

ASPS NEWS



ALFRED SUTTON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS 19 JULY 2023 ISSUE 83

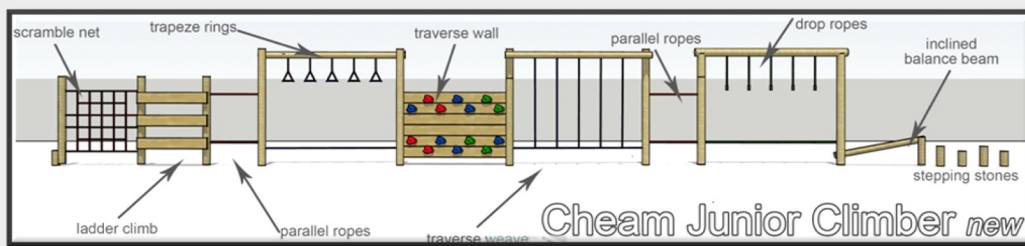
Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the final newsletter of this academic year. I would like to thank all members of the school community for once again pulling together to enable our children to thrive at Alfred Sutton. We are impressed daily by their resilience and desire to try hard in all that they do.

As the year closes, we say goodbye and thank you to Year 6 for all they have contributed to the school over the years. They leave us having secured some exceptional SAT results which is also testament to the hard work of our dedicated teaching team over the years. We are, once again, celebrating results which place the school significantly above National levels:

Test Results / Teacher Assessment	Pupils at the Expected Standard (inc at Greater Depth)		Pupils at Expected Standard (inc at Greater Depth) RWM Combined	
	ASPS 2023	NAT AVG	ASPS 2023	NAT AVG
English Reading	88%	73%	81%	59%
English Writing (TA)	93%	71%		
Mathematics	91%	73%		
SPAG	91%	72%		

As well as our amazing children and staff, I would also like to thank the PTA for their support and assistance in raising money for the school to benefit our children. I would also respectfully ask that you support their latest fund-raising drive to raise money to install a Trim Trail on the key stage 2 playground in the Autumn.



Thank you also to the dedicated team of Street Marshals who are out in all weathers enabling the closure of Crescent Road during drop off and pick up periods. Our children can walk to school safer as a direct result of the work of Carol and the team.

On behalf of the Governing Body and all the school team, may I wish you a happy and relaxing summer holiday and thank you as always for your on-going support.

We look forward to seeing you all again on Monday 4 September.

Yours sincerely

Robert Howell
Headteacher

Nursery News

What a busy year it has been! We have been kept so busy planting out seeds and watering our garden. We have lots of lettuce and radish growing, runner beans and courgettes... and lots of poppies which we didn't even plant! The garden has been great for learning about how things grow and change and we have seen so many beautiful flowers and insects who live amongst them.



Our last half term at school saw us studying a sea topic, **Com-mo-tion in The Ocean**. We have had a lot of fun learning about different sea creatures. We discovered that so many different animals live in or near the sea... not just fish... but turtles, wal-ruses and lobsters too. We made boats and did a science investigation about floating and sinking for our story **Jack and the Flum Flum Tree**.

Also, we have learned about our feelings and how sharing is so important in our stories **Barry the Fish with Fingers** and **The Rainbow Fish**. We had a great pirate week making pirate boats out of shapes, telescopes and eye patches, and role playing being pirates outside for our story **The Night Pirates**. We read a fun poetry soundscape book called **Toddle Waddle** which is all about all the sights and sounds you see when you visit the sea-side. We talked about our seaside experiences and are looking forward to our long holidays when some of us hope to visit the beach or fly on an aeroplane to see family abroad. We definitely hope we have an ice cream! We finished our year with **The Bum-ble Bear** and learned about how bees make honey and how growing flowers for the bees is so important.

We say Goodbye and Good Luck to all the children who will be moving on to Reception and are looking forward to welcoming new friends to our Nursery in September.

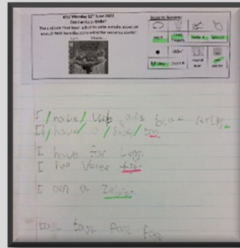


Reception News

Wow what a year it has been! Throughout the year the children had a number of different roles, for example, explorers, performers, authors, illustrators, bakers, designers, inventors, mathematicians, artist and scientists to name but a few. We have also learnt how to be good listeners, learners and friends. We have done so many fun activities that it will be hard to only name a few.



