

SUNBEAMS NURSERY

ST ALPHEGE CE INFANT SCHOOL

St Alphege
Values



Love

Loved, Inspired, Shining

Newsletter

Term 4 Week 3 | 10.03.23

CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

March 2023

Fri 17th – Comic Relief
Tues 28th – Sharing the Learning Opportunity 2.45pm
Weds 29th – Parents Evening
Thurs 30th – Parents Evening
Fri 31st – End of Term 4

April 2023

Mon 17th – Start of Term 5
Mon 17th – Year R Hearing Screening
Fri 28th – Year 1 swimming lessons start

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

KEY EVENTS

Ofsted Report

Hopefully you have had an opportunity to read the final report from our recent Ofsted Inspection on 2nd and 3rd February 2023. We hope that you are just as proud of the report as we are.

At a time when we are challenged with funding cuts, reduction in external services and increasing cost of living, it is so important that Ofsted recognised the wonderful place and community of St Alphege where children are happy and thrive. It is a shared responsibility ensuring the happiness and progress of our children and we are so very grateful that as parents you trust and support the work of the school.

We are very good at celebrating who we are at St Alphege and will plan opportunities for us all to share and celebrate this wonderful achievement together.

Visiting Teachers Tour with Mrs Thomas-Friend

Yesterday I had the pleasure of showing 4 teachers from another infant school our beautiful school. I wanted to share their feedback with you. They were so impressed with the behaviour and how calm the children were in all areas of the school. They loved the "Captains arms" (if you are not sure what this is, just ask your child!) We visited lessons, Child Initiated learning and Worship. At all times our children were engaged and polite. They were also very keen to talk about their learning and were very proud of what they know and who they are. There is no better feeling than seeing your school demonstrate everything that we know to be right for our young children. Laughter, singing, energy and joy! We can learn a great deal from our children!



Strike Action -Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March

Next week Sunbeams Nursery and Year 1 will be closed to children on Wednesday and Thursday due to strike action. We will be open to children in Reception classes and Year 2. Breakfast club and after school club will remain open to Year R and 2 children who usually attend on these days. Please let the office know if you will require wrap around care.

Chicken Pox

We wanted to inform you that we continue to have cases of chicken pox in school. As chicken pox is highly contagious, children must stay at home for at least five days from the start of the infection and until all of the spots have dried and scabbed over. The following symptoms might appear before the onset on spots; a high temperature, aches and pains, and generally feeling unwell, loss of appetite. If you are at all concerned, please contact your child's GP for advice.



Parents Evenings – Video Appointments

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**.

All appointments will be accessed through our Parent Evening booking system which has the facility for video calls. <https://stalphegeinfant.schoolcloud.co.uk/> A parent guide is attached to help you book your appointment. 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.

Please use the guides below which explain how to access the video appointment.

<https://support.parenteveningsystem.co.uk/category/823-video-parents-evenings>

<https://support.parenteveningsystem.co.uk/article/862-video-appointments-parents-how-to-invite-another-parent-guardian-to-join-your-appointments>

A yellow sticky note with the text "Don't forget parents evening!" written in black marker.

Worship this term

Monday 27th March at St Alphege Church joint school worship to explore Holy Week with the Endowed school, earlier time of 2.15pm.



Year 1 & 2 Choir

Year 1 and 2 choir will run every Tuesday from 8:20am - 8.40am in the Community Room. 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.

Red Nose Day - Friday 17th 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 donations to support the Comic Relief charity will be gratefully received. This year we have set up a Just giving page where donations will go directly to Comic Relief.



[Comic Relief Red Nose Day JustGiving Page](#)

Community



Mid Kent Mind would like to tell you about two upcoming dates for Everyday Mental Health Training - a free, one-hour course which provides an opportunity for people to learn more about mental health, how they can practice self-care, and also how they can support others who may be struggling.

This is a great course for families and parents/carers who may benefit from learning more about how they can have conversations about mental health. It's also a great opportunity to give them advice around how they can cope with their mental health – something which is important given the challenges many of us face currently as a result of the cost-of-living crisis.

Our next dates are on the 14th of March and the 20th of March – linked below.

<https://www.maidstonemind.org/everyday-mental-health-training-14th-march/>

<https://www.maidstonemind.org/everyday-mental-health-training-20th-march/>

Stagecoach Easter Extravaganza

Are you looking for Holiday Workshops?

Join Stagecoach for an exciting, fun filled, 3 day Easter Holiday Workshop for children aged 4-18yrs
Singing, dancing, acting and lots of fun! Ending with a showcase for family and friends!

The workshops are creative and inspiring! No experience is necessary, just the enthusiasm to join in!
book your place now!

