

Aldermaston CE Primary School Newsletter

Spring Term 2 2021 No. 4



Dear Parents and Carers

We've had a great start to the term. We continue to be impressed with the high levels of engagement in remote learning and the children's positive attitudes to their learning. Thank you all for your support with this at home.

You should have received your child's curriculum overview for this term detailing the topics covered in each subject. Our termly Christian value for Spring Term (2) is wisdom. Children will be exploring the meaning of this word, reflecting on the teachings in some of Jesus' parables and thinking about who in their lives gives them wise advice.

Rather aptly, our learning hero this term is the Reflector Owl who is renowned for a wise approach to learning. The Owl's key skills are checking, correcting, improving, reflecting and responding. The Reflector Owl also champions the idea of democracy ensuring that everyone has a voice in how things are done.



Wider reopening arrangements – Monday 8th March

You'll find attached to this letter, our updated parent information sheet about the wider reopening next Monday. Please read this carefully and get in touch if you have any further questions.

A few key points:-

- All children are expected to return to school on Monday with very few exemptions. If you are not intending for your child to return, please do get in touch with us to discuss any concerns. Thank you.
- We are asking all adults dropping off and picking up children to wear masks on the school site.
- We understand the difficulties caused by children's feet growing over the lockdown period! Hopefully, we will all be able to get our children's feet measured and fitted with shoes before the Summer Term when full uniform expectations will be back in place. If you do have a shoe crisis, we ask that children wear safe and sensible dark coloured shoes or trainers instead for the remainder of this term.

We can't wait to see all the children back on site again and know how much they are looking forward to seeing their friends too.

Covid testing - did you know?

One of the difficulties with preventing the spread of Covid 19 has been the number of people who don't have any symptoms but are carrying the disease and could pass it on to others without realising the risk. School staff have been testing twice weekly since 25th January to guard against this type of transmission. It's another helpful measure we can take to ensure that our school community is as safe as possible.

The government has now extended the availability of Covid 19 testing. As a member of a household which includes school age children, you can also have regular Covid 19 tests.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

Although the school is not involved in supplying these tests, we understand that it's quick and easy to pick up the tests from local testing centres or to arrange for them to be delivered to your home.

Relationships and Sex Education Policy consultation

Our new draft Relationships and Sex Education Policy is now available on our website for consultation (go to governance to find the policies page on the website). Please do have a read and get in touch if you have any questions or comments about this policy. The consultation is open until the 25th March 2021.

Aldermaston School Book Week 2021

We are having a fantastic Book Week in school. The World Book Day costumes on display this morning were amazing! Hopefully, you are all enjoying the daily book quiz and the fantastic promotional videos that accompany them. Thank you for all of the extreme reading photos we have received so far. Many thanks to Mrs Ebrey for all of her work organising and adapting to a lockdown celebration of reading.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

M. Higgs

Mrs M Higgs
Headteacher



Contact Us:-

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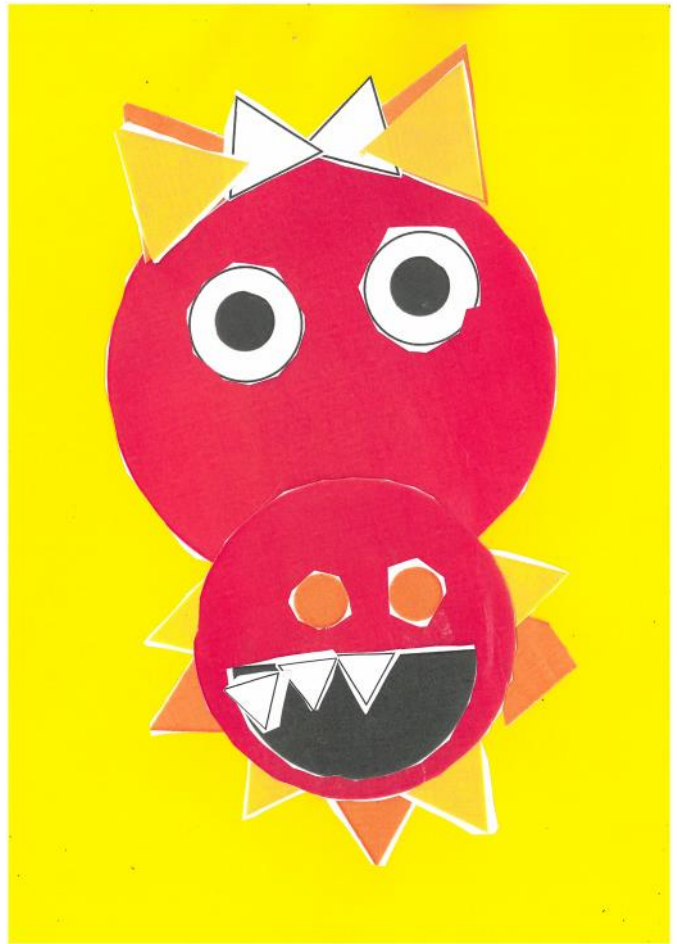
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Hall of Fame



Hall of Fame





Dear Parents, Carers & Friends

We are delighted to announce that the school will be holding a clothing collection with **Happy School Bag Fundraising Project** on **Wednesday 10th March 2021** (re-scheduled from January).

This scheme is designed to help schools raise much needed funds as well as helping the environment by keeping textiles away from landfills. By taking part in this scheme you help reduce the amount and give the clothing a new lease of life.

To take part you simply need to fill any collection bags/bin liners/plastic bags with unwanted but clean and reusable clothing.

