

ASPS NEWS



ALFRED SUTTON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS 16 FEBRUARY 2022 ISSUE 74

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you once again for all your support during what has proved to be an exceptionally challenging term. As a community we have coped with high levels of absence and disruption since the start of the year but, throughout all the changes, your children have demonstrated huge levels of resilience and perseverance. We are extremely proud of them all. I would also like to thank the staff team for once again going above and beyond to ensure the well-being of all our children remains central to all that we do. We hope you all enjoy a restful half-term.

Please also look out for the letter later today which sets out details of the **School Street Scheme** we are running after half term in partnership with Maiden Erlegh and UTC. Marshals and other representatives from the schools/college and Reading Borough Council will be handing out information relating to the scheme tomorrow and Friday morning. Please ask for further details

Yours sincerely

Robert Howell
Headteacher

School News

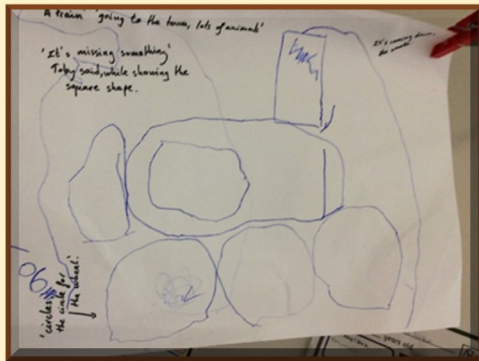
Nursery News -

Firstly, we would like to start by welcoming the new families who joined our Nursery after Christmas. Welcome to the Alfred Sutton family! The children have had a busy time welcoming their new Nursery friends who started with us in January. The January starters all settled in really well and are enjoying exploring the Nursery and learning new things.

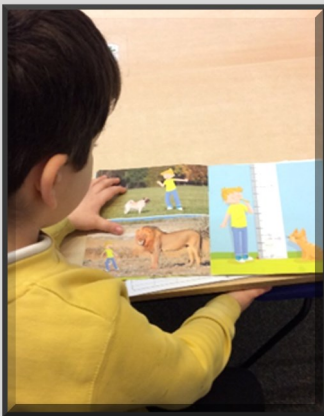


Nursery News -

We have had an exciting time this term with our term's topic 'Oh The Places We'll Go' and have 'visited' (through our weekly book focus) lots of places. We've been to the Zoo (*Dear Zoo*). We've been on a Bear Hunt (*Going On A Bear Hunt*). We've been to a wild forest (*Where the Wild Things Are*), to the Jungle (*Walking through the Jungle.*) We've also been on a Train Ride (*The Train Ride*) and finally we went back in time to learn about the Dinosaurs! (*Bumpus Jumpus Dinosuar Rumpus*). On top of that we learned about the festival of Chinese New Year. As you can see from our work we've been busy learning about shapes and numbers and have made salt dough dinosaur fossils to help us understand how we found out about the dinosaurs from their bones.



Reception News



What another busy term! We have continued to work hard learning our letter sounds and are enjoying reading our Book Bag books and online RWInc. Storybooks.

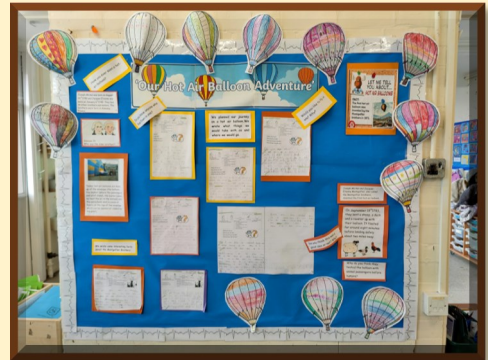


In Literacy and the wider curriculum, we have enjoyed finding out about space and working with the books 'Whatever Next' and 'The Way Back Home'.



In maths we have been working with numbers 1 to 8. We have been looking at the composition of numbers and matching numerals to different quantities.

