# SUNBEAMS NURSERY

# ST ALPHEGE CE INFANT SCHOOL



Loved, Inspired, Shining



# Newsletter

Term 4 Week 5 | 24.03.23

#### **CONTACTING THE SCHOOL**

**Executive Head:** Liz Thomas-Friend **Head of School:** Jacqui Spinks

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If online payment details are required, please

contact the school office.

Click here for our School & Nursery Term

#### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

#### March 2023

Tues 28<sup>th</sup> – Sharing the Learning Opportunity 2.45pm

Weds 29th – Parents Evening Thurs 30th - Parents Evening Fri 31st - End of Term 4

#### April 2023

Mon 17th - Start of Term 5

Mon 17th - Year R Hearing Screening Fri 28<sup>th</sup> – Year 1 swimming lessons start

Fri 28<sup>th</sup> – Morris Men 11.15am

#### May 2023

Mon 1st - Bank Holiday Weds 3<sup>rd</sup> – Kic Theatre Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> – Kic Theatre

Mon 8th - Bank Holiday - King Coronation

Thurs 11th - Class photos

Fri 19th – CACOT Fund Raising Day

#### **KEY EVENTS**

We would like to invite our early years families to join us at one of the following sessions. Please do not feel you have to attend them all:

#### Stay and Play Sessions for Sunbeams Children

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March 8.30am - 9:30am Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2:15pm - 3:15pm Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April 8:30am - 9:30am Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2:15pm - 3:15pm Friday 9th June 8:30am - 9:30am

#### **Reception Share the Learning Sessions for Parents**

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March 8.45am - 9:30am Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2:30pm - 3:15pm Friday 21st April 8:45am - 9:30am Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2:30pm - 3:15pm Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June 8:45am - 9:30am

#### Easter Menu – Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March

There is a change to the menu for Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March, please see the menu below. Please note school packed lunch, jacket potatoes and tomato pasta will be on offer as normal.



#### <u>MAINS</u>

BBQ Chicken Burger OR Southern Style Vegetarian Burger SIDES

Chips, BBQ Baked Beans and Cucumber Sticks

DESSERT

Cornflake Cake

#### <u>Parents Evenings – Video Appointments</u>

These will be between 3:30pm and 7:30pm on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March.

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 28<sup>th</sup> 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!

#### Worship this term

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March at St Alphege Church joint school worship to explore Holy Week with the Endowed school, earlier time of **2pm**. Please note the change of time.

We are delighted to welcome parents to this service and look forward to seeing you there.



### **Sports Clubs**

The Achieve Sports on offer next term are:

Monday Year R, 1, 2 Athletics
Wednesday Year R, 1, 2 Multi Sport
Thursday Year R, 1, 2 Gymnastics
Friday Year R, 1, 2 Dance

Please reapply for next term if your child has been to a club this term. Forms and payment need to be made by Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March.



#### **Breakfast Club**

Our daily breakfast club is run by experienced members of school staff, who offer a quiet and safe start to the day with healthy breakfast options. We open at 8.00am and children can choose from a range of food options including toast, cereal, fruit and yoghurts. We can cater for any dietary requirements and our staff are qualified in food safety. Food is served until 8.25am.

The children are really well supported; they enjoy a range of fun activities in the hall and are taken to their classrooms at 8.35am, the beginning of the school day. We can also accept children who attend Whitstable Junior School and we will ensure they are taken to WJS in time for the start of their school day.

We offer a flexible approach to our sessions and invoice weekly in arrears, for the number of days your child attends. We charge a flat fee of £2.50 per session.

If you require regular Breakfast Club sessions, please book these using the attached booking form. We are still able to accommodate extra sessions on an ad-hoc basis if you find that you need last minute childcare. You can call the school office to book these as the need arises.

#### **After School Club**

We are delighted to have an experienced St Alphege staff team in providing the very best care for your children, based upon our ethos, values and high expectations.

After School Club will be based in the Octopus Room, allowing plenty of space for the children to explore, play and relax.

What can you expect from After School Club?

