

ASPS NEWS



ALFRED SUTTON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS 20 JULY 2022 ISSUE 77

Dear Parents/Carers

As the term draws to a close, with temperatures peaking at 40c, it is timely to reflect on what has been yet another unprecedented year. We have seen extremes in weather from the current heat to the high winds that forced the school to close last term and have coped with intermittent but impactful Covid spikes throughout the year.

Throughout all of this, our community has pulled together and enabled our pupils to thrive once again. Thank you for all you have done to support our school community throughout the year. We look forward to welcoming parents and children back to school on Monday 5 September. On behalf of the Governing Body, staff and pupils may I wish you a very pleasant summer break.

Yours sincerely

Robert Howell
Headteacher

School News

Nursery News

What a busy year it has been! And a very hot ending to it, as well. We have been kept so busy with watering our garden but are so proud of our produce. We have lots of lettuce growing, peas, runner beans and courgettes... and lots of poppies which we didn't even plant! The garden has been great for learning about how things grow and change and we have seen so many beautiful flowers and insects who live amongst them. Having the lettuce at snack time has been an added bonus!

Our last half term at school saw us studying a sea topic, *Com-mo-tion in The Ocean*. We have had a lot of fun learning about different sea creatures. We discovered that so many different animals live in or near the sea.... Not just fish... but turtles, wal-ruses and lobsters too. We made boats and did a science inves-tigation about floating and sinking for our story *Jack and the Flum Flum Tree*.



Also, we have learned about our feelings and how sharing is so important in our stories *Barry the Fish with Fingers* and *The Rainbow Fish*. And we had a great pirate week hunting for treasure with our story *The Night Pirates*. We finished our year with a sound-scape book called *Toddle Waddle* which is all about all the sights and sounds you see when you visit the sea-side. We talked about our seaside experiences and are looking forward to our long holidays when many of us hope to visit the beach or fly on an aeroplane to see family abroad.

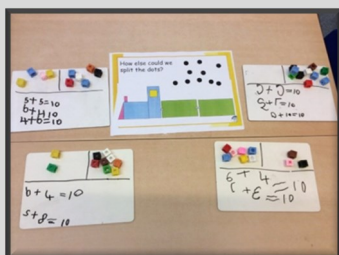
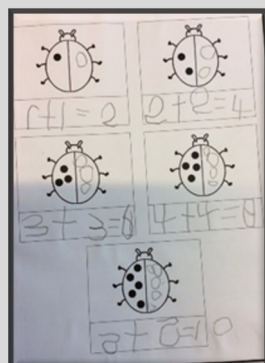
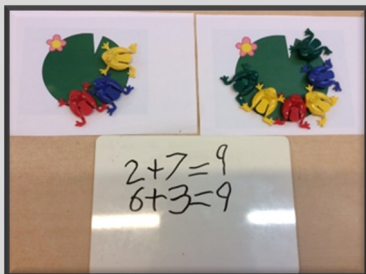
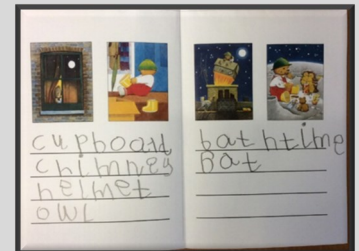
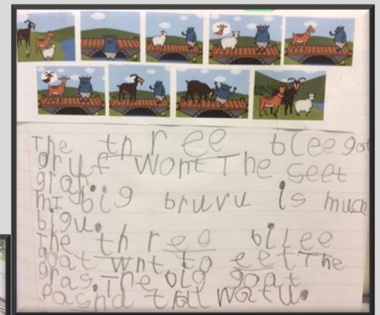
We say Goodbye and Good Luck to all the children who will be moving on to Reception and are looking forward to welcoming new friends to our Nursery in September.