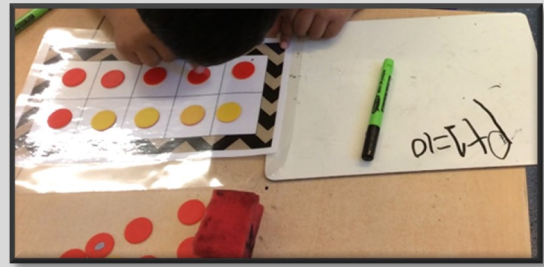
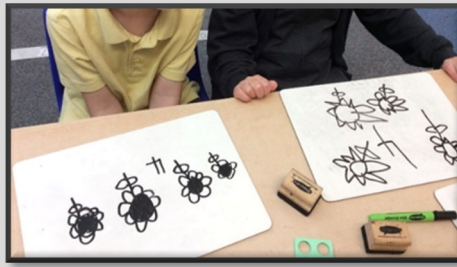
Literacy



Our daily phonics lessons have helped us become readers and writers and we have worked so hard over the year to learn how to use **Fred Talk** and **Fred Fingers**. We can now read words, sentences and books with confidence. At the start of the year we wrote simple labels and captions, now we can write sentences and stories. Here are some of the writing activities we have done over the year.

It has also been fun to learn and perform stories. We made puppets to help us remember **Little Red Hen** and became actors to perform different roles in **Jack and the Beanstalk**.

Maths



In Maths this year we have been developing our number sense through counting, recognising patterns, comparing and matching amounts. We have also used apparatus to explore number problems involving addition, subtraction and doubling. Many of us can even recall number facts and doubles. We have also been learning everyday mathematical language for size, weight and capacity and using this in our play as we explore the characteristics of different objects and shapes



This year we have worked with so many wonderful books. One of our favourites was **Stuck** by Oliver Jeffers as it was so funny seeing all the objects Floyd threw into the tree. We also enjoyed **Zog** by Julia Donaldson as we got to make dragon masks. We baked bread in the autumn and learnt songs for a winter performance. As we moved into spring, we did a lot of work in the garden and even got to visit Bucklebury Farm Park. During the summer term we continued to develop our writing skills and started preparing for our end of year celebration. So busy and so many fun things.



Congratulations to all the children in Reception this year. Have a wonderful Summer and we will see you across the playground in September

Year 1 News

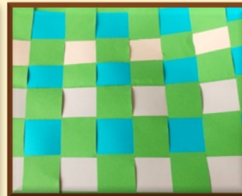
Healthy Eating Week

As part of the healthy eating week, our children enjoyed tasting different fruit and vegetables.



Outdoor Learning – Summer 1 – Mud kitchen

In case you missed the fabulous photos, the children enjoyed creating mud cakes and other creations in our outdoor learning session.



In DT the children have been learning to join materials. They created some lovely place mats using weaving as a technique for joining.



Mrs Bond came in to show the children the lovely woven baskets she made.

Year 1 Class Outing Whitelknights Lake Walk

The Year 1 children enjoyed a walk around the Whitelknights Lake, University campus and Harris Gardens.



Year 2 News (with photos of our highlights)

What a fantastic year this has been in Year 2! The effort that Year 2 children have put into this year has been outstanding! All children have worked incredibly hard, not just in the classroom, but also on themselves and their personal development. They have proven to be a wonderful, resilient and adaptable group of children, who are hungry to learn.

My favourite moment was our trip to The Museum of English Rural Life (MERL) in Autumn. It was our first trip of the year and we walked there from school. The children were all extremely mature and responsible throughout the day, again showing their wonderful attitude to school life. What a fantastic day!

I am delighted to be following this year group into Year 3 next year. I am extremely proud of all of you - magnificent effort Year 2!

Mr Lim :-)



Honeybee class - this Summer term has been so much fun with you all. I've especially enjoyed doing some fun yoga, reading lots of stories and making your beautiful clay pots with you! I hope you all have a wonderful time in year 3. You are all amazing!

From Mrs Reynolds



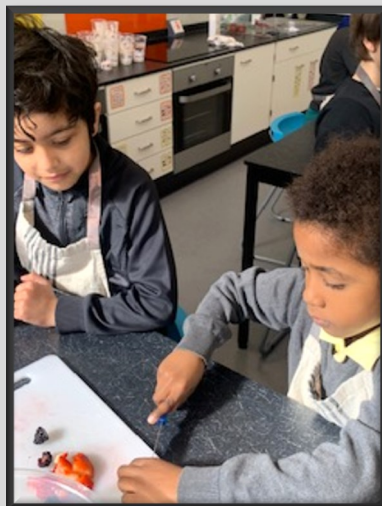
We have had a fantastic time in Year 2 this year! The children have all worked incredibly hard and they should all be very proud of themselves. I have many fond memories of the year including our trip to Windsor Castle, Outdoor learning sessions and meeting all of Tom's 'Talking' Reptiles. My favourite being when the children made mud pies during Outdoor Learning in the Autumn term- they had a brilliant time and got very muddy! I would like to add just how proud I am of all of the children this year and wish them the best of luck for their time in Year 3. You will all be amazing - keep working hard!