- Wrap around care from 3:15pm 6:00pm every day
- Flexible arrangements to suit your family.
- Exciting and engaging activities both inside and outside
- A happy, welcoming St Alphege team who know and love your children
- Opportunities to play, read, sing, construct, create, explore and discover!
- Healthy snacks available from 3:30pm
- Nutritious home cooked food served from 5:00pm. For example: curry, pasta, lasagne, fresh chicken burgers etc. Menus will be adapted alongside the children and will cater for all dietary requirements. Menus will be provided on a termly basis.

We will invoice in advance at the beginning of each term for all pre-booked sessions. If you require additional ad-hoc session throughout the term you can book these, subject to availability, and we will add the cost to your next invoice. Please complete the attached form if you would like to book any sessions for next term.

#### **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 <a href="https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare">https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare</a> to see how it works and if you are eligible.

#### **Year 1 Swimming Lessons**

Year 1 swimming lessons will be starting after Easter on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April. Please can your child wear their swimming costume and bring a towel to school in a separate bag. The children will walk to and from the pool and be back at school before lunchtime.

The lessons will be subsidised by the school but we would welcome a contribution of £25.00 for all 8 lessons, payable in advance of the first lesson.

Please pay by cash at the school office or by direct bank payment in to the school bank account. Instalments are available if you would like to spread the cost over the next 3 months. Please email the office to advise us that you have made a bank transfer so we can reconcile the payment on the bank statement.

The children will swim on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April and 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> May in term 5 and 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> June in term 6.

There is no swimming on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June as this is the half term holiday.



## **Community**

#### Stagecoach Easter Extravaganza

Are you looking for Holiday Workshops?

Join Stagecoach for an exciting, fun filled, 3 day Easter Holiday Workshop for children aged 4-18yrs

Singing, dancing, acting and lots of fun! Ending with a showcase for family and friends!

The workshops are creative and inspiring! No experience is necessary, just the enthusiasm to join in!

book your place now!

https://www.stagecoach.co.uk/whitstable



#### <u>Inclusive Sport – Whitstable Junior School</u>

Direct booking link is below and remember Inclusive Sport offer a free trial for any new sessions that your child attends.

https://inclusive-sport.class4kids.co.uk/info/261

If you haven't already done so, booking is open for Term 4 sessions. You can follow the link below and select sessions you would like to book:

**Book Online - Inclusive Sport** 

You can also view all children's sessions available on the website where there is more information about the sessions and flyers, link below:

**Children - Inclusive Sport** 



#### Children's Holiday and Sports Camp

The holiday camps on the University of Kent's Canterbury campus provide the perfect way to keep your children active and entertained over the Easter and summer school holidays. The camps are open to children aged 5 to 12, and provide daily sports and activities, all under the supervision of experienced and DBS verified camp staff.

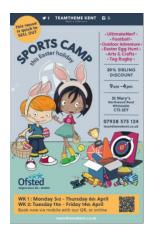
You can book via the link below:

Children's Holiday Sports and Activity Camps - Kent Sport - University of Kent



#### Easter sports camps in Whitstable, Blean and Canterbury

You can book via the link below <a href="https://www.teamthemekent.co.uk/book-a-camp">https://www.teamthemekent.co.uk/book-a-camp</a>



#### Animate Arts - Sunday 26 March, 2-3pm

#### Kids Craft Club - Easter Special!

Join Animate Arts at the Gulbenkian Arts Centre for an afternoon of craft, inspired by the animated film 'Epic Tails' which is screened straight after the workshop! Tickets available from <a href="https://thegulbenkian.co.uk">https://thegulbenkian.co.uk</a>



