

SUNBEAMS NURSERY

ST ALPHEGE CE INFANT SCHOOL

St Alphege
Values



Love

Loved, Inspired, Shining

Newsletter

Term 3 Week 4 | 27.01.23

CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Feb 2023

Weds 1st – School Closure

Fri 10th – End of Term 3

Mon 20th - Start of Term 4

March 2023

Thurs 2nd - World Book Day

Tues 28th – Sharing the Learning Opportunity 2.45pm

Weds 29th – Parents Evening

Thurs 30th – Parents Evening

Fri 31st - End of Term 4

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

KEY EVENTS

School Closure Strike – Wednesday 1st February

Thank you to all of the parents who have expressed their messages of support. As a reminder the school will be closed on Wednesday 1st February.

Parents Evenings

We will be holding our mid-year parent meetings at the end of next term. These will be between **3:30pm and 7:30pm on Wednesday 29th and Thursday 30th March**. Further details of these will be sent out next term, including information about how to book your appointment slot. We have listened carefully to your feedback regarding parent's evenings and the vast majority have stated that a virtual meeting is their preferred method, as it enables appointments to be booked around other commitments. 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 28th 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!

Maths Parent Workshops

We have created some online workshops to explain the way we teach Maths in school and ways that you can support your child's learning at home. We hope that you find the videos useful, but if you have any questions

or want to find out any more about our Maths curriculum, please speak with our Maths Leader, Becky Strike who will be happy to help.

Each video is around 35 minutes long and can be watched at any time. You can access the videos via the links below:

Early Years (Reception): <https://youtu.be/QvroUVFS2QY>

Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2): <https://youtu.be/CLHHPZN1uKs>

[Worship this term](#)

We continue to work closely with Rev Rachel and the team at St. Alphege Church, to provide invitational, inclusive and engaging times for reflection and prayer. We have been reviewing our previous system for delivering worship to ensure it is as effective as it can be. In light of this, the pattern for our daily worship will change slightly this term. At the beginning and end of each term there will be whole school worship in Church, when families will be invited to join us. We hope that this will reduce the pressures on working parents with dates being given further in advance. The next date for our whole school church worship is **Monday 6th February 2.30pm** for all year groups. We want to maintain the children's regular contact with Reverend Rachel and her team, so every other Monday this term, the ministry team will be coming into school to lead worship with children and staff. This term we are reflecting on our school value of kindness and we will be hearing stories about Jesus that show Christians how to be kind.

[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 <https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare> to see how it works and if you are eligible.

Community



[The Umbrella Centre](#)

The Thrift Ball returns on Saturday 4 February at 7.30pm to 11pm at The Umbrella Centre on Whitstable High Street.

This fab fundraiser for St Alphege Church challenges you to dress up with charity shop frocks and suits! Dress as sparkly, wild and gorgeous as you can and celebrate supporting local charity shops AND your Church on the High Street.

[For Further Information](#)



[St Andrews Church](#) – Every Friday at 12:30pm there will be a well-being chat tea journal support group. This is in aid of mental health and well-being address social isolation and to link people together to support each other.



[Team Theme Kent - Half Term Sports & Holiday Camps](#)

Action-packed, high-energy, fun-fuelled multi sports camp for children aged 4-14 at the St Mary's school site. Boasting a wide range of expertly delivered physical activities, its aim is accessibility and inclusivity; allowing all children the opportunity for a happy, healthy holiday.

[book-a-camp](#)

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 20.1.23
Seagulls Class – 96.7%

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.



Great Reading

Phoenix – Seagulls Class



Risk Taking and Resilience

Archie L – Puffins Class



Outstanding Curriculum

Beau – Shells Class



Wonderful Writing

Finley – Pebbles Class



Thriving Community

Karl – Pearls Class



Happiness, Wellbeing and Wonder

Luke – Oysters Class

Weekly Year Group Recap

Sunbeams

From Mrs Keeble & Mrs Humphreys

This week in Sunbeams we have continued to develop our positional vocabulary through practical activities. We made an obstacle course outside and explored the different ways and directions we could travel it, using our positional vocabulary to explain our position. We have begun to explore forces and have learned that a push and a pull are forces we can use to move or stop something. We have discovered that we can use our breath to blow or suck to create a push or pull force that we can use to manipulate things. We participated in a dinosaur themed KIC Theatre session on Thursday. Ian was very impressed with our listening skills and at how much we knew and shared with him about what we know about dinosaurs! We used our bodies, faces and voices when pretending to be different dinosaurs. We explored rhyme and movement with Mrs Memmott on Tuesday.

Year 1

From Mrs Jones & Mrs O'Malley

Oysters and Pearls have had such a lovely rich week of learning. Our week started off with a fantastic visit from two of our parents, Mrs Minhas and Mr Wikholm. Our parents visited us to help us with our learning in our Geography and English, linked to our topic 'Is it hot or is it cold?'

Mariam's family have roots in Bangladesh, Pakistan and Bahrain, and Gabriel's family have roots in Finland. Both parents came well equipped with photographs, information and funny family stories, and really helped us to understand the similarities and differences in lives in different parts of the world. It was an amazing afternoon and we are so grateful to our brilliant families for their time.

We then enjoyed a session with KIC theatre, in which we explored this knowledge through drama and talk, and also fun!

The creativity continues as we carry on our art work inspired by Kandinsky.

Next week, we start a new text, 'Somebody Swallowed Stanley', which addresses the problem of plastic pollution in our seas in a very gentle and humorous way. Watch this space to see what we have learned....

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Year R

From Mrs Arnott & Mr Mead

We have had a great week in Reception. In English we have been exploring the world of hot air balloons. We watched video clips of festivals from around the world and spoke about how colourful and amazing the skies look with all the balloons flying around. The children came up with some lovely descriptive words to describe the hot air balloons they saw. We spoke about what adjectives are and then created our own bank to help with our writing. The children designed their own colourful balloons thinking carefully about patterns, shape and size. They then wrote some beautiful descriptive sentences describing their balloons, we were so impressed! Everyone is trying hard with their cursive writing. In phonics we have now finished all our phase 3 sounds and enjoyed learning new trigraphs ear and air. Following our English focus on hot air balloons we have also had fun exploring other types of air transport. We had great fun making our own paper aeroplanes on Friday and seeing who could fly their own the furthest. In maths we have been focussing on numbers 6, 7 and 8 and how these numbers are made. The children did a great job showing different ways of making the numbers and wrote some lovely number sentences. Well done everyone!

Year 2

From Mrs Swindells & Mrs O'Keeffe

Year 2 have had another wonderful week of learning. We started our week by baking a chocolate depression cake and learning how to ration it equally as a whole class. We then thought about how we would feel not being able to have the delicious treats and quantities of food that we are used to and wrote about this in our secret war diaries. We have been focusing on creating and describing arrays in maths which has helped us solve multiplications involving the 2's, 5's and 10's times tables. We have loved learning how to create relief prints in art and have been thinking about the importance of, and different reasons for Christian prayer.

Next week, we will be investigating the properties of materials by completing a 'hole in my bucket' experiment. We will be exploring which material is best to fix a leaky bucket and measuring the amount of water that escapes. We will be thinking about how to combine the gymnastic skills we have learnt this term to create individual routines travelling across a range of apparatus. For our History and English focus, we will be learning all about life as an evacuee, creating our own luggage labels and plotting journeys to safety across Britain.