Reception News

Literacy

We have been working hard on our reading and writing, learning sounds and letter formation in our daily phonics lessons. We have learnt how to segment and blend using *Fred fingers* and *Fred Talk*. We can now read words, sentences and books with confidence. Over the year we have gone from writing simple words and captions to long sentences and stories. Through reading lots of different texts, we can now retell stories and narratives using lots of different story language. We can also innovate these stories by creating changing the character, setting or ending. By sequencing events in our class texts, we can now confidently identify the beginning, middle and ends of stories. We have used puppets and role-play to learn and perform stories and have also created story maps and used actions to remember our stories. Here are some examples of our work over the year!

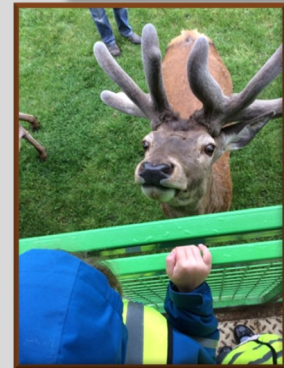
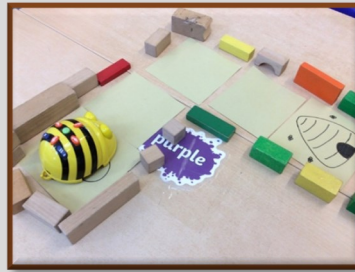


Maths

In maths this year we have developed our knowledge of the numbers 0-20. We have been comparing quantities up to 10 using the language 'more than, less than and equal to'. We are now able to identify basic mathematical symbols and use these in different number sentences. We have begun to discuss number families and number problems involving addition, subtraction and doubling. We have been using practical resources such as ten-frames, Numicon and part-whole mats to lay valuable foundations for our maths learning in Year 1. We have also been exploring the properties of 2D and 3D shapes as well as using language for size, shape and capacity.

Curriculum

We have been developing our gross motor skills through weekly PE sessions led by Mr Neate and the class teachers. We can now run, jump and move around the space confidently. Our weekly bikes and scooter sessions have helped us practise this further. In our computing sessions we have been exploring algorithms through the use of BeeBots. We have used different tools and techniques to create some amazing artwork this year. We have also talked about our communities and different celebrations. We have had some amazing experiences this year, including hatching class chicks and visiting Bucklebury farm.



Year 1 News

Summer Term 2

It is hard to imagine that this will be the last newsletter of the year! It has been a busy term for Year 1 who have enjoyed learning many new things.

The children had a session with Alison Simpson, author of *Bodhi the Pirate Dog*. She read her book to Year 1 and conducted role play activities which the children really enjoyed. The children also had a Q&A session with Alice who was quite impressed by their inquisitive nature.



Year 1 also had the opportunity to make a Salad in the Nutritional Suite. They learned about food hygiene, safety and how to cut fruit and vegetables using the tunnel method.

Year 2 News

This has been a very busy end of term for Year 2. As well as all our learning, we have enjoyed a visit from an author, a trip to the Living Rainforest and our first ever sports day!

The effort that Year 2 children have put into this year has been outstanding! We must remember that, for this group of children, this is their first full year of school! They have proven to be an incredibly resilient and adaptable group of children, who are hungry to learn.

My favourite moment has to be our school trip to Windsor Castle! The children impressed everyone with their knowledge of castles - arrow loops, murder holes and crenellations... They were extremely mature and responsible throughout the day, again showing their wonderful attitude to school life. What a day!!!!

I am extremely proud of all of you. Magnificent effort Year 2!

Mr Lim



What a fantastic year I've had teaching you Year 2. You've worked so hard and achieved so much. I'm really going to miss seeing all your smiling faces! I feel there are too many memories to choose a favourite but here are some that stand out. Spontaneous whole class winter celebration songs when cutting out, themed superhero active fit and yoga in the playground and of course the many wonderful pieces of Art you fabulous creatives have made. Never lose your sparkle and I wish you all the best in your new classes. Mrs Bolton

I have thoroughly enjoyed teaching the children in Year 2 this year. It has been a brilliant year and the children should all be incredibly proud of everything they have achieved. They have shown creativity across various Art and DT projects- producing intricate and unique projects. They were incredibly resilient during Sports Day and had a fantastic time putting to task the skills that they had been practising in PE- it was lovely to see so many parents, carers and family members there too! They have truly been a pleasure to teach and I know that I am definitely going to miss them as they start the next stage of their journey in Year 3. I do, however, know they will continue to be amazing and would like to wish them all the best of luck! Miss Hawkins

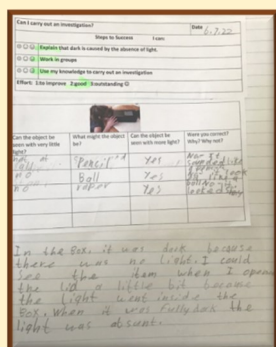
Here are photos from some of our Year 2 highlights...



