

SUNBEAMS NURSERY

# ST ALPHEGE CE INFANT SCHOOL

St Alphege  
Values



Koinonia

Loved, Inspired, Shining

## Newsletter

Term 3 Week 1 | 05.01.2024

### 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  
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**Website:** [www.st-alphege.kent.sch.uk](http://www.st-alphege.kent.sch.uk)  
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**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/stalphege](https://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

#### Jan 2024

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> – Whole School Worship at Church 2.30pm  
(Parents Invited)  
Weds 17<sup>th</sup> – K.I.C. Theatre Company  
Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> – K.I.C. Theatre Company  
Fri 19<sup>th</sup> – Visit from the Police

#### Feb 2024

Mon 5<sup>th</sup> – Whole School Worship at Church 2.30pm  
(Parents Invited)  
Fri 9<sup>th</sup> – End of Term 3  
Mon 19<sup>th</sup> – Start of Term 4

#### March 2024

Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> – End of Term 4

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

### KEY EVENTS

#### Happy New Year!

It has been wonderful to welcome our children and families back to school after the Christmas break. We have loved hearing about all of the fun things they have experienced during your precious family time. We want to wish you all lots of joy for the coming year and are looking forward to another fun-packed term at school.

#### Sunbeams Parents - Reception school places for September 2024

#### Year 2 Parents - Junior school places for September 2024

Applications are made through Kent County Council at [www.kent.gov.uk/ola](http://www.kent.gov.uk/ola) and must be submitted by **MONDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2024**.

More information can be found at [www.kent.gov.uk](http://www.kent.gov.uk) If you have any questions or need support with the application process please speak to the school office.

## School Gateway App

We use the School Gateway app to offer communication in one place for parents. You can send and receive messages (notifications) and using the Useful Links tab you can easily access the school website, newsletters, term dates, parents evening booking system and our Facebook page.

If you have a child at another school that also uses the app, you can have all of your school communications in one place.

The app messaging also saves the school money as we are charged for each text we send, but app messages are free. It is easy to register using the email address you have provided to the school. For more details visit [www.schoolgateway.co.uk](http://www.schoolgateway.co.uk) Download the app from your app store. Please make sure that you are logged into the app and that you have notifications on.

Schoolgateway

## Achieve Sports – Year R, 1 & 2

Achieve sport clubs will start week commencing Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January and run for 5 weeks until Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February.

Monday Year R, 1 & 2  
Wednesday Year R, 1 & 2  
Thursday Year R, 1 & 2

Gymnastics  
Speed Stacking  
Dance



**French**  
at St Alphege

These award-winning classes allow children to learn French the happy way.

Our after-school club is open to children in Year 1 and 2

Wednesday 3.15 pm - 3.45 pm  
£6.50 per class

Songs  
Stories  
Games  
Rhymes

RESERVE A PLACE FOR YOUR CHILD NOW!

For further info contact:  
07889 495577  
lajolierondevicki@gmail.com  
www.lajolieronde.co.uk

## French Club for Year 1 & 2 at St Alphege with La Jolie Ronde

Please email La Jolie Ronde directly to book your child's place.

<https://www.lajolieronde.co.uk/>

## Community

### Harbour Church After School Club

If you're interested in a free warm space to come and spend time with your family after school, Whitstable Community Church would love to welcome you to their weekly After School Club, back up and running weekly from Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January. There are plenty of games, puzzles, books and craft to keep you and your kids entertained as well as free refreshments to fill that gap before dinner! Pop along for as little or as long as you like.



**Welcome to Whitstable Junior School**  
Learning today for life tomorrow

**NEW TOUR DATE: WEDS 10<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2024**  
**JOIN US AT 9AM**  
Call us on 01227 272385 to book a space

We are offering a new tour date for parents who missed our tour last term or who are still undecided on school choices. There will be an opportunity to speak to our Leadership Team and answer any questions you may have. If you are unable to come at this time, please call the school office to arrange another time.

