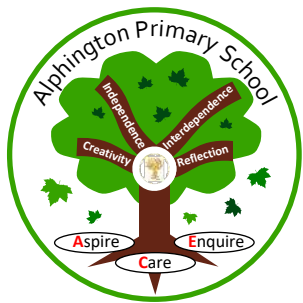




Alphington Primary School

Newsletter

26/05/2023



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents / Carers,

What fantastic weather we have had over the last two weeks where we have been able to enjoy the field and be outdoors every day! The last few weeks have been incredibly busy with sports week, the Year 6 residential, Y2 and Y6 SATs and the school disco. Thank you for all of your support this term and we look forward to seeing you on Monday 5th June April. I hope you all have a lovely bank holiday and half term break.

School Uniform – Jewellery

Please can we remind you that children are not allowed to wear bracelets, rings and necklaces in school as we have seen an increase in this recently. Children are allowed to wear small, stud earrings only (not dangly earrings or hoops).

During PE, for health and safety reasons, children must not wear earrings or jewellery. Children should remove their own earrings and store them safely or parents/carers should remove them at the start of the school day. Staff cannot remove earrings for children. Alternatively, surgical tape could be used to cover any earrings during PE on the day of your child's PE lesson.

Great Potheridge House

We hope the Year 6 who have returned have caught up on their sleep this week after an incredible week to Great Potheridge House! The children showed so much resilience, risk-taking and collaboration during the week, helping each other to complete new activities and sharing tips so they could all do their best. They enjoyed tree abseiling, gorge walking, mad-postman (wide game), a variety of water sports and a BBQ and disco to finish the week. Thank you to the staff who supported the children during the week and we hope you have enjoyed hearing all the children's best bits of the trip and memories when they returned.





Sports Week

It has been a fantastic week for sports in the super weather. All the children across the school have shown their super learning behaviours, especially resilience and risk-taking, when taking part in a range of new sports this week as well as some familiar ones. They have enjoyed kick darts, a dance workshop, Quidditch, goggle football (where it looks like there are two balls or the goggles change how near and far everything looks) and a house bench ball competition. We are so proud of the children's collaboration in bench ball and are pleased to announce the winning house for bench ball is [Water](#). The children will receive an extra play time reward, during the first week back to school.



Pre-school

The children in Ladybirds have had a very exciting half term. They have been learning all about different ways of travelling; they have also learnt about boats, buses, planes and trains and have loved being able to share their experiences of these, and role play what happens on each of them! The children have also had a visit from a police car and a fire engine and have learnt all about the people that they help and had a chance to sit in the emergency vehicles and listen to their sirens too! The children have also been busy learning how to count and seeing how many people we can fit into different vehicles and discussing which ones are the biggest. In our English, they have loved re-telling stories and making up our own stories about different types of vehicles. The children have even made their own planes and trains too, using their imaginations.



Foundation

Foxes and Hedgehogs have had fun exploring life 'Under the sea', taking on adventures as pirates and mermaids. We have shared stories and learnt new facts. Did you know that there is a shark that turns its stomach out of its mouth to clean it after it has eaten? Yuck!

Our visit to the National Marine aquarium in Plymouth was an amazing way to end our topic. We saw so many different sea creatures and even met a mermaid!



Year 1

During music, the children have been creating their own orchestra, in our classrooms! The theme is under the sea and the children have been challenged to become 'divers', 'surfers', 'fish' and 'underwater cameras'. They have loved working collaboratively to create their own musical masterpieces.

During this half term, the children have been scientific investigators and finding out all there is to know about the weather. They have experimented with temperature, rainfall and the length of days and learnt about the different seasons in the UK. Bumblebees and Squirrels have also completed their own versions of the story, 'Wombat goes Walkabout.' They were able to choose their own animal, that goes searching through the Australian outback and the different characters they met along the way. Throughout their writing, the children showed great resilience and as an end result produced some wonderfully written stories. Well done year 1!



Year 2

Year 2 have worked so hard this term, completing their SATs, writing stories about treehouses and growing vegetables. The children have really enjoyed their outdoor learning sessions, map making and identifying different types of plants. In Art we have looked at Vincent Van Gogh and the children have been recreating his sunflower pictures in different ways.



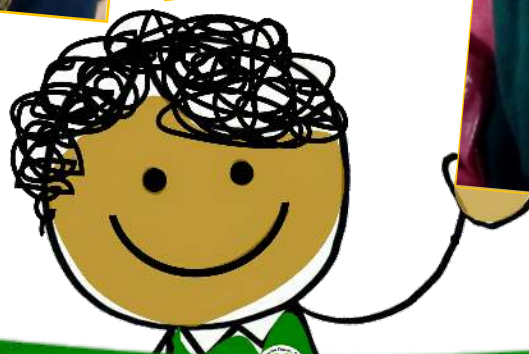
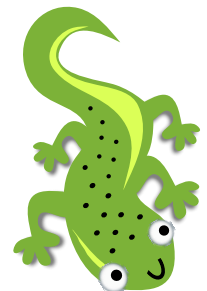
Year 3