Year 1 News



This term in Year One we have been learning all about Transport. We have learnt about the history of the car and all about Robert Stephenson's early trains. We read *The Nook Balloon*, researched how the hot air balloon was invented and planned our own hot air balloon trips. Lastly, we have been learning about rockets and how astronauts use them to travel through space. In art we have designed shape vehicles and used mixed media to make ocean and boat scenes. We are really proud of how hard the children have worked this half term. They have shown lots of enthusiasm for our topic. We hope they will enjoy our next topic dinosaurs just as much. We wish everyone a happy, healthy and restful half term.

Thank you for all your support,

The Y1 Team

Year 2 News

This term, Year 2 have enjoyed learning the history of Reading - the "Biscuit Town." We explored the Three B's (Beer, Bulbs and Biscuits) and discovered the history of Alfred Sutton Primary School!

In Geography, we have been learning about climate and how weather changes, depending on where we are in the world. We explored climate change and talked about how we can look after our world in the future.

During nutritional learning, we have created checklists and instructions to remember how to prepare for cooking and how to stay safe whilst cooking. Ask a Year 2 how they will stay safe in the kitchen...

In PSHE, we have been learning how to look after our mental health. We have talked about the importance of keeping a positive mindset and created action plans to help us keep our minds healthy. Have a look at some of our work...

My Mental Health Action Plan

What do you do to look after your mental health?

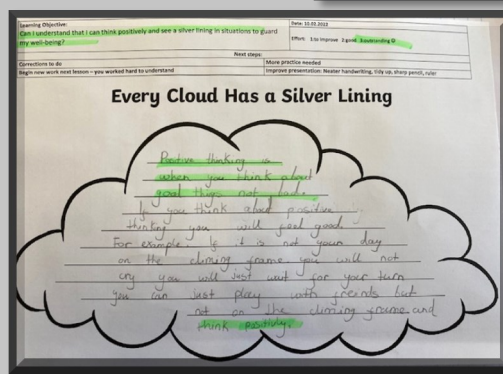
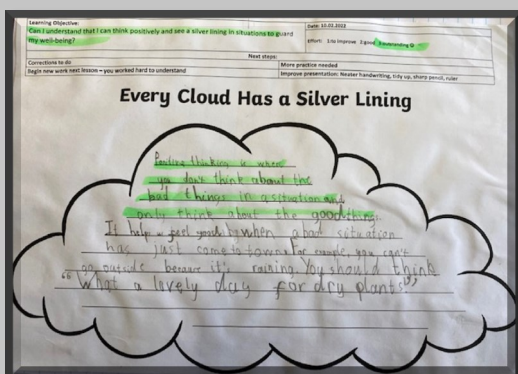
I just adore playing games with my sister every Saturday. Furthermore, I love watching different videos. I also like reading any books.

How are you going to help others to feel good on the inside?

The first and best is to be kind to others. This can make them feel good on the inside. Furthermore, helping others is crucial as well. Making others feel good from the inside is a very good idea for their mental health.

What would you like to do more of?

I need to sleep more because I am really tired when I come to school. This will be crucial for my mental health.

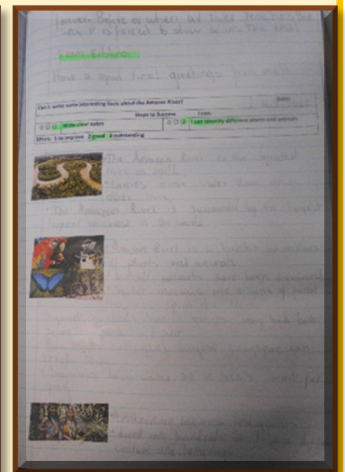
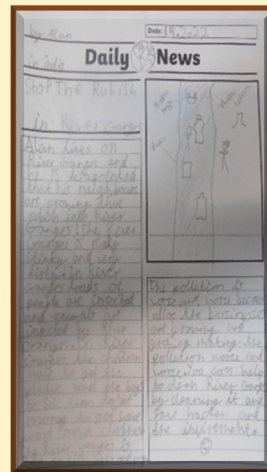


