

SUNBEAMS NURSERY

# ST ALPHEGE CE INFANT SCHOOL

St Alphege  
Values



Koinonia

Loved, Inspired, Shining

## Newsletter

Term 4 Week 1 | 23.02.2024

### CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

**Executive Head:** Liz Thomas-Friend  
**Head of School:** Jacqui Spinks  
**School Business Manager:** Manda Cullen  
**Chair of Governors:** Paula Trewin  
**Address:** St Alphege CE Infant School  
Oxford Street, Whitstable, CT5 1DA  
**Phone:** (01227) 272977  
**Website:** [www.st-alphege.kent.sch.uk](http://www.st-alphege.kent.sch.uk)  
**e-mail:** [headteacher@st-alphege.kent.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@st-alphege.kent.sch.uk)  
**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/stalphege](http://www.facebook.com/stalphege)  
**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

Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> – **World Book Day** (wear PJ's)  
Fri 15<sup>th</sup> – **Comic Relief Non-Uniform Day** (wear an item of red) for monetary donations  
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**  
Weds 27<sup>th</sup> – **Parents Evening**  
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**

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

### KEY EVENTS

#### Mrs Swindells

Today was Mrs Swindells last day in school as she begins her Maternity leave next week. I know that you will join with us in sending our love and very best wishes as she prepares to welcome in the newest member of her family. We will of course update you all again when the baby arrives!

#### Parents Evenings

We will be holding our mid-year parent meetings at the end of this term. These will be between **3:30pm and 7:30pm on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March**. Further details of these will be sent out in the next couple of weeks, including information about how to book your virtual appointment slot. 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 on **Friday 22<sup>nd</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!

### World Book Week

We are very excited to be celebrating World Book Day next term on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March. Our theme this year will be 'Bedtime Stories.' Children are welcome to come to school this day in their favourite pyjamas or snuggly clothes and bring their favourite story book too.



We have lots of wonderful reading activities planned throughout the day. Classes across the school will be visiting each other to share stories together, whilst school adults will be hosting their very own special story time in different reading areas all around the school.

This year we are also very excited to be running a Read for Good Readathon from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> to Monday 25<sup>th</sup> of March.

Further information has been emailed home.

### Red Nose Day - Friday 15th March

Red Nose Day is back on Friday 17th March and we will be having a non-uniform day in school. Please wear something red if you are able to. All monetary donations to support the Comic Relief charity will be gratefully received.



## Community

### KCC Childcare Survey

We have been asked by Kent County Council to share this with our families. We would be very grateful if you could spare the time to maximise the response of this survey.

<https://survey.kent.gov.uk/ChildcareSurvey>

The Education People's Early Years and Childcare Service is conducting a survey on behalf of Kent County Council, of parents/carers and expectant parents to determine interest in the childcare entitlements that are being introduced this year and their arrangements for wraparound care of any primary school aged children. The survey will also gather the views of parents/carers using or wanting to use more childcare in Kent. This combined information will help us assess where there are gaps in provision.





### Football First Class – Player Development Centre

Sessions run every Wednesday and Thursday during term time at the Gallagher Stadium, at the following times.

**16:30 to 17:40:** School years 2 to 5

**17:50 to 19:00:** School years 6 to 9

Both sessions will have specific coaching for goalkeepers and outfield players. The coaching team is made up of first team and academy players and coaches.

<https://maidstoneunited.co.uk/pdc/>



### Inclusive Sport- Kids Hockey

FREE Inclusive Hockey Session every Tuesday 5:00pm-5:45pm in partnership with Herne Bay Hockey Club, it is an inclusive Hockey session for children with SEND in a fun, friendly and safe environment

