

SUNBEAMS NURSERY

ST ALPHEGE CE INFANT SCHOOL

St Alphege
Values



Love

Loved, Inspired, Shining

Newsletter

Term 3 Week 3 | 20.01.23

CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Jan 2022

Mon 23rd - Year R Health Screening

Weds 25th - KIC Theatre

Thurs 26th - KIC Theatre

Feb 2022

Fri 10th - End of Term 3

Mon 20th - Start of Term 4

[Click here for our School & Nursery Term Dates](#)

KEY EVENTS

KIC Theatre Workshops

Next week, Ian from KIC Theatre will be visiting us to deliver drama workshops across the school and Sunbeams nursery. The children will be taking part in different sessions, exploring their curriculum learning through the use of drama techniques. Ian is one of our long-standing arts partners and has been visiting the school for many years. He always brings such energy, joy and inspiration to the children so we are certain that they will benefit greatly from this enrichment opportunity. Ian will be in school on Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th January and will work with each class across the two days. We will share photographs from these sessions on the school Facebook page, so that you are able to see what the children have been learning.

Parents Evenings

We will be holding our mid-year parent meetings at the end of next term. These will be between **3:30pm and 7:30pm on Wednesday 29th and Thursday 30th March**. Further details of these will be sent out next term, including information about how to book your appointment slot. We have listened carefully to your feedback regarding parent's evenings and the vast majority have stated that a virtual meeting is their preferred method, as it enables appointments to be booked around other commitments. We appreciate that not everyone will love meeting online rather than face to face and are therefore also offering a sharing the learning opportunity where you will be invited into class to share your child's work with them and look through the wonderful learning that has taken place. This will be in the same week on **Tuesday 28th March at 2:45pm**. We hope that by offering both of these sessions, this will enable our parent community to feel fully informed and connected to the school. Please remember, that you do not need to wait until parent's evenings if you have something you wish to discuss with us. We are always here and happy to help at any time!

Maths Parent Workshops

We have created some online workshops to explain the way we teach Maths in school and ways that you can support your child's learning at home. We hope that you find the videos useful, but if you have any questions or want to find out any more about our Maths curriculum, please speak with our Maths Leader, Becky Strike who will be happy to help.

Each video is around 35 minutes long and can be watched at any time. You can access the videos via the links below:

Early Years (Reception): <https://youtu.be/QvroUVFS2QY>

Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2): <https://youtu.be/CLHHPZN1uKs>

Worship this term

We continue to work closely with Rev Rachel and the team at St. Alphege Church, to provide invitational, inclusive and engaging times for reflection and prayer. We have been reviewing our previous system for delivering worship to ensure it is as effective as it can be. In light of this, the pattern for our daily worship will change slightly this term. At the beginning and end of each term there will be whole school worship in Church, when families will be invited to join us. We hope that this will reduce the pressures on working parents with dates being given further in advance. The next date for our whole school church worship is **Monday 6th February 2.30pm** for all year groups. We want to maintain the children's regular contact with Reverend Rachel and her team, so every other Monday this term, the ministry team will be coming into school to lead worship with children and staff. This term we are reflecting on our school value of kindness and we will be hearing stories about Jesus that show Christians how to be kind.

Tax-free childcare

If you pay for nursery fees, after school club or breakfast club you could benefit from having a Tax-free childcare account. The government will top up your account with 20% of the amount you pay in. Visit <https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare> to see how it works and if you are eligible.

Community



The Umbrella Centre

The Thrift Ball returns on Saturday 4 February at 7.30pm to 11pm at The Umbrella Centre on Whitstable High Street.

This fab fundraiser for St Alphege Church challenges you to dress up with charity shop frocks and suits! Dress as sparkly, wild and gorgeous as you can and celebrate supporting local charity shops AND your Church on the High Street.

For Further Information



St Andrews Church – Every Friday at 12:30pm there will be a well-being chat tea journal support group. This is in aid of mental health and well-being address social isolation and to link people together to support each other.

FEBRUARY



Team Theme Kent - Half Term Sports & Holiday Camps

Action-packed, high-energy, fun-fuelled multi sports camp for children aged 4-14 at the St Mary's school site. Boasting a wide range of expertly delivered physical activities, its aim is accessibility and inclusivity; allowing all children the opportunity for a happy, healthy holiday.

