

# SUNBEAMS NURSERY

# ST ALPHEGE CE INFANT SCHOOL

St Alphege  
Values



Koinonia

Loved, Inspired, Shining

## Newsletter

Term 5 Week 1 | 19.04.2024

### CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

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**Head of School:** Jacqui Spinks  
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If online payment details are required, please contact the school office.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### April 2024

Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> - **Puffins Visit to Duncan Downs**  
Weds 24<sup>th</sup> - **Sunbeams Parent Stay and Play Session**  
8.30am-9.30am  
Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> - **KIC Theatre Workshops with Year 2**  
Fri 26<sup>th</sup> - **Seagulls Visit to Duncan Downs**  
Fri 26<sup>th</sup> - **Year 1 Swimming Lessons Start**

#### May 2024

Weds 1<sup>st</sup> - **Morris Men Visit**  
Mon 6<sup>th</sup> - **Bank Holiday**  
Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> - **Class Photos**  
Fri 24<sup>th</sup> - **End of Term**

#### June 2024

Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> - **Start of Term 6**  
Weds 6<sup>th</sup> - **PAC Performance - Playhouse - 6pm**  
Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> - **Sunbeams Parent Stay and Play Session**  
2.15pm-3.15pm

#### July 2024

Weds 17<sup>th</sup> - **Sunbeams end of year Performance**  
(School Hall) 9.30am

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

### KEY EVENTS

#### STEAM Week

At the end of last term, we celebrated STEAM Week. In case you have not managed to see the video of our raft creations, we wanted to share the link with you so that you can watch it!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=prHy9gH8yXE>

#### Sunbeams Stay and Play Sessions

We would like to invite our early years families to join us at one of the following sessions:

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April                      8:30am - 9:30am  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June                            2:15pm - 3:15pm

### Year 1 Swimming Lessons

Year 1 swimming lessons will be starting on Friday 26<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 are requesting a contribution of £35.00 for all 10 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. Please email the office to advise us that you have made a bank transfer so we can reconcile the payment on the bank statement. If for any reason you are unable to pay or require support with this payment, please contact the office where we will be very happy to help or advise you on your options.

The children will swim on Friday

**April 26<sup>th</sup> and May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> in term 5 and  
June 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and July 5<sup>th</sup> term 6.**

There is no swimming on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May as this is the half term holiday.

### Year 2 Visits to Duncan Downs

Year 2 will be visiting Duncan Downs next week for their Science lesson. We will be joined by our Forest School Leader, Mr Thomas-Friend to observe the wide range of micro habitats and learn more about the variety of trees and plants in the area.

**Puffins class** will be visiting Duncan Downs on **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April**

**Seagulls class** will be visiting Duncan Downs on **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April**

Both classes will be walking to and from Duncan Downs. Although we are all hoping for lovely sunshine, please make sure your child comes to school with a coat and appropriate shoes or wellies, if necessary, for the day of their trip.

## Community



### Whitstable Library – Free Event

Whitstable Library is running a free Elmer Day craft event on Saturday 25 May between 10.30am and 11.15am.

## King Alphege Attendance Lion

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

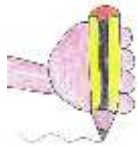


King Alphege Attendance Lion  
W/E 29.03.24  
Pearls Class – 97.4%

## Weekly Awards

### Whole School Awards

Our awards this year represent our School Development priorities: WAVES. During our Celebration Worship on a Thursday, each class will nominate one child to celebrate their achievements.



**Wonderful Writing**  
Albert – Oysters Class



**Amazing Relationships**  
Heidi – Puffins Class



**Valiant Vocabulary**  
Indi – Shells Class



**Excellent Reading**  
Charlotte – Seagulls Class



**Simcha (Shared Joy)**  
William – Pebbles Class



**St Alphege Values**  
Ayrtton – Pearls Class

## Weekly Year Group Recap

### Sunbeams

From Mrs Humphreys

This week in Sunbeams we have welcomed several new children into our setting. We are enjoying getting to know our new Sunbeams as we support them to settle in. We have been remembering some of the fun things we got up to over the Easter holidays and have drawn pictures to represent some of the activities we've talked about. We've been doing lots of activities to support our fine motor skill development and pen control as well as encouraging our Sunbeams to have a go at writing their name – some of our Sunbeams are writing their names really clearly! Ten tiny but very hungry caterpillars arrived on Monday and we have been observing them closely each day so that we can notice any changes that take place. On Monday we noticed that they were about the size of a grain of rice. By Friday, some of them were the length of a broad bean! Next week we will be learning more about the life cycle of the caterpillar as we continue to observe any changes.

