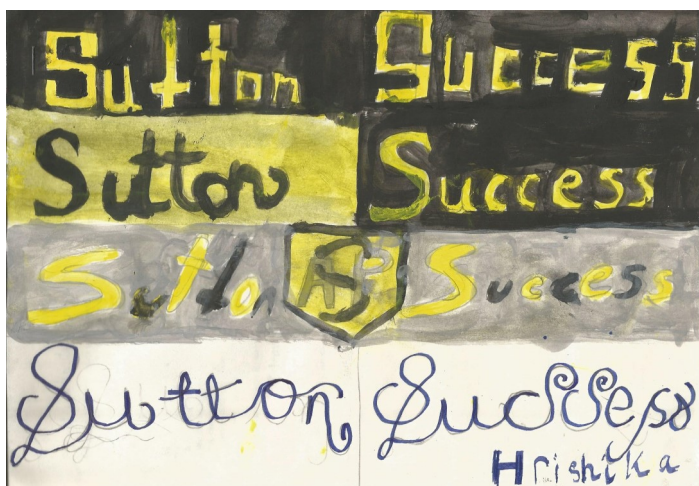


draws success!



Runners-up: Above, top, by Aeiza in Buzzard, and, underneath, by Tayyub in Eagle (both Year 5).

Grand designs:
 Entries on the right and underneath from the top: Aamina (Wolf Year 6), Benji (Eagle Year 5), Zara (Fox Year 4), Manas (Eagle Year 5) and Hrishika (Lynx Year 6).



Opinion and news

Lockdown wildlife

Humans staying home a boost for nature?

By Katie, Zainab and
Zobaida

LOCKDOWN improved wildlife and plant life. Yet, when the first lockdown ceased, litter lined the streets once again, this time with a vengeance.

When lockdown conquered the community, pollution and littering improved across the country. Fewer soda cans and beer bottles were strewn across the streets and drivers managed to resist the urge to toss McDonalds wrappers onto the floor two paces away from the closest bin. However, as much as we liked the clean roads and pristine parks, no sooner did lockdown end, then roads returned to their revolting state. Yet this time, it was worse.

Miss Rees stated, “It was incredible during lockdown! There was no litter at all at my local park, where I walk my dog, during the first lockdown. However, as soon as it ended, there was even more litter than there ever was before. It was

disgusting and my dog was running around with plastic and face mask remains in his mouth!”

The question is, would the world be a better place without the influence of humans? Our furry friends really have proved that whilst the humans are away, the animals will play! A wide range of creatures, from deer and goats to monkeys and even a puma, have been making an appearance in places you would never usually expect to witness them. In addition, some have visited large towns and cities in search of food, while others look like they are making the most of their freedom with humans out of the picture.

Furthermore, a record number of baby leatherback sea turtles have hatched in Thailand in the countries southern Phang Nga province, which is famous for its beaches. The director of Phuket Marine Biological centre stated, “Since November we have found eleven nests, the

highest number in the past 20 years!” One of the reasons researchers think the hatching has been so successful is because covid-19 has kept the tourists away, meaning the turtles have had the beaches to themselves.

Are the people of our world destroying the planet? Do our treasured wildlife not deserve better? Put an end to littering and pollution by making sure you follow the three Rs: Reuse, Reduce and Recycle.

While back at school, every class tried to make a difference after the first lockdown ceased. The Alfred Sutton community came together to make a change. We have been making a conscious effort to recycle as much as possible and to reduce our food waste during lunch and breaktimes, ensuring that bins are being used appropriately and responsibly.

How will you play a part in combatting climate corona?

Children show their value with Sutton Six

RECENTLY, the winners of Alfred Sutton Primary School Sutton Six badges were announced.

Each term we celebrate a different value of our marvellous school. These are the Sutton Six and include Respect, Resilience, Aspiration, Responsibility, Caring and Compassion.

During the first half of the Autumn term, children worked towards the Respect badge.

Respect is not being rude to elders and others. Children across the school worked hard by respecting fellow classmates and living creatures.

Abeeha in Eagle class said, “I

felt really happy receiving my respect badge because it was my second one.”

Sutton Six started in 2017 as a scheme where when every child shows a certain value around school they receive a sticker on a chart. Collecting six stickers earns the child a value badge.

School news

Two new students!

Pair of bunnies give a boost to wellbeing



By Abeeha, Maariya, Rhys and Taylor

SURPRISINGLY, Alfred Sutton Primary School has acquired two cute female rabbits. The fluffy rabbits are currently being kept in the sunshine room with Mrs Tweddle. Mrs De Croos thoughtfully kept them at her house until they were big enough to come into school.