Year 3 News

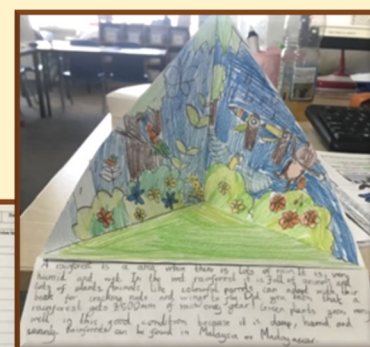
Sadly, children have nearly finished the year! This term children have worked really hard in all subjects

Children made creatures out of recycled materials in Art and made amazing key rings using



This term, in Science children have been learning about Light and dark. Year 3 carried out some investigations to find out how light is a beam of energy that travels in a wave from a source.

Children have been learning about the rainforests around the world and described the various plants and animals that live there. Children were able to describe the various layers of the rainforest and looked at certain animals that are affected by deforestation. They also created a rainforest triorama using their knowledge that they learnt in previous lessons.



Year 4 News

Well, we have made it to the end of the year and our last newsletter through our hard work, love for learning and resilience. It was particularly nice to have a relatively normal year after two years of disruption. The children enjoyed the freedom to mix with their friends outside of their classes.

We had a great sports day this year in the school field which was well supported by parents, carers, friends and families. The weather also smiled down on us. With eleven separate events the pupils were certainly put through their sporting paces. However, let the children tell you what they thought of the event. Here are a sample of the pupils' quotes:

'Sports day was great. My favourite task was netball. Out team (2) was really good at it. We scored 20 hoops! It was the best sports day ever out of the 3 I have done.' **Edel**

'Sports day was a lot of fun. There were a lot of fun activities and it was great exercise for our bodies. I really enjoyed it!' **Rumaisa**.

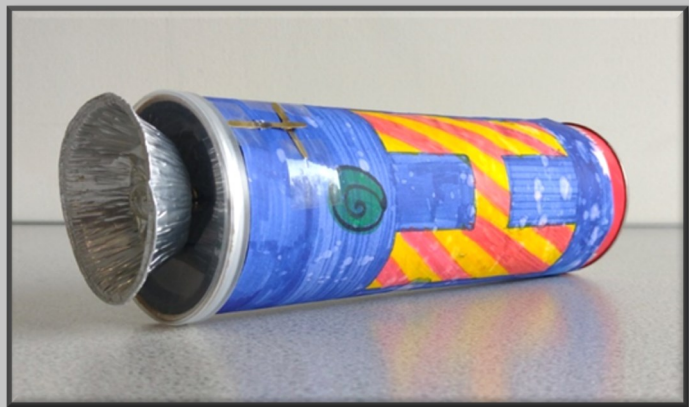
'It was hot outside but I liked sports day it was fun. We did Body Parts and racing and many more events. My favourite was Bouncing the Ball with a tennis racquet. I even got 64 points.' **Ilham**.

'Sports Day was the best day EVER! I had soooooo much fun. I was very excited and happy. It was very exciting when I watched the fastest people in the year race. We [me and my team] were really good at each sport. I was saying in my head, "This is the most exciting day ever".' **Yahya**.

In art we combined the disciplines of sculpture and painting. The pupils studied the sculptures of Jean Arp and the cut-outs of Matisse. The pupils then made their Arp-like sculptures from clay and when these had hardened they painted them in their chosen cut-out design. Here are a few examples of the children's sculptures.



In science, we have been studying electricity this term. This has tied in well with our Design and Technology lesson which involved planning and then making torches. This was quite a tricky and fiddly feat of construction but the children did demonstrate their resilience, patience and tenacity to produce some super torches. Here are a few photos of their creations.



