



AJA News – 17.11.23

A message from Mr Dunn

Hi everyone,

I hope that you have had a good week. It was good to see Mr Hughes and Mrs Hainsworth on Monday when they came down for an Academy visit. They enjoyed their time with us and asked especially that we pass on their thanks to the children and parents who they spoke to. Both the CLT (Children's Leadership Team) and the Parents Forum provided some excellent feedback which we will use to move the academy forward. The focus for discussion were reading, homework and the children spoke very positively around breaktimes.

The Academy will be shut on Friday 17th November for staff training and will reopen on Monday at the usual time.

Enjoy your long weekend,
Mr Dunn

A message from Mrs Bower

In the Parent Forum this week, homework and reading were the two main areas of discussion. Some parents have asked us to review our homework policy and to help us to do this we welcome all parents and carers into school on Wednesday 6th December at 2.30pm to meet Mr Dunn and Mr Scott so we can listen to your ideas. If you are unable to make the meeting, you can send me your ideas via Class Dojo and I will ensure they are included in the discussion.

During the Parent Forum, we also spoke about reading. I will be talking to teachers about reading ensuring that we have a consistent approach across all classes with reading rewards and the use of reading records. I will be creating a one-page reading document to share our vision around reading with parents. I understand the concern around Accelerated Reader potentially limiting book choice. I am in the process of purchasing non-fiction topic books for each classroom to help enthuse pupils with choosing to read factual books around the curriculum topics. These books will not be AR banded, and anyone can read them! Pupils are also welcome to read their own books from home alongside their library book.

Finally, we raised £168.00 yesterday for Children In Need. Thank you!

Important Dates

Tuesday 21st November

Flu vaccinations

Wednesday 6th December

Parent workshop on homework
Creating a new homework policy
together ready for Spring term
2.30pm

Thursday 14th December

Christmas Fair 3.30pm – 5.30pm

Thursday 14th December

Christmas dinner

Friday 15th December

Gymnastics club performance to
their parents 4.15pm

Monday 18th December

Year 3 Christmas Carols
After school performance to Year
3 parents
6.30pm – 7.15pm

Thursday 21st December

Whole school visit to local
church for carols

Friday 26th January

Y5 visit to the Space Centre

Attendance

This week's attendance

94.13%

Highest class attendance

Perfect Pandas 100%

What's been happening this week?

Year 3



Another super week from our Year 3s! This week, we started our writing topic linked to the book - 'Stone Age Boy'. This was the book we read to the children when we visited them when they were in Year 2! It is a lovely book, and we will learn so much about the Stone Age as well as get some excellent writing. We have been learning the 3- and 4-times tables in maths this week and we will move onto division next week before tackling fraction problems the week after. In our art lessons, we are studying the 'Lion Man'. We have a trip booked in! We are visiting Derby Museum on a teacher led visit on the 1st December. We are looking at the Bronze Age boat and the pottery found in our local area, and this will feed directly into our art lessons using clay and our history lesson learning about the Bronze Age. We hope you have a lovely long weekend, and we will see you all Monday.

Year 4



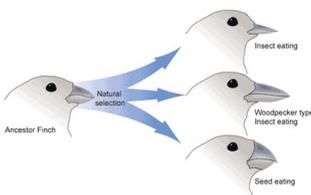
Year 4 have had a busy week this week. Maths has focused on multiplication facts, such as multiplying by 100 and multiplication fact families. In writing, we are describing the stormy night where Maurice was lost near the Beast's castle, and PSHE has focused on friendships and social issues. Science was a highlight, with the children building their own electrical circuits to make appliances work. Geography looked at map-reading and locating countries in Europe using grid references. Thank you to all who donated to our Children in Need fundraiser today, we appreciate your continued support for these events.

Year 5



Y5 have had a great week, as we start our new English topic - Romeo and Juliet. The children have enjoyed our introduction to the play and have been working hard on descriptive language. They have used high-quality fronted adverbials, expanded noun phrases and prepositions to use next week when writing their setting description. In maths, we have started working on fractions. We have revisited methods of working out equivalent fractions, to help us compare and order fractions with different denominators. Ask them to show you the activities on the purple Mash blog. Tricky, but they nailed it! We continued our work on Marvellous Maps by working on compass points, which has linked nicely to our orienteering activities in PE. If you go walking this weekend, put them in charge of the map! The letter about our trip to the Space Centre came out this week. Please can you complete the permission slip and return it to your child's class teacher. If you have lost the letter, just tell your child to ask for another one. You can pay in instalments, or in one go, on ParentPay. We are all very excited about this trip and can't wait to go! Have a lovely weekend.

Year 6



A short week, but a busy one! My highlight this week has been our science lesson, all about animal adaptations. I was particularly impressed by the children's general knowledge, despite that we managed to learn many interesting facts such as giraffes having glue-like saliva to prevent it damaging itself on thorns and a chameleon's tongue is faster than the acceleration of a spaceship! Some fantastic pieces of work produced too. In maths, we are continuing our fraction journey by adding, subtracting and multiplying fractions - very successfully. In English, we have begun to learn about subjunctive form, modal verbs and formal writing ready for our persuasive letter to the people of Britain encouraging them to 'Dig for Victory' which ties in well with our history learning on how jobs on the Home Front have led to changes in particular women choosing to work. It was great to have such glowing reports of our Year 6 children from Mr Hughes and Mrs Hainsworth on their recent visit. Helpful, polite and confident when sharing their views, excellent qualities to be developing for future successes. Wishing you all a relaxing, extended, weekend!