Rabbits are traditionally kept outside in a hutch which is usually made of wood. Next to the main hutch, there is an open space for the rabbits to exercise and to play.

Their diet normally consists of hay and sometimes grass. Vitamins and minerals are very good for them. Hay helps rab-

Friends: Snowy and Flopsy start to explore their new home.

bits to digest their food easily. They graze in the morning and evening, and always need fresh, clean water.

Did you know that muesli is dangerous and can cause serious problems for their teeth? Also, did you realise that rabbits should not be given carrots very often? They are very high in sugar, and rabbits can get overweight so carrots should only be given as a treat.

The Alfred Sutton rabbits' names are Snowy and Flopsy. The first rabbit is stripy brown and ginger white. The second rabbit is white with black spots when they are hungry they eat and drink.

Mrs De Croos, Mr Howell (our head teacher), Miss Maskell and Mrs Lawson wanted school pets. The school had many names chosen but some names did not get selected. Our rabbits are not yet a year old.

They sleep in a hutch at night.

Mrs De Croos said, "I do not know if we are getting any other school pets." At the weekends they stay with Mrs Tweddle at her house.

If the school gets more pets, will they ask the children to vote or will the staff choose?

Having rabbits is a positive thing because it is good for the children to feel safe at school because of covid-19.

School news

Children act for

Support for anti-bullying

By Aeiza, Hiza and Florence

THIS school year's Anti-Bullying Week began on the November 16.

This is the week in which pupils from Alfred Sutton, and schools all across the country, learn about the harmful effects of bullying, what we can do to stamp it out and how to support victims of mean act.

The week is organised by a group of organisations called the Anti-Bullying Alliance.

Anti-bullying week is a great opportunity to let bullies all across the globe know that people will not stand for their actions.



Exploring through drama: Year 5s used acting to try to understand the impact of bullying and how to stand up against unkindness.

Sadly, bullying is occurring everywhere, but we can stop it. This year's amazing campaign was called United Against Bullying and it encouraged mass participation. From the smallest

of children, to the biggest of adults, we were told, everyone could help somehow.

But what is bullying?

Bullying is when somebody is

An anti-bullying message by Aeiza, Hiza and Florence

Anti-bullying

No sadness

Toward improvement

It doesn't matter move on!

-

Be compassionate to avoid bullying.

Understand bullies. They might need extra help.

Listen. A bully will be easier to understand if you talk to them.

Learn. The more you know about bullying the better.

You can make a difference yourself

Interest. if you are nice about things you will be better for it.

No arguments between people is the right

Growing communities! You can make a difference

School news

kindness to others



Acting skills to the fore: More Year 5s take part in drama to think through the causes and effects of bullying and how to prevent it.

being picked on or annoyed repeatedly.

It can include the following acts: name calling, stealing, physical violence, stalking, mental abuse and online targeting.

Whether you are a boy or a girl, old or young, big or small, bullying makes you feel hurt and, in worst cases, causes depression, anxiety and fear.

Like pieces in a jigsaw, a wide range of people need to come together to get rid of this source of great sadness.

Parents, carers, teachers, politicians, children and adolescents can all make a difference and play their part in eradicating bullying.

Although the number of pupils who feel they've been bullied at

Alfred Sutton is thankfully very small, we did speak to children who shared their experiences.

One told us, "I got bullied at nursery when my dad gave me a slightly embarrassing haircut that everyone was laughing at."

Another ten-year-old pupil, said, "I was verbally bullied and I felt upset afterward but, I ignored the bully and everything was better."

Syed expressed a view held by many of his peers when he said, "I think it is a very mean way to treat people."

Star also expressed her opinion, saying, "I think it is a bad act. People shouldn't do it."

Overall, we know that bullying is a horrid thing and should not exist.

- Although bullying is thankfully very rare, anyone who is worried about any unkind behaviour they have experienced or seen, whether learning in school or online, should tell their teacher or other adult in school and their adult at home.

Cards spread cheer to older neighbours

WHEN covid meant that Alfred Sutton's choir could not repeat its previous festive visits to a nearby home for older residents, Year 6 pupils sent Christ-

mas cards instead. Pupils made cheery robin and letterbox cards - designed by the school's resident art expert Ms Tait - to give to the 70 residents at Lakeside

Care Home in Whiteknights Road to show they were still remembered. The cards were quarantined before being given out at the Christmas party.