Year 3 News

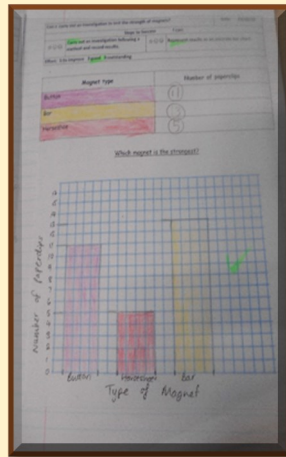
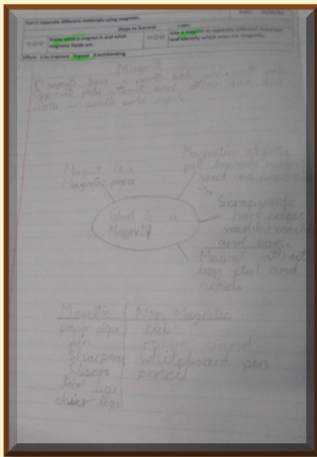


During art, Year 3 have been looking at different collages from an artist called Phil Frost.

Children enjoyed making the background using various paper and then painted masks on top. To finish off they painted abstract patterns in white inspired by the artist.



This term, children have been learning about the River Ganges. Children wrote a newspaper article about the pollution and how this could be prevented to make it a cleaner place.



During science children have been having lots of fun learning about magnets and forces.

Year 4 News

The children in Year 4 have enjoyed learning all about the different states of matter in science which they understand, even from an atomic level, having re-enacted being atoms in solids, liquids and gasses.

States of matter gave the pupils the scientific knowledge and language to understand and describe the rain cycle in detail for their geography studies. Ask your budding meteorologist to give you a presentation on the rain cycle. We are currently looking at how rivers are formed and their various features and characteristics.

In our final week this term, we put aside a day when we could put all our learning and practise of sewing techniques, investigating different materials and design to make our own bespoke bean bags. Here are a few pictures of the children's wonderful work.



Year 5 News

This term seems to have flown by and we are fast approaching the mid-point in the school year. As has been the case throughout our time together, the children of Year 5 have shown themselves to be hard-working, respectful and aspirational. The effort they all put into their work truly reflects an outstanding desire to learn and develop their understanding of a wide range of subjects and topic areas.



So, what have been the highlights of this term? 'Earth and Space' has definitely been a favourite of the children and adults alike. The homework the children produced for this topic was of an exceptional standard and we, the Year 5 team, are still trying to find a way for you to see what was created. For now, photographs will have to suffice.



'Anglo Saxons and Vikings' was another topic that the children really engaged with. Newspaper reports on the Viking raid at Lindisfarne allowed the children to flex the journalistic muscle and produce some wonderfully creative written work. Our classes also had great fun acting out a Viking poem and putting ourselves in the shoes of invaders and defenders.



Combine those two topics with 'loops' in music, 'e-safety and data bases' in IT, using recycled rubbish to create sea sculptures in art, designing and constructing burglar alarms in DT and a study of Sikh stories in RE and you can see what a busy and fulfilling term it has been.



We would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for the support you have shown your children and the team here at Alfred Sutton. We firmly believe that the children are a huge credit to you and that their successes are only achievable through our combined efforts.



Have a great holiday,

The Year 5 team



Year 6 News

In the words of Y6:

"Throughout the first spring half-term, Year Six have displayed an extraordinary attitude to learning, despite various COVID challenges.

Library and reading:

This term, Year Six has been a hive of bookworms. From J.K Rowling to Louis Sachar, the KS2 library is filled with incredible books written to satisfy the thriving imaginations of students

This term, I have enjoyed going to the library with my classmates to discover new books. I have found several series of books that I have been glued to from the first page in the first book, to the last page in the last book. – Rebecca

Maths:

Recently in maths, Year 6 have learnt many new and interesting skills. Though challenging, at the end of the day we will leave with knowledge to boost us in secondary school and beyond. We all look forward to learning more fascinating concepts!

Science:

During this term, in Science, Year 6 have been learning about different systems in the human body. It has been great fun as the Year 6 teachers have explained them in a detailed and scientific way. All of the pupils in Year 6 are grateful for this knowledge.

Geography:

In geography, we have been absorbed in the topic of rivers; there are so many interesting facts that we have learnt along with new vocabulary such as: levee, confluence, delta and tributary. I loved learning about rivers and I wished we could continue this fascinating subject!