# **King Alphege Attendance Lion**

#### King Alphege Attendance Lion

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



King Alphege Attendance Lion W/E 17.3.23 Oysters Class – 90.7 %

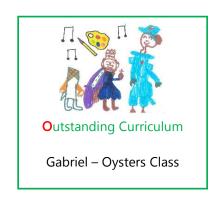
# **Weekly Awards**

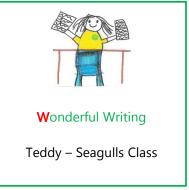
#### **Whole School Awards**

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

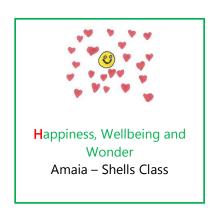












# **Weekly Year Group Recap**

#### **Sunbeams**

## From Mrs Keeble & Mrs Humphreys

This week in Sunbeams we have been celebrating World Poetry Day by writing our own poems. We wrote about everyday objects we could find in our environment and thought about how we could describe what they felt and looked like and where we found them. On Thursday we welcomed PSCO Matt to Sunbeams to talk to us about how the police serve our community. Sunbeams came up with some very interesting questions for him to answer and we were able to try on some of the uniform that the police wear. We then went and explored his police car and were very impressed with the flashing lights! Wednesday was Science Day and we conducted several different science experiments with our Sunbeams grown ups and the Reception teachers. We investigated how we could create bubbles inside bubbles, how water can travel up and out of a container using food dye and paper towels and we went on a colour expedition in nature among others. We thoroughly enjoyed visiting the Reception classrooms and working with their teachers.

#### Year 1

#### From Mrs Jones & Mrs O'Malley

Pearls and Oysters have enjoyed some rich learning this week. We made cross-curricular links between English and Science, making close observational drawings of living plants, and then labelling the parts and writing some factual information about the function of each part. In Maths, we are learning how to use balance scales to identify lighter and heavier objects as the children are introduced to weight and mass. At the end of the week, we challenged the children to order items from lightest to heaviest – watch this space! In Art, we continue to explore the work of Yayoi Kusama, who uses many different creative disciplines. Last week, we were introduced to sewing and learned a running stitch, using brightly coloured yarn and Binca fabric. This week and next week, we will apply this new skill by creating book marks using different stitches. Sewing was trickier than the children thought it would be, so all the adults were very proud of their perseverance and patience as they got to grips with it. We were also pleasantly surprised at the expertise of one or two of our children, who have previously had a go at sewing in their Rainbow groups, and were able to help their friends. In RE, we have been exploring the Easter story as we come to the end of Lent, and have discussed that this is both a sad and happy time of year, but we now look forward to spring and the signs of new life all around us. Lastly, we are happy to tell you that our trips to Duncan Downs (postponed due to inclement weather) are rescheduled for next week, Tuesday 28th March and Wednesday 29th March. This will bring together our term's science learning beautifully!

#### Year R

#### From Mrs Arnott & Mr Mead

This week Reception have been exploring how they can look after nature and our environment. We went on a walk through Whitstable looking out for signs of how we can care for where we live. We thought about using bikes instead of cars to travel to shops and local places, making sure we throw our rubbish away and recycle where possible, making sure our beaches are clean and tidy and lots of children mentioned the "No more poo" protests! The children then set to work to create their own "Save our Planet" posters – they did a wonderful job and thought of other ways to look after our world such as saving water and turning off lights. In maths this week we focussed on halving and sharing amounts. We spoke about how we can share things fairly and equally. Everyone had fun sharing berries between the bears and spots on a ladybird. We had a brilliant day on Wednesday celebrating Science week. All the children took it in turns to visit Shells, Pebbles and Sunbeams where they took part in different scientific investigations such as skittle run, nature hunt and water travel. Well done for a fab week Reception!

#### Year 2

#### From Mrs Swindells & Mrs O'Keeffe

It has been another great week in Year 2! We absolutely loved science day and completing a range of experiments and activities with the teachers in the school! We also enjoyed taking a long walk through town, before re-writing the story 'The Water Princess'. We are so proud of our amazing writing! In Maths we enjoyed measuring the weight of objects using balance scales before reading scales in both grams and kilograms. Next week we will be finishing our Geography learning about the 7 Continents and focussing on North America, South America and Asia. We will be learning about the climate, animals, culture and location and comparing them to each other. In Maths we will be learning all about 3D objects and their properties! In the lead up to Easter, we will be completing lots of Easter craft activities and might even go on a hunt around school! On Monday we have our Easter Service in Church at 2pm. We look forward to seeing you all there! On Tuesday we would love to invite you into our classrooms to share our learning books with you so we can show you all of the exciting things we have done this year, so far!