

SUNBEAMS NURSERY

# ST ALPHEGE CE INFANT SCHOOL

St Alphege  
Values



Koinonia

Loved, Inspired, Shining

## Newsletter

Term 4 Week 4 | 15.03.2024

### CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

**Executive Head:** Liz Thomas-Friend  
**Head of School:** Jacqui Spinks  
**School Business Manager:** Manda Cullen  
**Chair of Governors:** Paula Trewin  
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**Mrs Spinks School Mobile:** 07535013075  
**Afterschool Club Mobile:** 07947555370  
**Text number:** 01227 250106

If online payment details are required, please contact the school office.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### March 2024

Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> – [Sharing the Learning](#)  
Mon 25<sup>th</sup> – [Year R Vision and Hearing Screening](#)  
Tues 26<sup>th</sup> – [Parents Evening \(3.30-5.30pm\)](#)  
Weds 27<sup>th</sup> – [Parents Evening \(3.30-7:00pm\)](#)  
Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> – [End of Term 4](#)

#### April 2024

Mon 15<sup>th</sup> – [Start of Term 5](#)

#### May 2024

May 6<sup>th</sup> – [Bank Holiday](#)  
May 24<sup>th</sup> – [End of Term](#)

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

### KEY EVENTS

#### Baby news!

We are delighted to announce that Mrs Swindells has had her baby! Baby Jacob was welcomed into the world on the 9th March, just in time for Mother's Day on the Sunday! We know that you will join with us in sending congratulations to Mrs Swindells and her family. Jacob is gorgeous and Mrs Swindells has promised to pop into school soon so that the children can meet him properly.



#### STEAM Week

WB:25.03.24 The final week of term will be our STEAM week! In this week, we will explore our Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths skills with a whole school challenge to complete in our classes. This will be an exciting week where we get to develop our learning in more practical ways. Keep an eye on our Facebook page where we will have lots of photos of our exciting challenge!



### Parents Evenings – Video Appointments

We will be holding our mid-year parent meetings at the end of this term. These will be between:

**3:30pm and 5:30pm on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March**

**3.30pm and 7:00pm Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March.**

All appointments will be accessed through our Parent Evening booking system which has the facility for video calls. A parent guide is attached to help you book your appointment.

You can book your appointment via the link below:

<https://stalphegeinfant.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

If you would prefer a telephone appointment, please speak to your child's teacher directly and they will arrange a suitable time to call on an alternative day.

### Sharing the Learning

Sharing the Learning will be on **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 2:45pm**. We hope that by offering this session alongside our parents' evenings, 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!

### JO AND THE CRAFTY CART - WORKSHOPS FOR KIDS AND FAMILIES

We are delighted to be supporting Jo from our arts partners Animate Arts Company, in a newly devised piece of work for families by promoting this offer to you.....

As part of her Arts Council 'Develop Your Own Practice' funding, she will be running a series of craft workshops in the Easter holidays. This is unlike any other crafting workshop that you have taken part in! Meet Jo and her Crafty Cart – a magical box full of crafting tools and materials...and wonderous creative happenings.

Monday 8 April, 11am or 2pm Gulbenkian Arts Centre, Canterbury

Wednesday 10 April, 11am or 2pm Revelation Ashford, Ashford

Friday 12 April, 11am or 2pm, @tThe Alexander Centre, Faversham

TICKETS: Pay-What-You-Can

BOOK: [www.animateartscompany.com/events](http://www.animateartscompany.com/events)



## Community



### Whitstable Library Craft Evens

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March – Easter Arts & Craft  
Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April – Recycled Materials Arts & Crafts

Free to attend



### H.A.F. at Betteshanger Park Forest School

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April

Each day will run from 1000 – 1400

The day will primarily be spent at the Forest School site, under leadership of experienced forest school leaders. There will be numerous outdoor crafts available for children to try if they choose, (such as paracord bracelet making/fire lighting/whittling and bug hunting) and equipment available if they prefer to play and explore their own way, such as swings, tire climbs, mud kitchen and of course numerous trees to explore. Lunch will be had at the main visitor center and will be provided by the in-house kitchen.

