

Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to thank the whole school community for pulling together to enable our pupils to continue to thrive at Alfred Sutton. Despite the challenges presented by the rise in Covid cases once again, our staff team have continued to provide a calm, nurturing environment for our pupils to enjoy their learning.

The children have enjoyed a range of offsite visits and activities this term as you will read about in this newsletter, and despite the restrictions, it is great to see the enjoyment and enrichment these have provided for our pupils.

We hope all our families enjoy a peaceful half-term break. We look forward to welcoming all our pupils back on TUESDAY 2 NOVEMBER.

A special well done to Pippa in Rabbit whose wonderful and instantly recognisable School Street Permit design was chosen to be the official parking permit for Crescent Road.

If you would like to find out more about the idea behind School Streets and understand the role of a School Street Marshall, Lucy Prismall and James Turner from the Transport Planning Team will be hosting a School Street drop in on the front playground, from 3.10pm on Monday 8 November.

Yours sincerely

RDHowell

Robert Howell Headteacher



School News

Nursery News -

The Nursery children in Fern and Toadstool class have settled in well to Alfred Sutton Primary School. They have painted, playdoughed, counted, mark made, climbed, scooted, cycled and sang their way through the first half term at school! They are enjoying making new friends, listening to some fantastic stories and singing lots of rhymes.



Reception News



Year 1 News

What a wonderful, busy start to the year! The Year 1 children have enjoyed a number of cross curricular activities. They spent time thinking about what they wanted to achieve in Year 1 and wrote their goals down. They created maps of their route to school and learnt about local landmarks. They learnt to write a set of instructions to turn an egg box into a caterpillar and then followed these instructions to create some colourful creatures!



Year 2 News

In Year 2, we have had a very busy half term! Our geography topic was Physical Geography, where we were travelling the world, discovering continents, oceans and countries. We especially enjoyed reading Lost and Found and imaging we were travelling the high seas to return the penguin to Antartica!

Everyday Materials has been a highly informative science topic... We got hands on with different materials, wrote an explanation text and created an advert for super paper! Learning about the recycling process was insightful!

In Art, we have been developing our sketching and shading. This culminated in creating our own self-portraits. We then moved on to looking at colours and colour mixing. Here is some of our amazing Kandinsky art work...

This term we have spoken a lot about kindness and the importance of being kind to everyone. We have worked incredibly hard to create instructions for how to be kind and write some kindness poems! Ask a Year 2 what kindness means to them...



Year 3 News

Year 3 have had a fantastic start to the Autumn term and have explored different areas of History and Geography.

With enthusiasm, children have dived straight into learning about The Stone Age to the Iron Age. In particular we looked at the Hillforts and produced some amazing writing about Iron Age people living on the Hillforts and how they lived as communities.

During DT, Year 3 have also have been designing their own Stonehenge and made a model using clay.



During this term, in Geography we have been learning about the land use in the UK. Children have enjoyed researching about Urban and the rural areas and in return have written a diary entry about their day on a farm.



The children in Year 4 settled into the school routines really quickly after the summer holidays and have demonstrated keen desire to learn.

In maths we have focused on the building blocks of maths – place value. We have also started looking at Roman numerals which ties in nicely to our studying Romans next term.

In geography, Year 4 have studied the physical and human geography of Whitby and compared the differences and similarities with Reading.

The children have been learning about the science of classification, from the plant to the animal kingdom. However, we have particularly focused on vertebrates and the children should now be experts on the five main branches of vertebrates. Ask your children to explain them to you!





Year 5 News



Hello to all parents and carers of Year 5 children. I'm so glad to have the chance to write this and share with you some of the many exciting learning experiences the children have had this term. Before I do so, however, I just wanted to sing the praises of the year group as a whole – what an absolute pleasure they have been to teach. Mr Taylor and Miss Selwood and myself have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know them and seeing the pride and effort they put into their work. The members of Eagle, Falcon and Buzzard classes have all shown themselves to be respect-



ful, well-mannered and ambitious in their work. What is more the number of children handing in homework has been truly outstanding, so a huge well done to each and every Year 5 child.

