

# SUNBEAMS NURSERY

# ST ALPHEGE CE INFANT SCHOOL

St Alphege  
Values



Koinonia

Loved, Inspired, Shining

## Newsletter

Term 2 Week 4 | 29.11.2024

### 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:** 01227 697035  
**Afterschool Club:** 01227 697037  
**Text number:** 01227 250106

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

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### *December 2024*

**Weds 4<sup>th</sup> – Reception Parent Christmas Craft 9.30am (School Hall)**  
**Fri 6<sup>th</sup> – Non-Uniform Day (Chocolate/Bottle) for the School Tombola.**  
**Mon 9<sup>th</sup> – Whole School Christmas Church Service (2.30pm)**  
**Tues 10<sup>th</sup> – Year R Nativity 9.30am (School Hall)**  
**Tues 10<sup>th</sup> – Sunbeams Stay and Play 2pm-3.15pm**  
**Weds 11<sup>th</sup> – Year R Nativity 9.30am (School Hall)**  
**Weds 11<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Lunch**  
**Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children**  
**Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Fair (School Hall) from 3.15pm**  
**Mon 16<sup>th</sup> – Year 2 Nativity 2.30pm (School Hall)**  
**Tues 17<sup>th</sup> – Year 2 Nativity 2.30pm (School Hall)**  
**Weds 18<sup>th</sup> – Year 1 Concert 9.30am (School Hall)**  
**Weds 18<sup>th</sup> – Year 1 Concert 2.30pm (School Hall)**  
**Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> – Sunbeams Nativity 9.30am (School Hall)**  
**Fri 20<sup>th</sup> – End of Term 2**

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

#### Raffle Tickets

Our Christmas raffle will be held at our annual Christmas fair on the 12<sup>th</sup> December. Raffle tickets have been sent home today with the children. All the money raised will contribute towards the refurbishment of the school playground. Prizes include £50 dining voucher for the Monument, £25 voucher for Bears Ice Cream, £30 voucher for Please Sir!, a Margot Selby cushion, bottle of Whitstable Harbour Gin, plus many more prizes from local businesses.



#### Christmas Cards

If your child would like to send individual cards to their classmates, friends in other classes or staff members then our school post box will be open from Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. **Please ensure the recipients full name and class is clearly written on the envelope** because a group of children, from a different class each day, will be sorting and delivering the cards.

We don't want to end up with cards we can't deliver to the correct children because the full name and class are missing from the envelope. The post box will close on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December. You can find the post box in the corridor between the two Reception classes at the bottom of the Year 2 stairs. Please note, we are unable to give out lists of children's names.



#### Reception Parent Christmas Craft – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December

Parents and carers of children in Pebbles and Shells classes are invited to join the children for a Christmas craft morning from 9.30am to 10.30am in the school hall on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December.

**Non-Uniform Day – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December**



Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December is a non-uniform day and in return we would like to ask for donations of **chocolate or bring a bottle** for the tombola at the Christmas Fair. This can range from a bar of chocolate to a bottle of wine. Any chocolate/ bottle item will be appreciated.

**Whole School Christmas Church Service - Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December**

All parents and carers are warmly invited to attend our church service on **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30pm** at St Alphege Church, where we will be thinking about Advent. We will return to school afterwards and you can collect your child from school at 3.15pm as usual.



**Community**



<https://www.rafmanston.co.uk/events/>

**The Family Food Bank**  
CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2024  
**SPARKLE & SHINE**

Christmas can be an expensive time for everybody but for those already on a tight budget, the added expenses of increased winter fuel bills, and the pressure to buy Christmas presents, can plunge many people into crisis, leading them to make difficult choices.

**How you can help...**  
From the 4<sup>th</sup> November until 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024 we are asking you to **'SPARKLE & SHINE'** to sing out loud and donate to our Christmas appeal!

The food listed is very important to us, as these products are key to making our food boxes.

*If you are planning to donate advent calendars please can these be delivered by the 22<sup>nd</sup> November so we can give these out for the 1<sup>st</sup> December.*

Once you have finished collecting, all the key information to make your donation can be found on our website: [www.familyfoodbank.org/uk/Christmas2024](http://www.familyfoodbank.org/uk/Christmas2024)

To find out your nearest distribution centre, you can also get in touch by calling 01733 500477 or emailing [familyfoodbank@children-families.org](mailto:familyfoodbank@children-families.org). To find out more please follow us on Facebook!

This year please take the decision to donate and together we can make this Christmas a little less miserable for all the right reasons!

Donate with **JustGiving** | Donate with **JustGiving**

Follow us on Facebook | Follow us on Facebook | Follow us on Facebook

## Reverse Advent calendar

Help us get ready to help people this Christmas!

Simply add one item each day to a Bag For Life during the month of November, and please consider sharing the list with your colleagues and friends

1 box of cereal*	2 long life milk*	3 tuna	4 tin of ham	5 dried pasta (500g)*	6 Christmas chocolates*
7 baked beans	8 tooth paste	9 tin of fruit	10 washing up liquid	11 biscuits	12 peanut butter
13 tin of carrots	14 crisps	15 coffee	16 shower gel	17 tin of peas	18 deodorant
19 pasta sauce	20 tin of soup	21 shampoo	22 tea bags	23 milk pie*	24 Christmas pudding*

We will have collection points in early December, so keep an eye on our social media. If you have collected a lot with your school/group/workplace and would like us to collect, call our Operations Manager on 01227 936450 (option 4) or email [warehouse@canterburyfoodbank.org](mailto:warehouse@canterburyfoodbank.org).