School news

Lights, camera, action

Dazzling dance and drama delight pupils

By Star, Murtaza and Rachel

THIS school year, children across the school have been receiving regular dance and drama lessons. Ms Jalland, a kind, helpful and wonderfully creative member of staff, is leading this new development.

In Year 5, the focus has been on the retelling of Beowulf through dance. Although this may seem like a remarkably tricky concept, the children have risen to the challenge.

Once a fortnight, Ms Jalland takes the pupils to the junior hall and gives them the opportunity to perform in a variety of ways. She has also made lessons on the learning platform.

As a warm up, pupils are encouraged to use their bodies and facial expressions as a way of shar-

ing emotions and body language. Although only a warm up, in drama this helps people to get active and release creativity.

One pupil from Buzzard, called Riley, explained, “I like the warm-ups in drama. They are entertaining and fun.”

Once the warm-up is finished we go into the main part of the lesson which is when we listen to Ms Jalland telling us the story of Beowulf. She then informs us what we are going to do. First, we pair up and practise acting out what Ms Jalland told us. Many children have said this is their favourite part of the lesson.

One member of Buzzard class told us, “The main bit is fun because we get to act out bits from the story.”

It is undoubtedly Ms Jalland who makes this learning experience so joyful. Pupils have described her as, creative, kind, full of happiness and with a voice loud enough to make hearing her instructions easy!

Ms Jalland herself gave us a greater insight into the thinking behind her lessons. She said, “I love teaching drama and planning exciting material to inspire the students.” She also told us the importance of drama: “It is to encourage co-operation and build self-confidence. It also develops self-expression in the students.” She finally said, “I’m unsure what drama we’ll be working on next – but I know the children will be amazing, whatever we do.”

Clearly pupils love this lesson and hope it will carry on for many years.

Poetry competition!

Do you have a winning way with words?

Enter the **Alfred Sutton Spring Poetry Competition!**

Poems can be any length or form but must be on the theme of **hope**.

Please send as many entries as you would like to your teacher by the deadline of 4pm on Friday 5th March.

For inspiration, you could read some of the stories and poems by famous authors in *The Book of Hopes*, which is available to read for free online through the National Literacy Trust <https://literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone/9-12/book-hopes>

School news and opinion

Beast on the loose?

Mystery a writing boost

By A, Riley and Syed

CHILDREN of Alfred Sutton's Year 5 classes were shocked and appalled one morning to find their rooms in a state of disarray. Teachers explained that there had been a break-in and the culprit had left a trail of destruction in their wake. Pupils were stunned by this turn of events but even more surprised to hear who the suspect was. Depending on which class they were in, they were told the thief had either been an eagle, komodo dragon or chimpanzee!

As Year 5 weighed up this amazing piece of information, suspicion began to form that they were being tricked. It was-



Shocking: a Year 5 classroom.

n't long before Mr Watson, Mrs Gurr and Miss Reece revealed this whole incident was a hoax. Why would inspirational teachers tell such fibs?

Children were gobsmacked to learn that the break-in had all been staged. Kwame from Buzzard class explained, "I was shocked." However, student Hiza said, "Mr Watson did it to

get pupils to focus and work better."

In fact, Mr Watson and the other Year 5 teachers were quick to admit they had been fibbing.

When asked how he felt about tricking his students, Mr Watson himself responded "Although I felt a little guilty, I knew the result would be fantastic writing from them, and I believe I was proved right." The students used the mystery to practise writing news reports together – ready to write this newspaper!

Moreover, the trick seemed to work as the students did better writing. We are sure, if teachers were to trick pupils again, to improve their writing, children would be understanding and enjoy the surprise.

Is it finally time for fireworks to fizzle out?

By Martha, Pola and Sarhana

ALTHOUGH we all hope it could never happen to us, accidents from careless use of fireworks are an annual problem.

The question is, should fireworks be banned? Are the delightful displays really worth the crazy catastrophes? The pros really are lacking when it comes to the argument as to whether or not fireworks should remain on our shelves for all to acquire. Some people argue that fireworks night is an important event to remember the history

of our country, including the events of the infamous gunpowder plot. Furthermore, fireworks are also an important part of religious events.

Whilst there are few positive arguments for fireworks to remain on our shelves there certainly are many arguments against it. Fireworks cause air pollution and release gases that contribute to climate change.

