

SUNBEAMS NURSERY

# ST ALPHEGE CE INFANT SCHOOL

St Alphege  
Values



Koinonia

Loved, Inspired, Shining

## Newsletter

Term 1 Week 1 | 8.9.2023

### CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

**Executive Head:** Liz Thomas-Friend  
**Head of School:** Jacqui Spinks  
**School Business Manager:** Manda Cullen  
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**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.

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

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### Sept 2023

Fri 15<sup>th</sup> – Animate Arts  
Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> – Animate Arts  
Mon 25<sup>th</sup> – You Be You Day

#### Oct 2023

Weds 18<sup>th</sup> - Parents Evening video appointment  
3.30pm-7.30pm  
Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> - Parents Evening video appointment  
3.30pm-7.00pm  
Fri 20<sup>th</sup> – End of term one  
Mon 30<sup>th</sup> - Staff development day – School closed  
Tues 31<sup>st</sup> – Term 2 starts

#### Nov 2023

Tues 21<sup>st</sup> – Individual School Photos

#### Dec 2023

Mon 11<sup>th</sup> - Flu vaccination (YR, 1 & 2)  
Fri 15<sup>th</sup> – End of term 2

### KEY EVENTS

#### Welcome Back!

It has been wonderful to welcome our St Alphege family back to school this week. The buzz of excitement in school has been such a joy to see. All of our children have settled brilliantly into their new classes and we are so proud of how well they have coped with the transition. Our new Reception children are now in school full-time and we have been amazed at how quickly they have settled into their new environments and how confident they have appeared in school. The school is a happy, vibrant place and it is a joy to hear the laughter, singing and chatter. The shared joy of being back together in our school family is uplifting for us all!

#### Breakfast Club and After School Club

If your child attends Breakfast Club or After School Club please can you return the registration forms and signed agreement forms which have been sent home. After School Club invoices for the term will be sent home next week and are due for payment within 2 weeks. Breakfast Club invoices continue to be sent home weekly and are due for immediate payment.

### Nut Free School

We have several children in school who suffer from nut allergies please could I remind everyone that our school and Nursery are "Nut Free Zones". Those children, if they come in contact with a nut product, can suffer life threatening consequences. A child with a nut allergy does not have to eat nuts themselves to react, it sometimes only needs to be a touch from someone who has eaten them. **I cannot stress how important it is for everyone to work with us to ensure the safety of all our children.**



This means that the following items cannot be bought into school or nursery;

- Packs of nuts/any nuts
- Peanut butter sandwiches
- Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts
- Chocolate bars or sweets that contain nuts
- Cakes made with nuts
- Nutella
- Chocolates
- Baklava
- Nougat
- Biscuits (Check all biscuit labels and if you are not sure please leave it out).

Many foods will contain the wording:

- *May contain traces of nuts*
- *We cannot guarantee that this product does not contain nuts*
- *Produced in a factory which handles nut ingredients*

We do not expect you to avoid all of these foods, just those which directly contain nuts or nut products. Please help us in providing a nut free school, minimising the risk for children as much as possible and assisting those parents who have children who may have a life threatening reaction.

### Animate Arts WAVES Installation

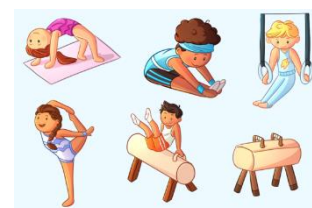
As many of you will already know, each year we create a new art installation in our entrance hall which is linked to the priorities on the School Development Plan. This year our acronym is WAVES. We will write to you all next week with further details of the school priorities. We are excited to announce that we will again be linking with our long-standing arts partners at Animate Arts Company to create this new display. Jo from Animate Arts will be working alongside each class to gather their ideas and plan the installation, she will then deliver arts workshops to all year groups on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September. Jo will return on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September to bring all of the children's creations together in our school entrance. We cannot wait to share this with you, so please keep an eye on the school Facebook page, where photographs will be posted over the coming weeks. We will also invite you all in to see it in person once it is complete!

### Achieve Sports Year 1 & 2

Achieve sport clubs will start week commencing Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September and run for 5 weeks until the end of this term on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October. Achieve sport will be open to Reception in term 2. Letters will come home today in bookbags.

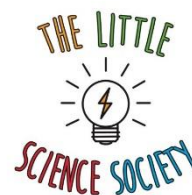
Monday	Year 1 & 2
Wednesday	Year 1 & 2
Thursday	Year 1 & 2

Multi Sports
Gymnastics
Dance



### Science Club

The Little Science Society will be offering Science afterschool clubs starting Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September. Clubs will run from 3:15-4:00 on Mondays for Year 1 and 2 until 16<sup>th</sup> October. There is a charge of £6.50 per session which must be paid in advance. Due to the nature of school term, please refer to the number of sessions listed within the booking schedule. Please follow the link:



<https://bookwhen.com/thelittlescienceclub> to book your child's place.