<https://www.betteshanger-park.co.uk/easter-holidays/>



### Household Support Fund Payment

<https://www.canterbury.gov.uk/benefits-and-support/apply-household-support-fund-payment>

## King Alphege Attendance Lion

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

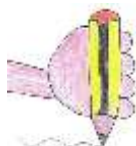


King Alphege Attendance Lion  
W/E 08.03.24  
Shells Class – 96.9 %

## 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**  
Rosie – Puffins Class



**Amazing Relationships**  
Vincent – Seagulls Class



**Valiant Vocabulary**  
Jim – Pearls Class



**Excellent Reading**  
William – Oysters Class



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



**St Alphege Values**  
Isla – Shells Class

## Weekly Year Group Recap

### Sunbeams

#### From Mrs Humphreys

This week in Sunbeams we enjoyed a visit from Mrs O'Malley who brought along some of the items used in our school worship. Sunbeams demonstrated great listening and attention skills as she talked to them about the various different items. We particularly liked learning about and looking after the lost sheep, before we returned it to the school hall for their afternoon worship. We have been doing a variety of different activities to support our fine motor development this week, using both our fingers for a pincer grip or tweezers to pick up and transport, or carefully place tiny objects. On Friday we talked about empathy as we watched a Bluey episode and reflected on the feelings of the characters in it. We then linked our empathy for others to Red Nose Day, where money is raised to help those who are less fortunate than many of us.



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## Year R

**From Mrs Arnott and Mr Mead**

This week Reception have been very busy. We had a wonderful time visiting Whitstable Castle and looking around the gardens for signs of spring. We saw lots of lovely new buds and shoots growing and enjoyed spotting the daffodils and snowdrops! We linked this learning to our RE this week where we thought about the importance of Easter for Christians and how this time of year can be remembered as New Life. All the children created their own beautiful and colourful flowers which we stuck on to a cross to represent new life. In English this week the children have been thinking about the different parts of a plan, they created their own still life drawings and then labelled the different parts. We also enjoyed planting our very own seeds and can't wait to watch them grow. In maths this week we have been exploring the concept of doubling. We used mirrors, made numicon butterflies and printed paint to help us solve some of our doubling challenges. We had a lovely day on Friday celebrating Comic Relief where we learnt about what the charity does and how we can all help.

Well done for a great week Reception!

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## Year 1

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

What a super week we have had in Year 1! We loved visiting Whitstable Museum and learning all about the smugglers and the Whitstable floods. Pearls had a wonderful time exploring the Whitstable Castle grounds and looking for plants and trees. Oysters are very excited to visit on Monday and go on the minibus with Mr Thomas-Friend! Originally, it was planned to visit Duncan Downs, but after a lot of rain we decided that the Castle grounds might be a bit safer and drier! We have loved exploring measure in Maths this week. We have been using the balance scales to compare weight and using vocabulary like 'heavier' and 'lighter'. Perhaps you could practise weighing things over the weekend at home! Oyster parents: School uniform on Monday please, but warm layers and comfortable/outside shoes for our trip. Thank you everyone for remembering our own clothes for Comic Relief, and for your kind charity donations. Myself and Mrs O'Malley are ready for another wonderful week in school, enjoy your weekends and we will see you all on Monday.

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## Year 2

**From Mrs O'Keeffe and Mrs Keeble**

We have had another busy week in Year 2 this week! In maths we have been using clocks to tell the time, learning about o'clock, half past, quarter to and quarter past, exploring this both practically and by recording in our maths books. In English we have finished our work on the book 'The Water Princess' with our production writing. We have been imagining that we are a Prince or Princess ourselves making that journey to collect water and recalling when we walked to Whitstable Beach at the start of term to inspire our writing. In Art we have been continuing to explore the idea of sculpture, this week making a mixed media sculpture of a tree in groups, thinking carefully about what media we can use to make them. Next week we will be visiting the beach to make transient sculptures there. We have continued learning about habitats in science, focusing this week on micro habitats. We visited The Nest to see what creatures we could find there to support our learning. Next week we will be moving onto learning about mass and capacity in maths and making cakes on Monday to support our instruction writing for the rest of the week. We hope you all have an enjoyable weekend!

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