<https://inclusive-sport.classforkids.io/info/430>

## **King Alphege Attendance Lion**

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

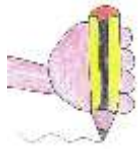


King Alphege Attendance Lion  
W/E 09.02.24  
**Shells Class – 97.7 %**

## 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**  
Lola – Pearls Class



**Amazing Relationships**  
Luke – Puffins Class



**Valiant Vocabulary**  
Maia – Oysters Class



**Excellent Reading**  
Dalia – Pebbles Class



**Simcha (Shared Joy)**  
Arthur – Shells Class



**St Alphege Values**  
Karl – Seagulls Class

## Weekly Year Group Recap

### Sunbeams

From Mrs Humphreys

This week Sunbeams visited Whitstable library on both Monday and Friday. This term we will be thinking about Superheroes, not just our Marvel favourites, but those in children's books and in our community. The librarians talked to the children about how they are 'superheroes' of our community through all the services they supply. We really enjoyed exploring the books and curling up in the various cosy spaces in the library to enjoy them. We have been thinking about ourselves as 'superheroes' too. This week we have been making bird feeders from pine cones and we are going to hang them up outside the nursery above some of the planters. We would like to gather some nesting materials for the birds too, so if you have any pet hair (after grooming), string or hay your child can bring in, I'm sure the birds will appreciate it!

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## Year R

### **From Mrs Arnott and Mr Mead**

We have had a great first week back of Term 4. The children have got stuck straight into their new English text for this term and our theme of learning – Nature. Our story is 'The Last Tree in the City', the children have been exploring what our local nature and environment looks like. On Monday we walked through Whitstable looking for different signs of nature and on Tuesday we walked over to Cornwallis Park where we collected lots of natural objects to create our own colourful nature chart. The children have also visited the nest this week and collected natural resources to make their own paintbrushes, we then tested them out and painted a picture using them, it was lots of fun! On Thursday we explored what sort of animals and wildlife we might find in our local nature, we thought about what the animals need to survive and be happy. All the children then helped to make their own bird feeders to put in our nest area for the birds to enjoy! In maths this week Reception have been revisiting numbers 1-0. They have completed lots of activities in recognising, counting and ordering their numbers. The children this week have started their learning about Easter during our RE lessons, we had fun re-enacting Palm Sunday. Well done for a brilliant week Reception!

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## Year 1

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

Wow, what a busy first week back! We started our 'Imagination Week' in English with looking at the text Jasper's beanstalk and planting our own bean seeds to grow. We also visited the Nest and the beach to look at plants and flowers we could see growing. This also ties in nicely with our new Science topic: plants and trees. Next week is Empathy Week and each day we will be looking at a different story as part of our PSHE learning. Pearls will be visiting Moon Lane book shop over two afternoons for a story session. Please see the class board for details and timings. In Maths we are learning numbers to 50 including counting in tens and partitioning numbers into tens and ones. Our English will continue following the story of 'Jasper's Beanstalk' and writing our own sentences to match the pictures in the book.

Our new focus Artist is Yayoi Kusama, we will be experimenting with different textiles this term including weaving, sewing and printing. Have a wonderful weekend and enjoy searching for signs of Spring and different plants, flowers and trees if you are spending time outside

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## Year 2

### **From Mrs Swindells, Mrs O'Keeffe and Mrs Keeble**

Year 2 have had a wonderful, relaxed and fun first week back after half term! We enjoyed catching up with our friends and getting back into the routine of school. Seagulls class have been incredibly welcoming to Mrs Keeble this week who has been teaching and getting to know the children! They also enjoyed some cake on Friday to say goodbye to Mrs Swindells and are looking forward to seeing her and meeting her baby before the end of the year! We all started thinking about our learning question for this term which is 'Where on Earth am I?' and we learnt what a continent is and started to name them. Next week we will look in detail at Europe and think about the climate, culture and location in relation to the equator, poles and oceans. In English we read the story 'The Water Princess' and used the week to explore the text in great detail by completing a variety of engagement activities. We thought about where the story is set and how Africa compares to England. We looked closely at the lifestyle of the character and built our own mud huts, made our own water filters and created our own prince or princess and their kingdom. Next week we will travel through Whitstable to collect water and bring it back to school before writing short sentences about our journey while thinking about what we saw, heard, smelt and how we felt. In Maths we recapped our learning on equal and unequal parts of numbers and shape to help us with our learning next week which will be finding half, a quarter and a third of numbers. Next week is empathy week and every day we will be focussing on what empathy is and how we can show it while listening to stories about the lives of others. We hope you have a lovely weekend!

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