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## Year R

### **From Mrs Keeble and Mr Mead**

Reception have had a great first week back at school! It was lovely to hear all about how many Easter eggs we all had and everyone's holiday fun! We got straight back into the swing of things by exploring our new theme for this term – Minibeasts! In English we kickstarted the new theme by reading our new focus text 'Mad about Minibeasts!'. We visited the nest and Cornwallis Park to search for minibeasts, went pond dipping at Whitstable Junior School and visited the beach to collect resources for our transient art minibeasts! In maths this week we have been exploring our first teen numbers – 11-15. We did some very tricky thinking and activities to better understand place value and what each number means. In PE we started our new topic Athletics! We started by looking at sprinting and even watched how quick Usain Bolt can run. Well done everyone for starting Term 5 so well, have a lovely weekend!

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## Year 1

### **From Miss Hughes & Mrs O'Malley**

Welcome back everyone! We have had a fabulous first week, starting our new topic 'Can you show me the way to go?' Our focus text for this term is Dogger, by Shirley Hughes. Dogger is a classic children's text, and tells the story of a little boy, Dave, and his favourite cuddly toy, an old brown dog. Dave loves Dogger, but one day Dogger goes missing! With help from his family, and a very kind big sister, Dogger is found again! This week, the children brought in their own favourite cuddlies, told stories about them, acted out searching for them and drew pictures and wrote captions. Next week, we will work on adjectives to describe.

In Maths, we introduced counting in equal groups, and next week we will introduce arrays and using arrays to find doubles. In RE this term, we are learning about Judaism. What do Jewish people believe, where do they worship, what objects are special to them? At the end of term, we hope to arrange a visit to Chatham Memorial Synagogue to have an educational talk. Our new focus artist this term is Chila Birnam CBE, a British-Asian artist who makes art in many forms. We will focus on the skills of composition and texture, and make layered collages. In Science, we are learning about humans and the senses, starting our learning off with a senses hunt in the playground. What could we see/hear/smell/touch?

The big piece of news is to remind you that Y1 start their block of swimming lessons next week, Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April, for 10 Fridays. Please ensure your child is wearing their swimming kit underneath their school uniform, and has a change of underwear and a towel in an appropriate bag. We will walk to and from the pool, and the children will have a snack of a biscuit after swimming, which we will provide. Have a brilliant weekend!

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## Year 2

### **From Mrs O'Keeffe and Mrs Cook**

We have had a 'SOCK-TASTIC' start to our brand new term in Year 2! We have loved welcoming our children back after the Easter Break and enjoyed a week full of fresh learning across all our curriculum. Children have loved reading our new English text 'Simon Sock' and for Imagination Week, they have made sock puppets, designed a new character for the story and even dazzled on the catwalk for Odd Sock Day. Next week, they will begin to write their first draft of a wanted poster for a missing sock. We have begun to explore our new big learning question 'Who has Helped Change the World?' and children thought about who is important to them and helped change their own world. Next week, we welcome Ian from KIC theatre to 'kick' start our big learning theme of social injustice and the civil rights movement, linked to our big question. The children have begun to learn how to dribble using a basketball in PE and will continue to develop their team work skills throughout the term. They loved discovering more about Faith Ringgold in our Textiles unit for Art and exploring mark making with a range of medium on different types of fabric. Next week, children will be visiting Duncan Downs for their science lesson (please see additional information and dates on the newsletter), beginning to learn how to sew in Art and learning about the Prophet Muhammed in our new RE unit 'Islam.'

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