<https://www.stagecoach.co.uk/whitstable>

Inclusive Sport – Whitstable Junior School

Direct booking link is below and remember Inclusive Sport offer a free trial for any new sessions that your child attends.

<https://inclusive-sport.class4kids.co.uk/info/261>

If you haven't already done so, booking is open for Term 4 sessions. You can follow the link below and select sessions you would like to book:

[Book Online - Inclusive Sport](#)

You can also view all children's sessions available on the website where there is more information about the sessions and flyers, link below:

[Children - Inclusive Sport](#)



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 3.3.23
Oysters Class – 92.1%

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

Maia R – Pearls Class



Risk Taking and Resilience

Bella – Seagulls Class



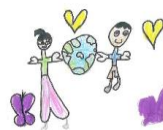
Outstanding Curriculum

Louis – Pebbles Class



Wonderful Writing

Laurie – Shells Class



Thriving Community

Indigo – Oysters Class



Happiness, Wellbeing and
Wonder

Rowan – Puffins Class

Weekly Year Group Recap

Sunbeams

From Mrs Keeble & Mrs Humphreys

This week in Sunbeams we have been learning that empathy enables us to imagine how others might feel and what it might be like to experience some of the things they experience. We have watched short animations that have shown us that sometimes, simple acts of kindness when we notice others are having difficulty, or going through troubled times, can really help them to feel better and it makes us feel good too! We talked about how watching the clips made us feel and how the characters might be feeling. If you would like to watch one of the clips on kindness, please click on the link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mdA2sByFX1I> .

On Tuesday we had a visit from a dental practitioner who taught us about the importance of making healthy choices about what we eat and drink and looking after our oral hygiene. We learned the chant "spit don't rinse"!

Year 1

From Mrs Jones & Mrs O'Malley

Pearls and Oysters have had a busy and engaging week! Our text this week has been 'Jasper's Beanstalk', telling the story of a little cat who finds and plants a bean. Jasper does his best to care for the bean, but it isn't growing – what could have gone wrong?

To explore this story, and link it to our science learning, we planted our own bean and pea seeds carefully in soil, and have watered them, and now we just have to wait...! Watch this space!

In Maths, we have continued to explore our understanding of numbers within 50 and place value. The children are becoming confident at using Dienes to represent tens and ones and have been practising this, one group at a time, in their early morning work too. The children are using number lines to count and estimate. This week, in RE we have introduced the Easter story and will continue this until the end of term. We have also enjoyed Empathy Week, sharing a different story each day about someone with a very different life to ourselves. In Art, we have printed on to fabric using string blocks that we prepared and designed ourselves, and this week we will be using the wax resist technique on fabric, inspired by the artist Yayoi Kusama. Due to the sudden shift in the weather, we made the decision to defer our planned visit to Duncan Downs. This will now take place in week commencing 27th March. We will write to you separately with the details.

Year R

From Mrs Arnott & Mr Mead

This week we have had a lovely week exploring the children's favourite 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. The children explored what parts of nature the family went through and tried to think when they have experienced these parts of nature themselves. We had lots of fun going on our own bear hunt around the school grounds and then enjoyed acting out parts of the story. Within their English session we have been looking at time words such as 'first', 'next' and 'then' – all the children did an amazing job recalling the story in order using these new words. This week in maths we have been doing our number bonds to 10. We have been thinking carefully about how we can recall our number bonds in a systematic way. We used our hands to help us do this and other manipulatives such as pegs on a hanger, paper chains and numicon. We even made our own number bond cookies, placing chocolate buttons on each side to show a number bond to 10, they were so much fun to make and delicious to eat! This week has been Empathy week and we have been exploring what it means to be empathetic. The children watched a number of video clips and thought about how the video made them feel and thought about how the people in the video might have been feeling too. Well done for a great week Reception!

Year 2

From Mrs Swindells & Mrs O'Keeffe

We have had another fabulous week in Year 2. We have loved learning about the continents of Australia and Antarctica and comparing the climate, wildlife, human and physical features of them. We also absolutely loved learning all about Paris and writing a letter to our friend based on the story 'The day the crayons came home' telling them all about our trip to Paris.

Next week we will be studying Africa and we will compare it to the other continents we have already learnt about. In English we will be reading 'The Water Princess' and thinking all about the setting. We will be using adjectives, verbs, adverbs and similes to write a detailed setting description in the present tense. In Maths we will be learning about time and telling the time to half past and quarter past the hour, as well as drawing hands on a clock. In football we will be using our dribbling skills and build on our attacking and defending skills. We will be learning about food chains in Science and we will think about how and where animals get their food from.