Furthermore, the loud banging and sudden flashes of light can frighten animals and cause them to injure themselves. Year

5 teacher, Miss Rees, stated, "At first, I was excited about being able to watch fireworks from my window, but later, I got annoyed because the fireworks were continuous. My dog was scared and my son couldn't sleep until the middle of the night!"

In conclusion, whilst fireworks may be a beautiful way to remind us of historical and religious events, they do cause a substantial amount of damage to the environment. Is there a way that we can celebrate without the boisterous bangers?

School news

Time to remember

School reflects on Remembrance Day

By Cristian, Karim,
Kalina and Paige

CHILDREN at Alfred Sutton Primary School bowed their heads as a sign of respect on Remembrance Day.

November 11 is when we all gather together as a class, community, or just by ourselves and think about all of the people and animals who died during war.

In Falcon Class, we bowed our heads at 11 o'clock for two minutes. Year 5 student, Iffy Bakare, 9, stated, "The two minutes of silence felt calming and it was a great opportunity to think about my grandfather. It also gave me some time to think about how hard it was for people to give up their lives for us."

Many of us struggle to understand the awful events that oc-

curred during the two world wars, finding it hard to imagine what real men, women and children went through on a daily basis.

Greta Rees, a child during the



Remembrance: A poppy.

Second World War, remembers, "The air raid shelters were so

dark and damp and the sirens were so loud. We would often have our supper down there, torches our only source of light." She went on to discuss that many years after the war had ended, men were still conscripted at the age of 18, including her husband, David Rees. She said, "He was lucky – he never went to fight due to medical conditions. Instead, he worked in the kitchens cooking meals for the men." David still enjoys using his culinary skills, cooking a roast dinner every Sunday for his wife.

So, what can people do to show their respect? Some people opt to wear poppies, showing that they are thinking of those who lost their lives during the war. Another idea is to support charities that help veterans.

School elections show democracy in action

By Mikey, Khalil and
Tross

Democratic elections take place not only in schools but across the American nation. In a democratic government, citizens are able to vote on a candidate who they would like to represent them.

We at Alfred Sutton are a democracy, allowing each class to vote for a candidate to be a member of the school council. In Falcon Class, our school council member is Cristian, who stated, "I was extremely excited to be voted into the school council. It is a huge responsibility and I will ensure I

do my best and be a voice for my class."



At the moment, Cristian is challenged with ensuring that Falcon class have the playground equipment that they are currently demanding. Falcon class are thrilled with their elected member and know that he has the class's best interest consistently in mind.

America is also a democracy (on a much larger scale), recently voting out Donald Trump in favour of Joe Biden. Biden was born in 1942 around the same time as the second World War.

Biden has made many promises to the American people about what he will do for America. The question is, will he deliver?

Biden has a wide range of policies to do with healthcare, justice, climate change and tax.

It is important to vote because a country is nothing without a president or prime minister that cares about its loyal people.

School news

Reading fun is a hit

Pupils enjoy reading time

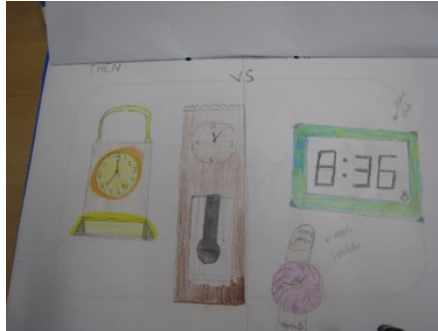
By Catherine and Madiha

A NEW lesson at Alfred Sutton Primary School is changing the way reading is taught. Pupils across the year groups have been trying out a new learning session called, 'Fun With Reading'.

Rather than reading whole texts, children are introduced to a range of books through looking at short extracts. For Year 5, these have included *The Witches*, *Bad Guys*, *Holes*, *Cloud Busting* and, more recently, *Clockwork*. Authors such as Roald Dahl, Aaron Blabey, Louis Sachar, Malorie Blackman and Philip Pullman have proved to be a fantastic inspiration to the young readers.

This wonderful new lesson has used creative hooks to help struggling children build up their confidence, express their feelings and develop a love of reading.

To give an example, as part of the work on *Clockwork*, Miss Rees had an ingenious idea to make a clock and then ask the children to make people out of craft materials to decorate it. This matched a part of the story in which the main character has to make a clockwork figure as part of a yearly challenge for apprentice craftspeople.



Time for reading: some of Year 5's artwork inspired by the book *Clockwork*.

We were fortunate enough to be able to interview some children from Year 5 and discuss what they thought about Fun With Reading.