Year 3 have had a super term learning about Alphington and beyond... The term started with a great hook day where the children explored Alphington and noticed many things they never had before, as they compared different areas of the village. The children also built Numicon towers and created Dr Seuss inspired art work to make slightly wonky villages! In English, Year 3 have been watching the Pixar film, *The Blue Umbrella*, and the children have been writing wonderful plot points to match the film – we cannot wait to write the final writes when we are back about our own objects. In science, Year 3 have been digging, planting and finding out all about how plants grow and transport water. The children used celery, flowers and food colouring to explore this with some very colourful results! They also dissected different flowers to learn about the different parts of a flower. We are looking forward to seeing how our bean plants grow and hopefully will get some tasty beans to eat before the summer term ends! Well done Year 3 for all your fantastic learning!



Year 4

This term, Year 4 have enjoyed immersing themselves in our Ancient Greece Hook Day where they made their own laurel wreaths, designed Greek pots and their own Olympic flags. They re-enacted the role of Theseus and the slaying of the fearsome Minotaur by solving clues to escape the labyrinth! The children have also made their own animations inspired by Wallace and Gromit's *Cracking Contraptions*. In English, the children have written their own Greek myths inspired by Theseus and the Minotaur as well as writing haikus about Sakura (Japanese Cherry Blossom festival) and composed music to accompany their haikus. Year 4 have been super scientists and made electric circuits, investigated the functions of switches and have acquired the scientific skills to draw and label circuits accurately. We are also really proud of the great skill, determination and sportsmanship in Sports Week. Well done Year 4!



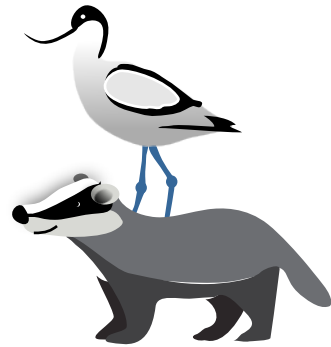
Year 5

Year 5 have had a busy and exciting half-term with lots of amazing learning! Both classes immersed themselves in our WW2 topic by travelling back in time, becoming evacuees and re-enacting a WW2 evacuation in the countryside- they even managed to visit a billeting office. The children then used this knowledge to become codebreakers like Alan Turing, who cracked the German enigma code! You could say that our learning has been going 'swimmingly' and can ask us about all the new strokes they have been practising in their swimming lessons this term- the children have become much more confident! Their success hasn't just been in the pool and in the classroom, they've also become sports stars. The children have been lucky enough to take part in a wide selection of different sports this term, these have included: goggle football, kick darts and handball. A great half term Year 5!



Year 6

Year 6 have had an incredible term! They have worked so hard and shown fantastic resilience in their SATs tests and then had a well-earned celebration at Great Potheridge House for their residential. During this week, the children took part in rock climbing, abseiling, low ropes, crate stacking, kayaking, canoeing, raft building, gorge scrambling and many more! They have also started practising for their Year 6 production which we cannot wait to share with you next half term. Well done Year 6, we are so proud of you!



Owls

Owls have been working hard this term creating travel brochures for Alphington to encourage people to visit. The children have enjoyed sensory play with Orbeez and creating artwork to identify their different emotions. Owls have continued to take great care of the guinea pigs (Rolo and Smudge), ensuring they are feeling safe, are well-fed and in a clean hutch. For the Coronation, the children enjoyed making medals and artwork to celebrate and remember in the years to come. They also have enjoyed honing their maths skills through weighing and measuring when baking. Well done Owls!



Wraparound News

This half term the children have been looking at what is under the sea. Children have enjoyed activities such as freezing and defrosting where they have looked at solids and liquids and baking, including decorating tasty biscuits. We have been fortunate with the weather and there has been lots of outdoor play and created different arts and crafts related to our sea theme.

We would like to remind you that bookings are now open for next half term. Please book through your gateway app for any sessions required.



Summer Term PSHE: Changing Me

As mentioned in the last newsletter, during the summer term, all children will be studying their units on 'Changing Me' from the Jigsaw PSHE scheme, which we follow at Alphington Primary School. This scheme is in-line with the National Curriculum and contains the statutory RSE (relationships and sex education) content. We thought it would be useful to share an overview for the summer term so there aren't any surprises and you are able to use the same terminology at home. You will receive this letter today to help you with any questions that may arise at home.

Dates for your diary:

Monday 29th May-Friday 2nd June: Half term

Friday 9th June - Year 3 trip to Dartmoor and sleepover

Tuesday 13th June - DSFRS to visit Y2 & Y5

Friday 23rd June: KS1 sports day

Friday 7th July: KS2 sports day

Friday 14th July: End of year reports to come home

Friday 14th July - School fete

Monday 17th July- Wednesday 19th July: Year 5 residential

Monday 17th July: Year 6 leavers show to parents

Tuesday 18th July: Open evening for parents

Wednesday 19th July: Year 6 leavers fish and chip night

Friday 21st July: Year 6 leavers assembly

Friday 21st July: Last day of term

