

Aldermaston CE Primary School Newsletter

Spring Term 1 2021 No. 2



Dear Parents and Carers

Remote learning

Thank you so much for the amazing levels of engagement we are experiencing with remote learning. The support you have given your children to help them access our live sessions and engage with the classwork is excellent. We understand the pressures of working and having children at home. You are doing a fantastic job. Remember, you can have a flexible approach to your child's learning. Whilst we ask that all children attend their morning live session, there is flexibility in the order they can complete tasks and when they are accessed. We also recognise that there might be days when not all tasks are completed. Family wellbeing must be your top priority – and that includes you as well as your children. It's important that any systems you have in place at home are sustainable for at least a few more weeks. We are really hoping that children can come back to school sooner rather than later but cannot see that this is likely in the immediate future. Today, the Secretary of State for Education, Gavin Williamson, committed to giving parents and schools two weeks' notice before any return to school.

On our home learning page, you can find the outline of the remote education provided by the school which includes our standard offer and expectations of engagement. We are reviewing remote education on a weekly basis with our teaching staff and keeping a close eye on engagement and possible adjustments we could make with our support.

Keeping in touch

Teachers have really enjoyed being able to catch up with you by telephone and find out how things are going. Thank you for the kind words and positive feedback about your children's experiences. We will continue to maintain regular contact to see how your children are getting on with their learning and to allow you to raise any concerns about wellbeing. Expect another telephone call before the end of term. Don't feel you have to wait for us to contact you.

Please get in touch if you would like to discuss any aspect of your child's remote learning. Please also let us know as soon as possible if any contact details change.

Statutory Assessments

We have had confirmation from the Standards and Testing Agency that the 2021 national curriculum assessments are cancelled. The assessments affected are:-

- KS1 teacher assessments
- KS2 tests and teacher assessments
- Phonics screening check
- EYFS profile

This means that we will not receive any test materials for these assessments this year and we will not be required to report results. We will continue to assess our children through their work and, for the year groups which would usually take statutory assessments, we will use past papers and other available test materials to assess children in the summer term. The results from these will inform our end of year teacher assessments. Teacher assessments will still be included as part of your child's written annual report in the usual way.

In school provision

Thank you for your understanding about the limitations we have in providing these places and helping us to ensure the school is not a significant source of Covid-19 transmission. The government advice remains that if a child can be cared for safely at home, then this is the best place for them.

I have been reflecting on what a fantastic community we have in Aldermaston. I am grateful to be part of such a caring, committed and hardworking staff team. Despite the circumstances and challenges faced, we feel privileged to work with the lovely children at our school and also feel well supported by our families, governors and local friends.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend

Mrs M Higgs
Headteacher



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Hall of Fame



Bella—Art



Here is James from Kingfishers doing his
Real PE at Home!

Stanley—Collective Worship



Holly R—Peace Symbol

On a cold, silent night, thick, freezing snow drifted down repeatedly onto the stone floor in London. In a small building on the side of the street, a heartless grumpy man named Scrooge sat at his wooden desk counting money. This selfish man had a long, pointy nose with gray, thin hair. In the shadowy room, a little person peacefully warmed his hands over a little, flaming candle, but he was still very cold. When the freezing man looked down, he could see a sooty coal box with a big, heavy padlock on it. A second later, he saw the keys for the lock lying on the desk, but Scrooge stared hardy at him with his beady dark eyes

Toby—English



Aniya—Spelling

Hall of Fame



Jayen—Peace Picture



Phoebe—Peace Painting



Katherine—RE Good Friday



Rosie-May—Art



Ella—Collective Worship



Ebenezer Scrooge

A grumpy, heartless misery with dull, brown eyes slowly counted his money.

Felicity—English

Spreading the love of God around our Benefice



One of the advantages of lockdowns is the creativity that has emerged as people take up or resume various craft activities and some beautiful work has been produced.

I would like all those who enjoy doing craft – knitting, sewing, crocheting, painting, origami (whatever) to make small hearts which can then be circulated safely around the benefice during Lent.

The idea is that you make a heart/s and then drop them off at the Rectory (or give me a ring and I can collect) and these will be redistributed into the churches. When people come into the churches to pray on a Wednesday or Sunday they can then pick up a heart and either keep it for themselves or safely pass it on to someone else.

It will be a way of uniting the churches and spreading some love to all who visit our beautiful buildings.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Rev'd Jane

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