The Year 4 Team wish you all a restful and well-deserved summer break. We will miss the wonderful children we have had the pleasure to teach this year and wish the children all the best in year 5 as they progress onto the next step in life's great journey of investigation and learning.

Year 5 News

Dear all Parents and Carers of Year 5 children – we've made it! What a year it has been! I would like to begin this, our last newsletter together, by congratulating the children on the resilience they have shown throughout another 'tricky' time of uncertainty and covid-related complications. It was such a relief to start the year in classes. Reuniting the children as a year group, rather than class bubbles was a great sight. The

happiness on the children's faces as they were once again able to play with friends from different classes across multiple year groups showed just how important an aspect of school-life socialisation can be.



Year 5 News

Looking back over the last ten months, there have been a number of standout moments. Being able to go swimming and on trips was a welcome return to 'normality'. Winchester Planetarium proved a great hit, with everyone enjoying our 'journey' into space. Englefield Estate looked magnificent and the children relished the chance to simply run around outside in the idyllic surroundings, whilst also taking the chance to learn about a wide range of roles fulfilled by workers on the estate. One group were particularly thrilled to see a deer gracefully leaping through a field of wheat – for most it was their first time seeing such a beautiful animal 'in the wild'.



Making use of the new cooking suite gave the children the chance to learn and apply a range of new skills we have previously found difficult to explore. We hope you and your children enjoyed the pasta salad and very much look forward to expanding the repertoire next year!

As for the classroom curriculum, well, we have covered so much. From the Indus Valley to Vikings, Eastern Europe to protecting the environment, space to human development – the topics have been as varied as they have been enjoyable. Added to which, an amazing number of children have accessed not only Year 5, but even Year 6 work in their maths and reading groups – the teaching staff cannot praise them enough for the incredible effort they have made to move their learning forward.



Of course, there have been things we wish could have been different – it would have been great to get to know you, the parents and carers, better by inviting you into school more regularly but at least we were able to do so for Sports Day. We would also have liked to have taken the children off-site more and explored local sites more extensively. But, all things considered, we feel it has been a truly memorable year, with so many amazing moments to celebrate and cherish. Once again, the whole team would like to extend our thanks to each and every one of you, for all that you do to support us, and your children in their learning. Without the home-school partnership the children would not be making the fabulous progress that they are.



We hope you have a wonderful summer and wish you and your families the very best for Year 6.

The Year 5 Team



Year 6 News

- In the words of Year 6

So far this term, we have learnt a variety of things – both extra-curricular and academic. Here are some of the things that we have been getting up to this term...

Academic activities

After SATs, we mainly focused on improving our writing in order to secure the best results we could possibly achieve. In writing, we wrote numerous texts covering many different genres, up-leveiling them to an extremely high standard. During this time, we also expressed our creativity by making paper tents out of 3D shapes in DT (Design & Technology).

Music

In Music, we have been gradually learning how to play Rick Astley's 'Never Gonna Give You Up' on the ukulele – a four-stringed, guitar-like instrument. We also designed and constructed our own instruments from recyclable objects such as: plastic cups, tin cans, cling film and even balloons. Recently, we had our last music lesson, in which we brought out computers to surf some music-related websites. Music at Alfred Sutton has been a very enjoyable subject and many people will miss it.

Extra-curricular activities

After our writing was polished, we began changing our schedule to include extra-curricular activities, such as a trip to Englefield Estate – where we learnt about farm life and nature; dancers coming to our school (Pagrav Dance, who perform traditional Indian dances and Extended Play, who invite pupils to create a dance with them); and a creative writing workshop. Furthermore, after a walk to Vue cinema to watch the new Toy Story film (Lightyear) we had the privilege to have an enjoyable picnic in the Forbury Gardens. Additionally, some children participated in a two-day bike ability course to improve their road safety when out on a bike.