Bella, from Buzzard, told us, "I like this subject because it is very fun and creative. What's more, you read and draw about a specific page of a book."

Another pupil from the same class added, "I enjoy it because it is so inspirational, and it makes me like books."

As reporters we shouldn't really include our own opinions, but we're going to anyway!

Catherine, from Buzzard, said, "I love it because it makes you have a creative imagination. When I think about the *Clockwork* lesson, it sort of reminds me of people who used to make clocks. We've read five books and I simply cannot say which I like best because I feel all of them are really good but at the same time very different from each other."



Madiha, also from Buzzard, added, "Five books already! To be honest I found each of them fascinating and I love the way they made Fun With Reading a subject."

We were also able to speak with Mr Watson about the new lesson. He stated, "We wanted children to be exposed to a wide variety of authors, from all backgrounds, and a wide range of writing styles. What's more, we were aware that different children enjoyed different kinds of texts and we felt it important to try and find reading to suit as many of the children across the school as possible."

Overall, we think FWR is a brilliant lesson. It should definitely carry on all year long and for many years to come. Perhaps, to keep all children happy, teachers could also make lessons about comics like *The Beano*. Nevertheless, we can't wait to see what they come up with next.

Book reviews

Watching for witches

By Bella, Khloe and Ubaid

ONE of Roald Dahl's most loved stories, *The Witches*, is once again captivating children as the result of a new film based on this imaginative yet unnerving book.

The main characters are an unnamed boy, his Grandmamma, a boy called Bruno, the Grand High Witch and a collection of seemingly innocent old ladies who hold a terrible secret.

The Grand High Witch is an evil, cunning lady who wants to eradicate all children. Grandmamma, on the other hand, is a kind and loving old lady who has taken over looking after her grandson after his parents were killed in a dreadful accident.

The young boy learns all about witches from the tales his gran tells him, but he never expects to encounter them for real. As the story develops, however, he soon finds himself mixing with these evil trouble-makers. The

Witches is a dark, fantasy novel set in both Norway and the United Kingdom. Roald Dahl himself had Norwegian parents and it is possible they told him stories of witches when he was small.

This book was originally published in 1983 and has 224 pages. *The Witches* is a wonderful book that wants to make you read more and more. Moreover, it is an entertaining, fun book to read with simple language that makes it accessible to readers of a wide range of ages from 6-7 to adults. Furthermore, this book is full of surprises and, although sometimes being a little scary, keeps the reader enthralled.

Madiha from Buzzard said, "I found this book very creative and it is very exciting to listen to. My favourite part is when his Grandmama and the boy plan to turn the witches into mice."

Another student, Kwame, said, "My favourite character is Bru

no and I rate the book seven out of ten. I would give it more but the fact that the boy's parents die made me sad."

Max, another member of Buzzard class, was quick to point out the highlight for him. "My favourite bit is when the Grand High Witch gathers all the witches. I rate it a nine because it is full of adventure and has words you don't see every day."

Furthermore, Amy said, "My favourite part is when Bruno gets transformed (we will not say what he gets changed into, as this could spoil the book for you) and my favourite character is Grandmama!"

We rate this book a nine out of ten since it is fantastic. The only way it could be improved is because the boy's parents die. Additionally, we do think Grandmama and the little boy are going to stop the witches. This book is wonderful and we would definitely recommend it. You will never want it to end.

By Fahim, Keira and Tayyub

THIS book is about a grandma and an unfortunate grandson, who go on holiday to a hotel in Bournemouth.

Little do they know that the Grand High Witch is staying at the hotel and turns the boy into something with a magic potion – but who knows... he may get revenge....

Roald Dahl was a well-known spy, ace fighter pilot, chocolate historian and medicine inventor. He was also the author of

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, *Matilda*, the *BFG* and many more brilliant stories. He is the world's number one story teller.

This story is a very funny and entertaining book to read. Also it is very easy to read for all ages. Roald Dahl has made up many ideas in his stories including roasted frog, roasted alarm clock, fried mouse tail and many more to choose from.



"I find this book very entertaining and great for anyone over seven." Talha, nine.

"It is an absolutely hilarious and funny book." Noor, nine.

"The *Witches* is the best Roald Dahl book because it's creepier than the others." Isabella, nine.

Quentin Blake has illustrated more than three hundred books and was Roald Dahl's favourite illustrator. In 1980 he won the prestigious Kate Greenaway medal. A similar book to read is *The Twits* because it is creepy and weird like *The Witches*.

Exclusive brand new story

Alfred ‘Power’ Sutton and the TV Beast!