**Applications for Primary School places close soon**  
**You must apply by Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

Adventures Challenges Resilience Independence Creativity Community

Find us at Whitstable Junior School, Oxford Street, Whitstable, CT5 1DB  
Telephone: 01227 272385 www.whitstable-junior.school.uk

## Whitstable Junior School - Additional Tour Date

**NEW TOUR DATE: WEDS 10TH JANUARY 2024 AT 9AM**  
Call them directly **01227 272385** to book a space

## King Alphege Attendance Lion

### King Alphege Attendance Lion

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



King Alphege Attendance Lion  
W/E 15.12.23  
**Puffins Class - 95.7 %**

## 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**  
Kelechi – Pearls Class



**Amazing Relationships**  
Lewy-Jack – Pebbles Class



**Valiant Vocabulary**  
Oscar – Puffins Class



**Excellent Reading**  
Sirak – Seagulls Class



**Simcha (Shared Joy)**  
Wilf- Oysters Class



**St Alphege Values**  
Evie – Shells Class

## Weekly Year Group Recap

### Sunbeams

From Mrs Humphreys & Mrs Keeble

We have enjoyed welcoming our Sunbeams back this week and hearing all about the exciting things they have been up to over the Christmas holidays. We have been recalling events and favourite presents and then mark making in response to this. We have been exploring a variety of objects and thinking about the vocabulary we can use to describe how they look and feel, before noticing some of the properties they share or are unique to them. We spent a lot of time on Thursday enjoying the dry weather (while it lasted) and spent a lot of time in our outside area engaged in water play. Some of us chose to use paint brushes with pots of water to mark make, some got stuck into digging the mud area while others set up guttering and investigated how much water it takes to push an object along the gutter. Please remember to pack plenty of spare clothes for your child as we are often getting wet and muddy!

### Year 1

From Miss Hughes & Mrs O'Malley

Happy New Year to all of our families - we were so excited to welcome the children back to school this week. Our new learning question this term is 'Is it hot or is it cold?', and we started off our new topic by finding out about the Arctic, the Antarctic and the animals that live there. Next week, we be reinforcing our knowledge by learning about the equator and the different landscapes in hot and cold places. In maths, we are introducing place value, starting off with the teen numbers. We will be using a range of equipment and models such as ten-frames, dienes, and tens and ones boards to support our learning. In art, our focus artist for the term will be Kandinsky. This week, we explored mixing secondary colours from primary colours, and next week we will learn how to apply tints and shades to our painting. In English, we have a number of beautiful texts to explore deeply this term starting off with 'Lost and Found'. We will be listening to soundscapes of the sea, exploring the beach using our senses, and using non-fiction film clips and books to help support our understanding of the story. We look forward to sharing our learning in our weekly newsletters and on our school Facebook page, but please do not hesitate to ask if you would like to know anymore.

### Year R

From Mrs Arnott and Mr Mead

Reception have had a lovely few days back at school. It has been wonderful to hear all of their lovely stories from their Christmas holidays. In English we have been thinking about what New Year Resolutions mean and the children have been coming up with their own New Year wishes. They all created their own beautiful Wishing wands. In phonics we have started phase 3 and have been looking at the digraphs and trigraphs this week – ai, ee, igh and oa. This week in maths Reception have been recalling adding facts 1-5 and learning about number bonds using part whole models. It has been very tricky but they have all worked really hard. We have started our new theme for the term, Transport, and had a great day on Friday riding all our own scooters and bikes from home. We can't wait to get stuck in to our new learning. Well done for coming back so well Reception!

### Year 2

From Mrs Swindells & Mrs O'Keeffe

Welcome back and Happy New Year! It has been wonderful to see the children again and find out all about their Christmas break. We started our week by thinking about hopes and wishes and understanding what a New Year's Resolution is and why some people make them. We thought about our hopes and wishes for this year and some of the things we would like to achieve. These were written on a shooting star that we created and are displayed in our classrooms! In Maths we completed lots of practical activities and games to recap our number and place value knowledge. Our new learning question for this Term is 'What happened before I was born?' and we will be focussing specifically on the significant event WW11. This week we were lucky enough to look through artefacts from the war and began to learn about how people kept safe throughout. Next week in History we will look closely at the military and compare similarities and differences between then and now. We will be learning all about materials in science this term and next week we will recap the different materials we learnt about in Year 1 and begin to think about their properties. In English we will be focussing on the book 'My Secret War Diary' and think about what a diary is and why people keep them. We will be thinking about how diaries are special to people and would love to discuss things that are special to us. **Please can you bring in an object that is special to you for Monday.** We will begin to imagine what it might have felt like during a raid and what it meant to ration food. In maths we will begin to learn about multiplication and division and will focus on making equal groups with objects and drawings.