There is a short questionnaire to be completed as we will use different materials and substances, therefore allergy information is important. Science After-school Club at The St Alphege Infant School is for the school pupils ONLY and booking is password protected. Your password for Term 1 is: AUTUMN1STA (all capital letters). We operate on small group basis; therefore, spaces will be allocated on first come, first serve basis. If your child has not been successful in securing a space please email: [info@thelittlescienceclub](mailto:info@thelittlescienceclub)

### Year 1 & 2 Choir

Year 1 and 2 choir will run every Tuesday from 8:20am - 8.40am in the Community Room, starting Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September. Children will need to be dropped off at the Community Room patio area where Mrs Memmott will meet them. Time will be limited, please make sure that the children arrive promptly at 8:20am.



### You Be You Day - Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September

On Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September, we will be celebrating our uniqueness by using the beautiful text: You Be You. The book follows a little fish, Adri, who sets out to explore the ocean, with no idea how colourful the world is. He quickly discovers that there are all kinds of fish in the deep blue sea—big and tiny, smooth and spiny, colourful and plain, different and the same. We will be using this book to explore and convey the message of beauty and difference and celebrating all of the wonderful and unique characters that make up our fabulous school. All members of our school family, including parents, will be invited to create their own unique sea creature which will be added to a whole school display in our school hall. Further information about this will be sent in the coming weeks.

### Good Luck to Mr Marriott!

Mr Marriott is running The Great North Run on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September to raise money for Breast Cancer Research. We wish him lots of luck as he takes part in this incredible challenge. If anyone would like to sponsor him in his fundraising efforts, you can do so on the link below:

<https://greatnorthrun2023.enthuse.com/pf/david-marriott>

## Weekly Year Group Recap

### Sunbeams

**From Mrs Keeble & Mrs Humphreys**

This week in Sunbeams we have enjoyed welcoming both returning and new members of our Sunbeams community. We have been so impressed with how quickly they are settling in and we are really enjoying reconnecting or getting to know them. We have also been getting to grips with our routines and expectations which our newest Sunbeams are quickly adapting to and embracing! Due to the continuously warm weather, we would ask that you please remember to apply sun cream each day before they start their session. We also want to reiterate that the children do a lot of climbing, pedalling and running around while in Sunbeams, so please give your child trainers to wear while at Sunbeams (preferably Velcro for practicality) and do not send them in wearing crocs or sandals. Next week we will be sending out parent links to your child's online learning journal so watch out for that!

### Year R

**From Mrs Arnott & Mr Mead**

What can we say! Our newest members of St Alphege have been incredible this week! We have been so proud of how well all the children have started school for the very first time. It can be a scary and nerve-racking moment but they have all shown how resilient and brave they are! We have had a wonderful week getting to know each other and playing lots of games. The children have had lots of opportunities to explore and become comfortable in their new classrooms and outdoor environments. We had fun in the nest area searching for bugs and have enjoyed getting the bikes out and playing parachute games on the big playground. Lunchtime has been a big hit getting to choose our own lunches and carefully carrying our own trays around. All the children have shown a great level of independence. Most of all we have loved seeing all the big smiles on the children's faces and watching them become friends. We can't wait to see what this year holds as they all start their new adventure!

### Year 1

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

Welcome to parents, carers and families of Year 1 children! We have had a fantastic, happy week together and are settling well into our new environments. Our teachers are very proud of how well we have all adapted, and how we have made friends with some new children.

This term, in Geography, we are learning about our locality and the homes we live in. Next week on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September, we will be doing a short local walk to identify the features of our town. In Art, our focus artist this term will be Hundertwasser. Over the term, we will be developing our mark-making skills with different media (pencil, pastel, charcoal and thin pen). This week in Maths we refreshed our counting and grouping skills. In our English lessons, we will be reading non-fiction texts related to homes and streets, and writing statements about our findings following our walk. We will be starting our Phonics reading books next week in school. These e-books will be available at home from Monday. Year 1 PE is on Mondays and Wednesday. Looking forward to another busy and creative week.

### Year 2

**From Mrs Swindells & Mrs O'Keeffe**

What a FABULOUS first week we have all had in Year 2! The children have dazzled us with their eagerness and confidence in their new classrooms and we are so excited for the rest of our new learning adventures together. This week we have begun to think about our new learning question 'How has Whitstable changed?' We went for a walk around our local area to see the different types of buildings and shops before creating charcoal sketches using mark making skills to create our own classroom high street. On Wednesday next week, we will be visiting the Whitstable Museum to take part in mini workshops, learning more about the fascinating history of our local area. Did you know, Woolly Mammoths used to roam the beaches of Tankerton? We can't wait to find out more!

We have also started learning about alternative traditional tales and next week we will be writing a newspaper report inspired by 'The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs'

We are looking forward to starting our swimming lessons every Friday from next week. Please make sure swimming costumes and towels are packed in a bag your children are able to carry. Puffins class are still looking for volunteers to help us on our walk each week. Please talk to Mrs O'Keeffe if you would kindly like to help.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend. 😊