By Max, Shoab, Tayyab and Prajay

One misty November morning, Mr Bob James, a much-loved teacher, was getting his classroom ready for the day ahead. He had worked at Alfred Sutton Primary School for over ten years and thoroughly enjoyed the wonderful children there. However, on this day, his whole life was about to change.

As he moved around the room, humming to himself, he unfortunately tripped over his shoelace. Trying to break his fall, he shot out a hand and grabbed hold of a wire hanging from the wall. Disastrously, the wire pulled on the whiteboard and that ripped from the wall and fell, with an almighty crash...straight on to Mr James. Electric sparks zapped into his brain, charged his heart and filled his muscles.

Lying dazed and confused, the last thing Mr James remembered was his shocked pupils entering the room. One quick-thinking young lad ran to office for help. In a remarkably quick time the emergency services were wheeling Mr James away on a stretcher. Nobody knew what would become of him.

One Year Later

Deep beneath the basement of Alfred Sutton, Mr James was transforming into his alter-ego. No longer just a teacher, he had become a superhero, going by the name of Alfred ‘The Power’ Sutton. He wore a suit of yellow and blue, with the Sutton 6 values listed down his sleeves. His muscles, now bulging as a result of the electricity that had flowed through them, stretched the material to its limit.



Hero: Alfred ‘Power’ Sutton and his Sutton 6 Shield.

Even more impressive than his body, was ‘The Power’s’ brain! As a result of his accident, Mr James’ brain had filled with all the knowledge in the world. Before he had been clever, but now he was the greatest genius on the planet. What’s more he had a goal to achieve and nothing was going to stop him. What was it? To bring education to all the children of the world, therefore improving their lives and giving them a better future. To achieve this, The Power sent out educational programmes to every corner of the globe. No more would children waste their time staring at nonsense on a screen – now their brains would fill with the most useful facts every time they switched on the gogglebox.

Attack of the TV Beast

Meanwhile, many miles from Alfred Sutton, a crazy scientist was hard at work in his laboratory, finishing his latest creation, the TV Beast – a machine that would stop children learning and make him the smartest person in the world.



Villain: The TV Beast.

The beast’s head was shaped like a smashed TV, with sharp glass teeth sticking out from its mouth. On its stomach it had a ‘unibeam’ - a ray capable of controlling satellites. In doing this, the scientist wanted to wipe children’s memories, making them forget everything they had learnt at school. As soon as they looked at a screen, their minds would go blank.

Power Vs The Beast

Mr James knew something was wrong. No matter what question he asked his class (whether easy or difficult), nobody could come up with an answer. It was as if their minds had been erased.

When the school day ended, he ran to

his secret lair, underneath the school. Grabbing his protective glasses (which allowed him to look at a screen safely) he switched on his computer.

To his horror, he was able to see the TV Beast shooting a laser beam from his stomach, up into space. It hit one satellite after another, until nobody could switch on a screen on earth, without coming under his control.

As quick as a flash, Power switched off his screen – afraid that even his glasses would not protect him from getting hypnotised. Then, using his remarkable abilities, he flew up into cold and lonely space. Cleverly following the unibeam back from a satellite to earth, he was able to discover the location of the TV Beast.

Endgame

In Reading town centre – where the unibeam originated – people of all ages were standing staring at screens. Little did they know they had been *paused*. Without warning, Power and The Beast came together and began to battle. Power dodged lasers whilst TV Beast tried to zap him with his lethal unibeam.

Battle Begins

Using his values of resilience and aspiration, Power believed in himself and the might of education. As a result, even when the beam hit him, it had no effect – he was simply too smart to have his mind wiped.

Thankfully, Power was able to defeat the TV Beast - using both his brain and his muscles. Reaching into its body, he was able to work out which wires carried power around the evil creature. With a mighty tug, he ripped them out – and so the reign of terror came to an end.



No match for the might of education: The TV Beast is defeated.