In six short weeks, we have already completed a great deal of work. From map skills and the geography of Scotland, to thermal insulators and conductors, from national anthems of the world, to the design and building of The Eiffel Tower, from modal verbs to dividing fractions – the range of topics we have been able to share with the children has certainly made each day new and exciting, for teachers and pupils alike.

What is more, across the whole school we have been thrilled to be able to come together as a learning community once again. Sharing our leaf and fruit awards as a key stage, or our values assemblies with year 4, has felt like a return to normality and we hope the children have also taken pleasure in this.

Should any of you have any questions for the Year 5 team, please feel free to contact us through the school office, or catch as at the door in the morning. We are always here for you if needed. Wishing you the very best of half-terms, take care and stay safe,

Richard Watson

Assistant Head and Year 5 lead







Year 6 News

Year 6 have enjoyed an exciting range of learning opportunities so far. In the children's own words:

'5 weeks in and Year 6 are cramming themselves with knowledge'...

'Year 6 learnt a range of topics: some of them are the Americas, classification of animals, DT, RE and art. My favourite was RE because we focused on Islam (in particular, the 5 pillars). Furthermore, we also did lots of activities and events, such as: archery, going to the cinema, building bridges, football, dodgeball, the residential, art projects (including Keith Haring) and much more. Moreover, I enjoyed all of them because they were all lots of fun.'

'In our DT lesson, we were given the task to make a tower. It was a great challenge; we had to make it stand up without support for as long as we could. Made out of paper and tape, the towers were really flimsy. Divided into groups, we had a lot of fun and noticed our mistakes.'

'In science we have been learning about classifying animals and also about Carl Linneas. We even created imaginary weird creatures to classify!'









'On the residential, there were so many different experiences and activities that were fun and worth every penny. Our favourite activity was abseiling. This is because we had never done it before and it was a great new experience. I hope I can find a place in Reading where I can do more!'





'The residential was full of fun, with many activities such as, ziplining, rock

climbing and archery. We think that the most exciting part of it was the thrill of being dropped from 20 meters while being clipped to a metal bar! In conclusion, we highly recommend the residential due to all the activities.'

'While some of us enjoyed a residential trip to Swindon, a portion of us stayed behind. To begin the week, we embarked on a 90-minute walk to Vue Cinema in The Oracle. We watched the Adams Family 2. The long walk exhausted us, but it was worth it for the movie – and the snacks! On the way we saw Banksy's graffiti on the old Reading prison.'

'As we near the end of the first school half term, it seems like this has been a very productive few weeks.'

ECO CLUB Harris Gardens Outing

The ECO CLUB had the wonderful opportunity to participate in a pilot project 'Sounds of Nature': Creating an audio trail in the Harris Gardens, hosted by Reading University. All the children enjoyed the activities on offer, enthusiastically engaging in outdoor learning, sound recording and exploring the beautiful gardens. The Harris Gardens are free to access to the Public and are well worth a visit. When the sound recording is launched, some of the sounds created and recorded by the children will be on the sound trail open to the public.



Adverts, Community News and Events

Erleigh Road Toddler Group

I am delighted to say that we are able to re start the Toddler Group in the parish hall, Erleigh Road, after a break since the start of lockdown last year.

When the Toddler Group used to meet regularly, a number of the parents who came to us had older children attending Alfred Sutton school. I always heard good things about the school!

From Wednesday 3 November, the Toddler Group will run again in the parish hall, Erleigh Road (next to St. Luke's church). The Group welcomes all carers with pre-school children & babies. We run from 9.15 - 11.15 am. every Wednesday in term time. There are some parking spaces outside the hall. We ask for a donation of £1 per family each session, and this covers refreshments during the morning.