



October



A message from Mrs Bower

It was wonderful to see so many families at Parents' Evening this week. I received a range of positive comments about the academy, the staff and improvements that we have made to after school club which was lovely to hear. We raised a whopping £1462.48 in book sales with the Scholastic Book Fair. It was lovely to see children excited about books and purchasing books to read at home. The academy will receive a percentage of the total amount which means more new books in school too! Thank you for your support with the book fair.

A reminder that next week is the last week of this half term. Monday 4th November is an INSET day and the school is closed to pupils.

A letter went home this week regarding a change to the academy kitchen where we have changed provider and Aspens Services Ltd have been chosen to run our meals service from November 2024. I am pleased to say that the school dinners will now reduce to £2.59 a meal.

October is Black History Month where we teach children about Black History throughout the curriculum. This week, every class took part in an online assembly via Teams with BBC Radio 1 Xtra presenter Swarzy Macaly who spoke about her culture and family. It was an engaging session learning about people from all over the world.

A message from Mr Bull

This week we have focused on the character competency: **communication**. In assembly on Monday, Mr Scott introduced the word and in the context of mental health. This was followed up by an assembly on Wednesday by Mrs Ubhie which focused on the Zones of Regulation. Communication is a very important skill as being able to communicate with people is a life skill. Not only do children need to be able to learn how to communicate within an educational setting, but a big part of communication is also understanding our own emotions; how we are feeling and then communicating this in a respectful way. Zones of Regulation lessons are taught to all children in school and some children get extra support and have their own 'tool kit'. Each classroom has a Zones of Regulation station where children can go to if required. This links to our behaviour policy and ethos where we support children through kindness and expect kindness back.

Here are the links to videos that were shown to the children on Wednesday:

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

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=zone+of+reg+youtibe&&view=detail&mid=6FFBC229715F25F446D96FFBC229715F25F446D9&&FORM=VDRVRV>

Important Dates

Friday 25th October

Last day of term

Monday 4th November

INSET day

Academy closed to pupils

Tuesday 5th November

First day of term

Thursday 14th November

Diabetes Awareness Day

Harmony Pledge - Be A fundraiser

£1 wear blue

Friday 29th November

Year 5 visit to the Space Centre

Word of the Week

Communication

Attendance

This week's attendance

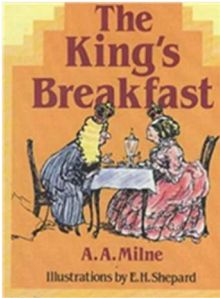
94.8%

Highest class attendance

98.9% Persistent Pythons

What's been happening this week?

Year 3



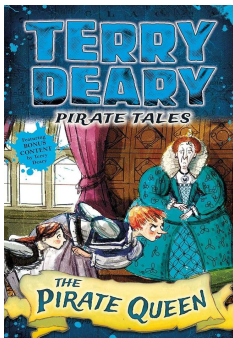
Our Word of the Week in school has been **communication** and we have certainly seen some great communication this week. It was lovely to communicate with you all at parents' evening, and give you feedback on how well your wonderful children are doing at AJA. The pupils have been communicating themselves in maths, talking about degrees of turns and angles whilst using our vocabulary and sentence stems. In English, communication has gone to a whole new level with great freeze-framing of scenes from AA Milne's funny poem 'The King's Breakfast', and our poetry theme has been continued in shared reading, where we have been studying Benjamin Zephaniah's 'Talking Turkeys!' So, all in all, another great week of learning in year 3. Well done everyone. Lastly, we are pleased to confirm that we will be going on our first trip of the year to Derby Museum the week beginning 2nd December. More details to follow shortly.

Year 4



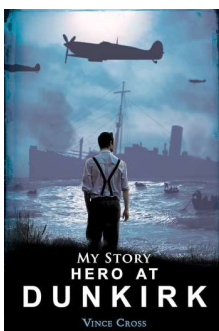
What an exhilarating week we've had! Our much-anticipated clarinets have finally arrived, and the excitement in the room was palpable. During our music lesson, we eagerly explored the various parts of our new instruments, eagerly awaiting the chance to begin playing in our next session. We know these clarinets will be a wonderful addition to our musical journey! Moreover, we have successfully completed our playscripts, which has been a delightful experience for everyone involved. The creativity and imagination displayed by the children has truly shone through. As we approach the end of our first half term, I am thrilled to share that our double-page spreads for history are taking shape beautifully. The children have put immense effort into their projects, and they already look fantastic! It's been a week filled with creativity and joy, and I cannot wait to see what's next!

Year 5



As we are coming to the end of the first half term in Y5, (just one more week to go!) it has been lovely to see how well the children have settled in and started showing growing maturity. The teachers have enjoyed sharing this, and other great news, with the parents and carers that we have met with at Parent's evening this week. The work has steadily been getting harder, especially the short division that we have been learning in maths this week! However, the children are showing great resilience and determination to understand this new learning. In English we have been writing our own alternative endings for the story of Grace O'Malley. The ideas have been fantastic, and the teachers are looking forward to reading them over the weekend! Some of the homework from the learning logs has already been handed in, and we are very excited to see what the children have done when the rest is handed in on Monday!

Year 6



As we finish the penultimate week of this half term, it has been wonderful to see how well the children have settled into life in Year 6. To celebrate all their hard work, we will be watching *Goodnight Mr. Tom* next Friday as an end-of-term treat! Please keep an eye out for the Dojo message with more details. In English, the children have been working on a narrative inspired by *Hero at Dunkirk*, which has sparked lots of drama opportunities and emotive discussions as we delve deeper into our World War II topic. We're also looking forward to seeing the homework from their learning logs next week. We've already heard wonderful things about what they've been creating and can't wait to see their work!