Book reviews

Let your dreams fly

Pupils pick their favourite inspiring reads

By Aadi, Amaan, Edward and Jazel

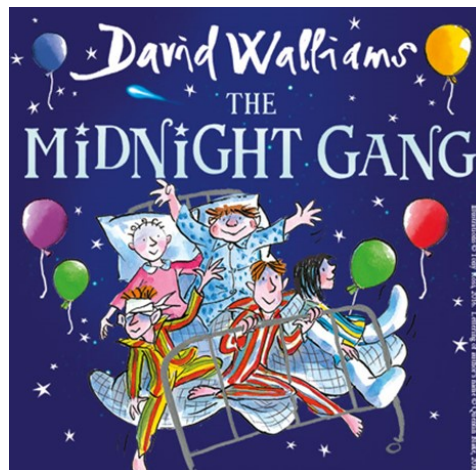
Review of *The Midnight Gang* by David Walliams

LORD Funt Hospital is a revolting, unhygienic (they wouldn't do very well with covid-19) sanctuary of death, with inedible food and dangerous adults skulking around. The midnight gang is a secret association for children to achieve their dreams.

Tom, who has a huge bump on his head due to a cricket accident; George, who is five times heavier than the others with a dream to fly; Amber, with broken arms and legs with a plan to

reach the North Pole; Robin, a young, blind boy, and Sally, a sweet, intelligent girl who just wants to live a

beautiful life, must overcome a variety of obstacles to achieve their goals. Aadi, from Falcon class, stated, "The book was extremely interesting. When the midnight gang were trying to achieve their dreams, I thought they were impossible because of



their health conditions. However, they soon proved me wrong!"

The author, David Edward Williams (born on the 20th August 1971) is an English comedian, actor, writer and TV personality. He is a bestselling author

and has won various television awards. Walliams has also written *The World's Worst Children*, a trilogy about thirty children with horrific habits, and *Demon Dentist* (his personal favourite).

Bad guys on an exciting mission to go good

By Noor, Noah and Talha

Review of *The Bad Guys Episode 1 and 2* by Aaron Blabey

THE plot: The story follows a criminal, with a bad reputation, Mr Wolf, who decides to stop being bad and tries to be good. He assembles a team of malicious people and he calls his team – The Good Guys Club. On their first mission it goes horribly wrong when they try to save a kitten from a tree.

Characters: The main characters are Mr Wolf, Mr Shark, Mr Snake and Mr Piranha. Alt-



hough they haven't quite got the good guys club, they have been teasing each other and the snake swallows the piranha. And when they save the cat, he scratches them.

Highlights: I think *The Bad Guys* is funny. They also free 200 dogs from the dog pound and escape and Mr Shark had to dress up like a girl. They also free 10,000 chickens from a farm.

Any weak bits: No not really. If you don't like spiders you can still read this book.

Opinion: This book is so good that I moved on to the second book – that how good it is.

Rating: We all give it 10/10

Features

Living well at home

By Aaila, Manas and Farida

WE HAVE now entered another lockdown and it is more crucial than ever we stay active. Research shows children need at least 15 minutes of exercise every day and at Alfred Sutton Primary School when in class we are extremely lucky to be able to say we have lots of opportunities to achieve this including daily active fit sessions with our class and PE lessons.

Different activities can include an agility, strength or speed exercises. You may be struggling with not being able to play your favourite sports such as football at home or just don't have much garden or any at all to take part in sporting activities, but here are some simple exercises to help you achieve your goals.

The Back Bend: This simple move can open up your muscles. Start by lying on the floor and bend your arms and legs. Make sure your hands and feet are on the floor and push yourself up into an arch. If you think you can challenge yourself, try lifting your head off the ground.

Just Dance/Go Noodle: Just Dance and Go Noodle are free online videos you can find on YouTube or Google to keep you moving. Whether you like Justin Bieber, Taylor Swift, Camilla Cabello or BTS there's a dance you'll like.

Joe Wicks: Joe Wicks was the nation's PE teacher during the first lockdown. His old videos are online and he still does them too. They are the ideal activities for those struggling for space.

Healthy eating: Finding a healthy recipe that all the family will like is hard. One doesn't like carrots, another aubergine and there's also one who doesn't like mushrooms. Here are our top three easy healthy recipes. Remember to ask an adult.

Chicken salad platter: This recipe is really simple but healthy. First get two pieces of boneless chicken and coat in soya sauce and bread crumbs. Then put it in the oven for 30-40 mins at 180 degrees Celsius. Then chop mango, lettuce, peppers, cucumber, onions and cress and add whatever seasoning you want on them. Then put on a serving plate and enjoy!

Hidden vegetable spaghetti:

Young children usually hate vegetables, so here's a recipe that's a healthy twist to a classic much-loved family favourite. Plus, they'll still get the nutrients from the disguised vegetables. First get all kinds of vegetables such as lettuce, onions, peppers, radishes, broccoli and carrots. Next put them through a spiraliser. Then dish it out into a bowl and watch how they all eat with satisfaction.