Leavers' Got Talent

To celebrate the end of our time in primary school, we decided that we wanted to end the year with a memorable performance – an end-of-year-talent show. In order to accomplish this, we spent many hours practising our acts and making sure the songs were sung with great volume, energy and enthusiasm. Some of the acts include plays, singing and dancing, football, animations and some very talented pianists.

Overall, we have had a very enjoyable term, and have all worked extremely hard. As our final year at Alfred Sutton Primary School draws to a close, we would like to thank all of the great teachers for making our time at Alfred Sutton the best it could possibly have been.



SOLAR COOL SCHOOL!



Suntastic school idea: Alfred Sutton Primary School School Business Manager Mrs de Croos with site manager Craig Newson



Reporting by Year 6

ALFRED Sutton is celebrating after getting solar panels!

The school had the brilliant idea to save money and help the environment.

In total 81 panels have been installed on the nursery and year 3, 4, 5 building.

Site manager Mr Craig Newson said, “Obviously using electricity affects the environment but the solar panels generate renewable energy from the Sun.”

The school applied to Reading Borough Council for a grant to pay for the panels.

Scaffolding went up on May 16 and it took around two weeks.

The panels will provide the school with renewable energy. They will help decrease the school’s energy bills.

Rain will help to clean the panels and they will stay up permanently. They still work when it is cloudy.

Alfred Sutton Primary School School Business Manager Mrs de Croos said, “It’s such a good thing for the environment and for our school because we can save lots of money.”

Staff achievement

Huge congratulations to Miss Hawkins who played in the Division 1 County Championship final at Twickenham Stadium. She represented Berkshire RFU Women, scoring 59 minutes in - the only Berkshire try of the game (pictures below)! The final score was 40-5 to Leicestershire, but Miss Hawkins said it was a "fantastic experience!"

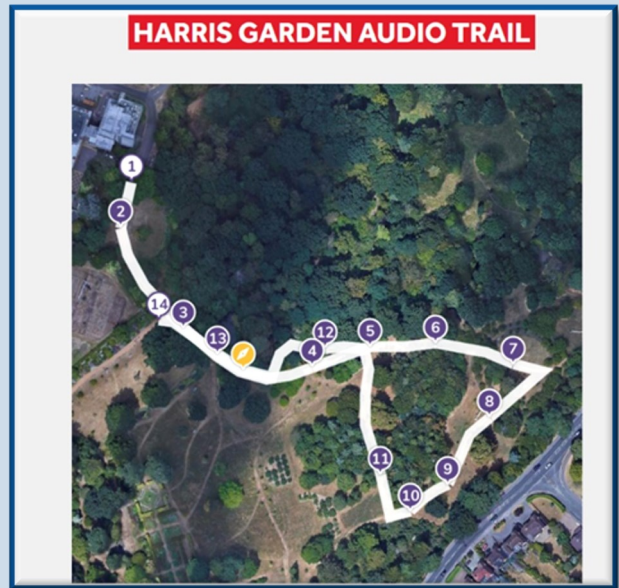




GUNNERA
*castellum-canon even the roots
 on your sunny; Even though leaves
 can be pushed by the wind on your stem
 chirping on leaves from your eye,
 winking out from the root;
 a grassy stem brown to yellow
 pink, green, brown and yellow those
 are the crown it holds. Finally
 in autumn's wash it more*

The children
 of PSA KS2

"My heartfelt thanks and appreciation for inviting Alfred Sutton Children to join you in the Harris Gardens for the pilot sound trail project. The children loved the gazebo set up and one child excitedly gestured as we approached, "there is a special event there". His delight was evident when he realised the special event was for us." - Dawn Newton, Alfred Sutton Primary School



Air Quality in Schools

The University of Reading is researching air pollutants at schools and we need your help



We are using wearable air pollution monitors to find out about the levels of pollutants on the way to schools

We want to hear from you to find out what you think about air pollution at schools



Take our Survey here!



For more information email: m.obrien@pgr.reading.ac.uk



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AIR QUALITY

AIR QUALITY	POLLUTION LEVEL
0-25	VERY LOW
25-50	LOW
50-75	MEDIUM
75-87.5	HIGH
87.5-100	VERY HIGH
100-125	EXTREME
>125	AIRMAGGEDON

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