We have also written a warning tale based around rivers, to teach people how to be safe around them.

DT:

We have been constructing Ferris wheels. Firstly, we were placed in groups of four or five. After we had completed the planning process, we had to cut the wooden pieces with a hacksaw (very carefully!).

PSHE:



Another subject which we have embraced enthusiastically is PSHE. Inspired by Children's Mental Health week, we had fervent discussions and also watched fascinating Newsround clips on children who were keen to give tips on improving mental health.

PE:

We have been focusing on football and handball in PE, which in my opinion were my favourite lessons yet. In each sport, we would play 5-minute matches – it felt like being in the World Cup whenever we would play football matches!



In dance, we have been learning to dance the Samba: this has been both enjoyable and excellent for building team-

work skills. Teams have made routines full of varying moves such as the box step, the figure of eight flag waving and the simple Samba step.

Computing:

We have been using a programme called Tinker Cad; this is a programme where you can design shapes to make real life objects. We started by making a 3D house which enabled us to change shapes to a variety of sizes.

Art:

In art, we learnt how to draw one- and two-point perspective. Using this – and referring back to geography – we made a mixed media picture with a river as our perspective point. I really enjoyed getting creative and using many materials to add depth to my drawing. Also, it was nice to see the end product; I felt accomplished.

RE:

Throughout this term, our focus in RE has been Christianity. This subject enables us to explore different religions and understand what different faiths believe.

Drama:

We had to work in teams of four and to act as functioning machines while using different levels such as: low, medium and high. Furthermore, drama gives us an opportunity to have fun and participate in diverse activities.

Music:

We have been focusing on playing the ukulele, learning many chords such as: C, F and the G chords. While playing, the class was a lively room and we all enjoyed performing; furthermore, we made our own music using different tempos, rhythms and dynamics. Since we gained experience creating our own music, I was really fascinated.

Poetry: Our riddles came out brilliantly – many were surprisingly clever and deceptive! It has also been interesting to write river related haikus and cinquains. Here is an example inspired by Nigel Cox's River Cinquains

*Waves:
Rushing, splashing,
the river flows in blue,
I just admire shallow, blue,
sparkles.*

Conclusion:

In conclusion, this term has been a great success, and many things have been achieved and learnt. We are looking forward to next term, when more shall be learnt.”

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps that we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

YOUTUBE

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content – including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate material. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as messaging other users directly. Connecting with strangers online, of course, can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to encountering online predators.

SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but can also lead to binge-watching and the risk of screen addiction, especially if 'auto-play' is activated. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

HIGH VISIBILITY

Content creators can also be put at risk – especially young ones who try to make their online presence as visible as possible. Creating and uploading content exposes children to potential harassment and toxicity from the comments section, along with the possibility of direct messaging from strangers. Videos posted publicly can be watched by anyone in the world.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends, challenges and memes that are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may harm children through either watching or copying. The painful 'salt and ice challenge', which can cause injuries very quickly, is just one of many such examples.

SNEAKY SCAMMERS

Popular YouTube channels regularly have scammers posing as a well-known influencer in the comments section, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and sometimes offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users are not who they claim to be.

Advice for Parents & Carers

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate content (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual situations) to underage viewers. To prevent your child from chancing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.



TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows you to monitor what your child is watching, uploading and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives you an oversight of how your child is using sites like YouTube and helps you ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.



CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that your child is subscribed to can be hidden. If your child is only uploading videos that are protected as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.



CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Influential content creators usually have other social media accounts which they encourage their fans to follow. Having an open discussion about this with your child makes it easier to find out how else they might be following a particular creator online. It also opens up avenues for you to check out that creator's other channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.



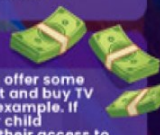
MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them children. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course, and react to content differently. You may want to keep an eye on how your child interacts with content on YouTube – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand the types of videos they are interested in.



LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases: users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch, for example. If you're not comfortable with your child purchasing content online, limit their access to your bank cards and online payment methods. Many parents have discovered to their cost that a child happily devouring a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!



Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



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