Miss Hawkins



Year 2 have had a very exciting year! We have had so many memorable learning opportunities that we all enjoyed. I have several favourites; going to Windsor was brilliant as we got to see so much history in one place and Year 2 really showed how wonderfully behaved they can be. There have been a variety of interesting topics like investigating plants and learning about the 3 Bs in our local history. I think the projects that really impressed me were the windmills we made for D&T. They were so colourful and carefully made, the children really did themselves proud!

Mr Higgs



Year 3 News



In maths we have learned about telling the time using analogue and digital clocks, so we made our own clocks!

For nutritional learning, we tasted various fruits. The children loved trying things they hadn't seen before!

The Year 3 children worked so hard on their performance this year. We suggested topics and ideas to them, but they took them on and made it an amazing show where they were able to demonstrate all the knowledge they gained this year. The Year 3 staff are so proud of their effort and enthusiasm! We wish to say a huge thank you to the Year 3 families for their support throughout the year and we wish the children all the best in Year 4!



Year 4 News

Welcome to the last Year 4 newsletter of this academic year.

We have packed a lot into the summer term, having been on no less than two trips.

First, we had an amazing trip to Reading Museum where we saw Luke Jerram's Gaia exhibition. Gaia, the world famous earth artwork, created from Nasa imagery, comes to Reading Town Hall which was linked to the Reading Climate Festival. It also fitted nicely with our geography topic which looked at the continents, lines of latitude and longitude, the prime meridian and regional climate differences, to name but a few of the topics investigated.



The following day, we visited Englefield Estate with a focus on the environment and sustainability. Pupils even had a tour of part of the house and learned about its history. The house even had a genuine John Constable in their hall! It was very pleasing to hear from many of the session leaders how well behaved and courteous the pupils were. The teachers were immensely proud of the children. We would also like to thank the parents who kindly volunteered to help on the trip – this made the trip run as smoothly as it did.



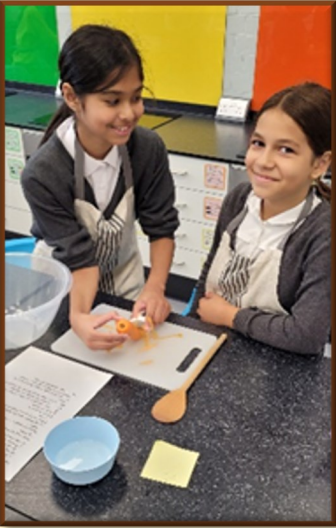
More recently, year 4 visited Anderson Baptist Church as part of their RE curriculum. The focus of the trip was pilgrimage. The pupils worked in small groups and each was immersed in the tasks they were involved in. Again, staff from RE Inspired, who ran the sessions, praised the children for their excellent behaviour. Here are a few photos of the sessions.



As we write this, year 4 are still looking forward to sports day and to the end of year parent presentation that they will be performing.

The Year 4 team wish all parents, carers and children a wonderful relaxing summer break!

Year 5 News



Making use of the cooking suite gave the children the chance to learn and apply a range of new skills and to focus on kitchen safety. We hope you and your children enjoyed the pasta salad they lovingly made and very much look forward to expanding the repertoire next year!

Dear all Parents and Carers of Year 5 children – we’ve made it! What a year it has been! I would like to begin this, our last newsletter together, by congratulating the children for all the hard work they have done. It has been wonderful to see the aspiration they have shown and their determination to succeed in whatever challenges they have faced.

Looking back over the last ten months, there have been a number of standout moments. One of our goals at the start of the year was to maximise opportunities for off-site learning – or, put more simply, to go on trips! Winchester Planetarium proved a great hit, with everyone enjoying our ‘journey’ into space. The time spent at The Museum of Rural England allowed children to consider the importance of green spaces and protecting nature (and gave teachers the chance to dress up as flowers!), and an invite from Maiden Erlegh secondary school gave the children the chance to see the kind of theatrical productions in which they might be participating in the years to come. Even as I write this, we have two more tips to look forward to before the school year concludes.



As for the classroom curriculum, well, we have covered so much. From the Indus Valley to Vikings, Eastern Europe to protecting the environment, space to human development – the topics have been as varied as they have been enjoyable. Added to which, an amazing number of children have accessed not only Year 5, but even Year 6 work in their maths and reading groups – the teaching staff cannot praise them enough for the incredible effort they have made to move their learning forward.