Mixed berry fruity smoothie:

This smoothie is a healthy version of a milkshake and it's really easy to make. First put a peeled banana into a blender. Then chop a handful of strawberries, raspberries, blueberries and blackberries and add them also to the blender (make sure an adult supervises). Then add semi-skimmed milk and blitz on high for two minutes. Add to cups then add whipped cream or chopped nuts if you like.

We hope these ideas are useful and this helps you #Staysafe #Stayactive #ANDPROTECTTHENHS.

Mystery and mayhem for the Scooby gang

By Manveer, Jack and Raul
Film review – Scoob

We have taken this opportunity to review our favourite movie - Scoob. Scoob is an animated film of the classic cartoon, 'Scooby-Doo'. This PG film was released in the year 2020 and directed by Tony Carvone.

Characters such as Shaggy Rogers, Velma Dinkley, Daphne Blake, Fred Jones and Dick Dastardly played the key role in the film. As was always true in the cartoons, Scoob the dog opens the

door to all kinds of spooky adventures. Despite this, Scoob is kid-friendly, family entertainment with lots of wonderful moments. In this film Scooby and the gang follow their most challenging mystery yet - to unleash the ghost dog up on the world.

We all adored the film. The best part of the movie was Shaggy and Scoob seeing the ghost dog and trying to defeat Dick Dastardly though we won't say any more because we don't want to spoil the surprises for you.

One young watcher of the film told us, "It was a haunted movie. I found that the movie was very funny. Scooby, Shaggy, Fred and Velma are friends, hunters and great characters. I give it five stars." Another boy explained, "I really enjoyed the film because it was very, very funny. Shaggy and Scooby are always scared of ghosts but somehow come good in the end. Another five stars from me."

We certainly recommend this film and hope many of you will get the chance to see it.

Features

Entertainment ideas

Our writers share their home activity tips

By Iffy, Inaaya, and Mahira

CHILDREN state lockdown boredom is giving them the blues, but the question is, what can be done about it?

Year 5 student, Kalina, nine, stated, “It is absolute boredom – I can’t go outside and there is nothing to do at all!”

When was the last time you went out? Are you bored of monotonous weekends, spent cooped up in cramped houses and overgrown gardens? Look no further. We are here to save the day.

Here are our top five ideas on how to curb the lockdown tediousness:

1 Origami! Why not learn to make a dog or a crane? Watch some YouTube videos or read a book to learn how! You will soon see, it really is extremely easy.



2 You could also learn a new language! There are some fantastic language apps out there, such as Duolingo. Not only will learning a new language benefit you in the future, the apps also make learning fun with innovative teaching techniques and games.

3 Need something to jazz up the mood? Why not have a karaoke night? It is lots of fun and it would cheer you up if you are feeling glum. Karaoke is a really cheerful hobby and

could also improve your singing skills.

4 Why not try some gaming? Minecraft is a game where you can be creative and build gorgeous sculptures. Furthermore, Roblox allows people to make small games for others to play and enjoy. Aadi, 10, stated, “My favourite game is Roblox. I played it in quarantine.” Additionally, Among Us is all about teamwork and betrayal, incredibly addictive and fun to play. Remember! Keep your friends close but your enemies closer!

5 Painting! Why not get creative? There are many exciting, interesting painting techniques to experiment with, from marbling to paint blowing. In addition, painting can be an immensely calming activity, which, given the current situation, may help with any worries or anxieties that you have.

Relax with a favourite film - for spider fans

By T-Jay and Abdullah
Review of *Spiderman: Into the Spider-Verse*

PLOT: Miles Morales gets bitten by a radioactive spider after vandalising a subway with his Uncle Aaron. After that, strange things start to happen like Miles sticking to walls. Then a villain called Kingpin tries to make a machine to get his family back from another dimension. It messes up different dimensions which then results

with Spidermen and Spiderwomen starting to appear. It is then Miles’s job to get them to their original dimension.

The characters: The main character is Miles Morales who is voiced by Shameik Moore. Our favourite character is Spider-Ham, who is voiced by John Mulaney, because he’s very funny and he’s like a Tom and Jerry character.

Highlights: We liked how it was action-packed and very exciting.

Manas, a Year 5 pupil, said, “I liked the part when Miles made his spiderman suit and swung off the building.”

Weak parts: We disliked how the spidermen could not work as a team forever because they are from different dimensions.

Nirvik, in Year 5, said, “The weak part was when they got ambushed by the villains who smashed open the door when they could clearly ring the doorbell.”