[book-a-camp](#)

King Alphege Attendance Lion

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King Alphege is awarded to the class with the highest percentage attendance each week.



King Alphege Attendance Lion
W/E 13.1.23
Seagulls Class - 99%

Weekly Awards

Whole School Awards

Our awards this year represent our School Development priorities: GROWTH. Each class will nominate a child to receive an award each week.



Great Reading

Luca – Oysters Class



Risk Taking and Resilience

Jonah – Puffins Class



Outstanding Curriculum

Bella – Seagulls Class



Wonderful Writing

Ella - Pearls Class



Thriving Community

Sylvia - Pebbles Class



Happiness, Wellbeing and
Wonder

Maggie - Shells Class

Weekly Year Group Recap

Sunbeams

From Mrs Keeble & Mrs Humphreys

This week in Sunbeams we have been learning about positional vocabulary, such as: in, on, under, over etc. We have been doing lots of activities to help us learn and use positional vocabulary. In one activity we each had a chair and had to position ourselves in relation to the chair according to the instructions we gave each other. We have been exploring rhyme through stories and songs. Our favourite at the moment is row, row, row your boat because we can actively participate and make lots of different noises when we hear the rhyme. On Tuesday Mrs Memmott gave us shakers and we had to shake along to the rhythm of the songs she played and we sung. On Thursday we visited the Reception classes with some of our favourite books in Sunbeams and shared them with the Reception children, and they shared some of their favourite story books with us.

Year R

From Mrs Arnott & Mr Mead

This week has been a very busy, chilly but great week in Reception. In English we have been reading Mr Gumpy's Outing. The children loved the story and found it very funny. We thought about different animals that might want to join the other characters on the boat and how Mr Gumpy might react. We learnt about what speech bubbles are and when we use them. The children did a wonderful job in thinking about what Mr Gumpy would say to a new animal and completed our own speech bubbles to carry on the story. This story also linked to our learning about transport. On Monday we went on a very chilly adventure down to Whitstable harbour to look at different types of boats. We learnt about fishing boats, trawlers, tourist boats and the very special and important role of the RNLI Lifeboats. On Wednesday the children got their creative brains working and started our first DT project. All the children had to design their own boat and think about what tools they would need and the modelling materials they wanted to use. The children then set to work and created their very own boats. We had some wonderful creations and can't wait to test some of them out! In maths we have been revisiting addition and subtraction within numbers 1-5 and have been completing lots of tricky word problems. Well done for a fabulous week Reception!

Year 1

From Mrs Jones & Mrs O'Malley

It has been another busy and fun packed week in Year 1. The children loved the story 'Lost and Found' and worked hard to re-tell it using the -ed suffix (for example asked, rowed, searched). They are becoming confident at understanding teen numbers and can tell you how many tens and ones there are in a number (e.g. 16 has one ten and 6 ones). In Gymnastics we practised different balances using points (hands, feet, knees) and patches (back, tummy, bottom): the children amazed us with how creative and strong they were when balancing together!

On Thursday, we will take part in drama workshops with KIC theatre, exploring our Geography focus: Is it hot or cold? In Maths we will compare and order numbers to 20 and in English will be learning how to ask questions using what? When? Why? How? and who? This week we will be programming our robots to move in a sequence and will be inspired by the artist Kandinsky with our painting in art.

Phonics ebooks will be online at Big Cat Books for you to practise every day at home – this will help your child to become more fluent and confident. We hope you can stay warm and safe this weekend. Thank you for your continued support.

Year 2

From Mrs Swindells & Mrs O'Keeffe

We have had another amazing week in Seagulls and Puffins! We absolutely loved re-enacting an air raid siren and building our own safe spaces with our classroom furniture. We use this to accumulate incredible vocabulary and use the superlative adjectives (biggest, loudest etc) within our diary entries for this week. In Maths we focussed on multiplication by counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and began to think about how division is sharing equally between groups.

This week we will continue to build on our multiplication skills and start to make and draw arrays to work out the answer to given sums. In English we will be learning all about rationing! We will bake together and buy a portion using coupons we make. We will then use this as a hook for our diary entry and describe how it felt during WW2 when everybody needed to ration. We will also be learning about Winston Churchill and his role during WW2. We will use his speaking style to write a persuasive letter about the war. In Science next week we will be looking closely at the properties of wood and testing it for its strength and durability.