

Aldermaston CE Primary School Newsletter

Spring Term 1 2021 No. 1



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to Spring Term 2021. We were really pleased with the progress our children made with their learning last term. Whilst we are very sad not to be welcoming back children in person, we are looking forward to building on their learning achievements from the Autumn Terms.

Welcome Mr Gunn

Welcome to Mr Gunn who joins us as our new Deputy Headteacher and as one of our Robins Class teachers.



Remote Learning

Thank you for your support with helping children to access their learning through Google Classroom. Teachers are enjoying developing these remote class communities alongside our children. It is a learning process for everyone but we're delighted with the level of engagement so far.

What to expect.

Every day our teachers will have a live morning session with their class. They will take the register and go over expectations for the day. They may provide feedback on learning completed or go through particular learning points during this time. We have, as far as possible, tried to timetable these sessions so they don't clash for siblings. The times for these sessions will remain the same throughout the week.

These sessions are really important for the children to attend if at all possible. We know the children really missed seeing their teachers and classmates during the last period of school closure.

Class teachers will provide a suggested timetable but we also understand that each household will have their own timetable too! To help you have flexibility to organise your time to meet all your other commitments, class assignments can be completed in any order and at any time. On average, children in primary schools are expected to complete a minimum of three hours. This will be a little less for our younger children and perhaps a little more for our older children. Every day we will be providing Mathematics and English along with one other subject. We will continue to provide opportunities for collective worship and reading. Teachers will be available to chat online with children to support learning through the classroom platform for at least one hour in the morning and one hour in the afternoon.

Staying safe online

We have shared the children's code of conduct with you and have revisited expectations with our children. When our staff make a video call, there will always be another member of staff either in the room with them or attending online too. Staff will continue to follow their professional code of conduct while delivering remote learning. Google Classroom provides a closed and secure group for our children where they should feel comfortable sharing ideas and contributing to discussions. Materials or screenshots from the classroom should not be taken and used on social media or in any other context that is not related to their learning.

Remember, there are lots of sites with advice which can help support you in keeping children safe online. The links below are very helpful.

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

Mental health and wellbeing

We, like you, are very aware of how upsetting the school closures and other aspects of lockdown can be for our children. Teachers will be making an initial call to all families in our school next week to see how you are getting on with home learning and to check in about the welfare of your children.

Remember that our website contains lots of additional resources for support and I would particularly signpost the 'worries and anxiety' page under 'home learning'.

Places in school

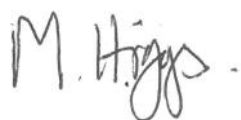
We were ready and prepared to open to all children on Tuesday this week. Whilst disappointed that the children cannot return to school, we understand and accept that schools have been closed due to the threat they pose as a source of transmission for COVID 19. As such, we are not in the same situation that we were in the summer. Our aim over the summer term was to ensure the return of the maximum number of children possible under the government guidelines and stringent requirements for social distancing. In this period of national lockdown, with the worrying increase in transmission linked to the new variant, we are following the approach that it is safer for your children to be at home if they can be cared for there. To protect children, staff and our wider community it is essential that any provision on the school site is kept to limited small consistent bubbles of children. We will keep this under review and will, of course, act in accordance with any new government guidance that may be issued.

Hall of fame

We are reinstating our home learning hall of fame to celebrate our home learning heroes and the wonderful things our children are achieving with their remote learning. Check out the hall of fame below. Amazing!

We really appreciate your support – thank you. If you are having difficulties or have any queries, please get in touch through enquiries@aldermaston.w-berks.sch.uk.

Stay safe.



Mrs M Higgs
Headteacher

Contact Us:-

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Text: 0118 324 0216

E-mail: enquiries@aldermaston.w-berks.sch.uk

Website: www.aldermaston.org.uk

Rector's Corner

Dear All

This week we celebrate Epiphany, when the wise men visited the infant Jesus and gave him precious gifts. In our Collective Worship I have talked about **Chalking our Doors** and this is something you can do at home. It is a way of asking for God's blessing on your home and for you to feel his love surrounding you as a family.

All you need is a piece of chalk and your front door and you mark it on the top or down the side (wherever your parents feel is best). The marks are:

20 + C + M + B + 21

The **20** and **21** indicates the year 2021. The **+** remind us of Jesus' love and the **C M** and **B** stand for the traditional names of the wise men: Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar, but also stand for the Latin *Christus Mansionem Benedicat*, which means *May Christ bless this home*.

Attached to this is an Epiphany star for you to colour and I invite you to colour it in and put it up in your front window for people to see and remind them of the star that guided the wise men to Jesus and for us to shine the light of his love to others.

May God bless you All

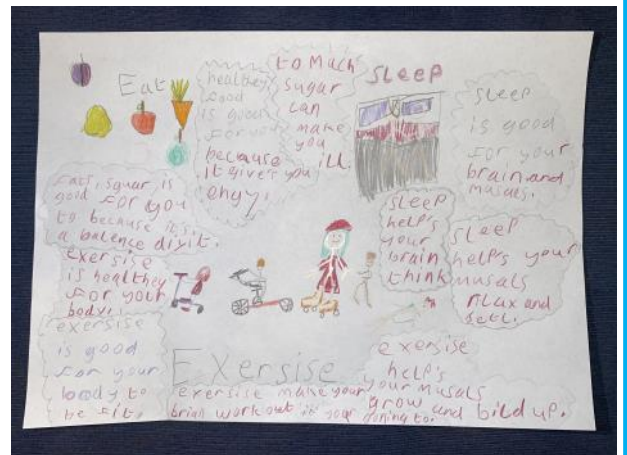
Rev Jane



Hall of Fame



James—Snowflake



Carley—PSHE Poster



Millie T—PSHE Poster

Charlie's Rhyme (FS)
counting back from 5.
He used his current
favourite teddy bears.

5 teddy bears in a shop
one day
Cuddly, fluffy and ready
to play
Along came Charlie with
a penny one day
He bought a teddy and
took it away

4 Teddy bears in a shop
one day
Cuddly.....
So on



Vlada—Collective Worship



Joshua—Collective Worship



Eliza—Collective Worship



Alfie—Little Red Riding Hood

Caison:

What could I do to show Team Worker values?

I could be helpful for Mum by feeding and looking after my pets.

WE HAVE SEEN HIS STAR
AND HAVE COME TO WORSHIP