All things considered, we feel it has been a truly memorable year, with so many amazing moments to celebrate and cherish. We would also like to celebrate you, the parents, for all the support you have offered the children and the Year 5 team this year. Our open afternoons were wonderfully attended, it was great to see so many of you in person at the Spring Parents’ Evening and wasn’t it wonderful, towards the end of the year, to return to parents attending Sutton Six assemblies. Without the home-school partnership the children would not be making the fabulous progress that they are. So, thank you and keep up the good work!

We hope you have a wonderful summer and wish you and your families the very best for Year 6.

The Year 5 Team

Year 6 News

Year 6 waterside report

By: Nathan, Qasim, Anika

On 3rd July 2023, Year 6 went on a school trip to the Wokingham Waterside Centre by the River Thames. Whilst we were there, we did: kata-canoeing, raft building, dragon-boating and kayaking.

The Year 6s first walked from the school all the way to the waterside centre with a buddy. Arriving there, we all put our bags and lunches in the function room and headed down; afterwards, all three classes did different activities and rotated. One of the activities we did was kayaking.

Kayaking:

During kayaking, we all got in to our own kayaks (some children decided to do it with a partner); the instructor there showed us how to use our paddles. Soon, we were in the water ready for some action. However, some of the Year 6s found it quite tricky to move the kayak. But in the end, we all enjoyed our time.

“At first, I was enjoying it; although, the wind started to push me and I wish we could have done it on a less windy day. However, I enjoyed the experience overall,” commented Nistha.

Dragon Boating:

Another activity that we got to experience was dragon boating, in which 10 children sat in a dragon-shaped boat. The Year 6s also had a race with other boats. We also had a chance to keep everyone on beat by using the drum that was located at the front of the boat. Learning new paddling techniques was enjoyable.

“It was amazing, though when I was drummer the boat was rocking a lot! I’d definitely do it again if I had the chance!” Pratyusha exclaimed.

“I found the dragon boating really fun - we each got a chance to play the drum while others worked hard to win the race,” stated Leonor.



The Year 6s are boarding the dragon boats



We are ready to race along the Thames.

Raft Building:

While the other events were fun, raft building was definitely the most difficult and the most entertaining; we had to build a raft in two groups. We all used around 15 ropes, 4 barrels and a few planks of wood. Surprisingly, these three different materials were all we needed to make the raft float and hold around 8 children.

When we tested our rafts, many of us fell into the river because the raft was unstable; this was the most entertaining because anyone who fell in got soaked. The annoying thing was, that even if you did not fall into the river, the rain would get you wet.

“The funniest moment on the trip was testing the raft that we had made,” observed one of the pupils who went on the trip.

Kata-canoeing:

Kata-canoeing was yet another one of the incredibly exciting activities we did. We began rowing on six kata-canoes that were attached to each other from the riverbanks. Everyone put in a tremendous amount of effort to row the boat against the strong currents and winds.

Our journey started on the enormous River Thames. However, we even reached the Kennet and Avon Canal, after making a turn. The kata-canoes soon split up after we made it onto the canal. Each canoe's team put in an incredible amount of effort to row it back to the riverbanks, where they started.

A pupil remarked that they found kata-canoeing fantastically enjoyable as they sang songs and rode together in one long line.

In conclusion, it was a magnificent trip that everybody loved and it was truly a once in a lifetime experience! It was a time the Year 6s and teachers will never forget.

PTA News

Goodbye..... Hello!

Alfred Sutton PTA would like to say a huge thank you to the members who are leaving us this year. Your hard work and generous spirit over the years has helped shaped our school and PTA. We say goodbye to Jo (former Chairperson) Helen (former Secretary) and Steph (committee member). We wish you and your children good luck on their onward journey to Secondary School!

We have a flourishing new committee with some brand-new members. Say Hello to Gail (chair) Jenny (Secretary) Jana (Treasurer) and our committee members Anna, Fatou, Dilkash, Neil, Claire, Amy, Loma, Germanie, Kitman, Sarah, Bashak, Tehmina. Hajar and Dawn. We are always looking for new members who would like to contribute, bring along new ideas and become more involved in the school.

PTA Dad and son getting involved at our International Fair this May



And Thank You!

The PTA would like to thank everyone for their generous donations and fabulous attendance at our Summer Fair. Special thanks go to our local business for their generous donations of food.

The Biryani Lounge for their wonderful biriyani and fries,

Raheem's for their juicy watermelons

Cake and Cream for their tasty samosas.

Proceeds from the fair will be going towards our exciting new play project, the new trim trail for the Year 3,4,5 to enjoy every day at play-time. The PTA also donated funds towards the Year 6 end of school trip to the Waterside Centre for a day of water fun activities.



A special thank you to all the helpers who helped make events such as this one possible. We couldn't do it without you!!

Alfred Sutton Parent and Teachers Association