If you need support, please call 01227 936450, WhatsApp 01227 501944 or email [info@canterburyfoodbank.org](mailto:info@canterburyfoodbank.org)  
[canterburyfoodbank.org](http://canterburyfoodbank.org)



Canterbury Food Bank is a registered charity (1153791)

## 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 15.11.24  
**Pearls Class 96.7%**

## Weekly Awards

### Whole School Awards!

Our awards this year represent our School Development priorities: ORBITS. The children have been busy designing our new stickers to accompany each of the areas of our School Plan. It was a very difficult choice, as their drawings were all brilliant, but we have settled on the final six below. Each class nominate one child to celebrate their achievements each week.



**O**utstanding Writing

Henry - Shells Class



**R**etrieval of Learning

Maggie - Seagulls Class



**B**uilding Connections

Ophelia – Pearls Class



**I**nspirational Curriculum

Jacob– Puffins Class



**T**alents and Creativity

Violet – Pebbles Class



**S**imcha (Shared Joy)

Riley - Oysters Class

## Weekly Year Group Recap

**Sunbeams**  
**Mrs Humphreys**

This week in Sunbeams we have been role playing aspects of the Christmas Story as we get to know it better in preparation for our Christmas performance. Many of our Sunbeams are already singing the songs we want to sing to you really well and we have learned a few more this week. It would be lovely if you can help them practise at home too. We have been practising our scissor skills by cutting out pictures of toys from a catalogue that we would like Father Christmas to bring us at Christmas. We then stuck these images onto a letter and signed it. We will be popping out to the post box next week to post our letters to Father Christmas and we look forward to hearing if our Sunbeams receive replies from him! Please make sure your Sunbeam brings spare clothes in with them each day, as we are running out of our own spares. If your child has come home in any borrowed clothes, please return them so that we have emergency spares when needed.

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Year R  
Mrs Keeble and Mrs Jones

This week we have been so impressed with the way reception children have been remembering and enjoying our nativity songs. In *Drawing Club*, our story focus was the animation 'Willo the Wisp' and our vocabulary words were 'fearless', 'dawdle' 'teeny weeny' and 'loop the loop.' Can your children show you the actions and tell you the meanings? They were so excited to bring the story to life by writing and showing numbers in different ways. In maths we have been representing the numbers 4 and 5 and matching them to the corresponding numeral. In *Heartsmart* this week, the children thought about their favourite things, and learnt that when we feel sad or worried we can think of our favourite things to help us feel calm. We have re-organised our patio for the colder months, and created more space for the children to develop their gross motor skills, encouraging them to move and stay warm! This week, they have loved building assault courses, riding bikes, creating a range of structures with the large equipment and playing football.

- Monday this week is Circus Day! Please send your child into school wearing their PE kit – ideally tracksuit bottoms, t-shirt, jumper and plimsols/trainers.
- Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> Dec Christmas Craft Stay and Play, 9:30-10:30 in the hall. All families welcome.
- Please provide clothing for our nativity in a named bag by Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> Dec.

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Year 1  
Miss Hughes and Mr Mead

We have had a very excitable last week of November! Our Imagination week in English has included lots of exciting activities, such as; baking red cupcakes for Grandma's basket, acting out the story of Little Red Riding Hood in The Nest, learning about wolves, creating menu's for a shop and café and collaging food in baskets for the different characters in the book. In Maths we introduced subtraction and used number lines to count backwards. We wrote our number sentences beautifully in our books and our teachers were very impressed at how many of us are now forming our numbers correctly! In Science we acted as Scientists to complete an experiment: will it sink or will it float? We had great fun predicting which objects would sink/float and then seeing if we were right! In our R.E lesson we recapped the story of Christmas and created some beautiful paintings of the characters in the story. We will be learning about the 'pants rule' in our PSHE lesson next week, please find your teacher if you have any questions. We will be transforming our classrooms next week with decorations as we are all getting very excited for Christmas! Have a lovely weekend everyone, and happy December!

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Year 2  
Mrs O'Keeffe and Mrs Cook

Another week of fun and learning has flown by and we are another week closer to Christmas! This term truly is flying by. It was Imagination Week in English, and inspired by the beautifully illustrated text 'Here We Are' by Oliver Jeffers we had great fun creating earth collages, glittery painted earths, popsicle planets, and starry night skies with chalk. We also acted out the life cycle of a human and created our very own planet! In Creation Week next week, we will be writing simple instructions on how to look after our precious planet. In Maths we tackled the tricky topic of exchanging when we subtract 2 numbers and cross 10. Next week we have one final week on addition, adding 2-digit numbers to 2-digit numbers using the column method. In Geography we learnt about water pollution, and created lovely posters about how we can save our seas. In Science we are continuing to learn about Materials, and will be considering the best materials that we can use when designing a shoe. Next week in Art we will be learning about the inspirational artist Jackson Pollock, and will be creating artwork in his style. On Monday we have an exciting Circus Day workshop to look forward to! Please ensure your child's PE kit is in school. The children have been given their parts and the Year 2 Nativity rehearsals are well and truly under way! If your child has lines, please practise these as often as possible at home. Just a reminder that all costumes should be in school by Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December. Have a lovely weekend!

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