We accept:

- ✓ Adult's and children's clothing
- ✓ Paired shoes
- ✓ Fashion accessories
- ✓ Handbags, Belts, Hats
- ✓ Jewellery, Perfumes

We don't accept:

- ✗ Uniforms, Underclothing
- ✗ Toys, Books, DVD's
- ✗ Duvets, Pillows, Household linen
- ✗ Carpets, Blankets, Curtains
- ✗ Bric-a-Brack
- ✗ Dirty, Damaged, Wet Clothing

Remember the more you fill up the bag the more the school can raise. The Happy School Bag van will be collecting from our school on **the morning of Wednesday 10th March (after morning drop off)**.

Please bring all your bags to the **bike shelter** and help us have an amazing collection. Please remember to ensure the bags are sealed properly and stacked carefully (and remember to keep your distance from others).

Many thanks for your support

Aldermaston CofE School PTA

WEST BERKSHIRE MUSEUM

West Berkshire Museum short story competition 2021

Calling all young budding writers to get ready and get your #WriteOn!

This Spring West Berkshire Museum are running an exciting short story competition for young people. It's a chance for young writers to create their own story inspired by **eight** very different museum objects (pictured below).

We have included some basic information about each object, but you can have fun finding out more about them. Your story can be a maximum of 500 words in length and of any genre, such as science fiction, mystery and detective, or fairy tale and myth, to name but a few. Whatever the genre, **the challenge is to include every object in the narrative** – let your imagination run wild! If you're not certain how to start your story, please see the 'top tips for short story writing' factsheet. **The competition is open to young people aged 7 to 12 years old.**

Please submit your entry by email to clare.bromley@westberks.gov.uk including your name, age, title of your story, word count, and a contact email and/or telephone number of a parent/carer. One entry per writer.

The winning entries will be showcased in a special exhibition at the end of July. All winners will receive a 50% discount on one item in the museum gift shop and a prize.

The deadline for all entries is 4pm on Sunday 18th April.

Good luck budding writers! #SpinaYarn #MuseumStories #CuratingTales #YoungCurators

Terms and conditions:

The judges' decision is final. The unrestricted rights to publish, print and display any of the competition entries will be held and retained by West Berkshire Heritage.

First row from left to right:

A copper flower-like **buckle** from the Tudor period which was used for fastening clothes as well as belts and shoes. What else could it be used for in your story?

A Stone Age (Neolithic) **scraper** used for preparing animal skins to use for clothing and shelter. Is this tool useful to your story?

A **candle snuffer** from the 19th century used to extinguish a burning candle and to trim the wick. Do you use it this way or in another?

An almost complete **Roman pot** found west of Kintbury. What is stored or hidden in this pot, or do you use it to store or hide something in?

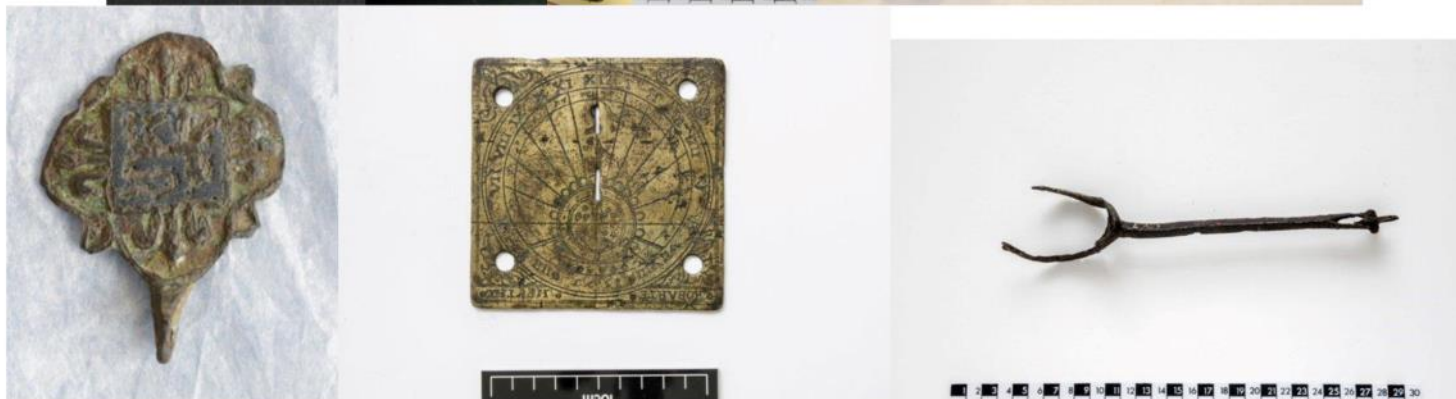
A **Roman brooch** (missing pin), dating from 1st century, which was used to fasten clothes. Do you need to fasten something in your story?

Second row from left to right:

A **heraldic pendant** used on a horse harness, dating from the late 13th or early 14th century, and found in Sandleford Priory, Greenham. It was enamelled and shows a lion or gryphon, fleur-de-lys and four diamond shapes. Does this object provide a clue to your characters?

A square brass plate (dial) of a **sundial**, dating from late 16th century, which tells the time using the sun. A gnomon (part of the sundial, missing here) casts a shadow on the dial so giving the time. Engraved on this dial: 1575 Robert Heythe. Does this solve a mystery?

Sixteenth century **long-shanked spur** which was worn on the heel of each boot, in pairs, and used when riding to direct a horse. Do you ride a horse in your story?



WestBerkshire
COUNCIL