



11th November 2019

Message from the Headteacher:

As you are aware we had a two day inspection visit from Ofsted on Thursday and Friday last week, which kept everyone very busy! I would like to take this opportunity to thank the whole school community who worked together to share all of the good practise we have here at Alphington. Your children were amazing, as they always are, and this was noticed by the team. We now have to wait 3 weeks or so until we get the written report which we look forward sharing with you.

Sharon Tarr
Headteacher

Anti-bullying week: This week is anti-bullying week where we continue to raise the profile of bullying and what it is and what it means. The focus of this year's campaign is based around change starting with us, where everyone can make a change to make a difference. To celebrate our differences we are asking children to wear odd socks for the day tomorrow.

Leg It To Lapland:

Last year, Alphington Primary worked closely with the Charity, Sustrans to support and promote healthy and active travel. This year, we are continuing to promote active travel and will be taking part in different events across the year.

The first challenge will be Leg it to Lapland, which starts on November 25th and runs for 2 weeks until December 6th. During the two weeks children can earn virtual miles by walking, cycling and scooting to school. Extra miles can also be earned by taking part in activities during the school day. We will be racing against local schools and the winning school will be the one with the highest average proportion of active journeys (made on foot or non-motorised wheels) per pupil. Pupils will also be competing in House teams with the winning house team earning a house point prize!

More information and resources will be sent out over the next two weeks. We will also have a whole school assembly the week before, to promote it further with pupils.

Swimming pool: I am delighted to be able to tell you that we have secured a further grant towards the swimming pool, this time from Sport's England. This means that we are able to complete all of the outstanding improvement works, a huge thank you to all involved. We will be holding an official launch over the coming weeks, more information to follow.

Spelling Frame:

We have recently introduced Spelling Frame - a new online spelling programme which is used in school and as part of homework. As a school, we are continuing to develop how to best use this programme in each year group to ensure it has the most impact and we would appreciate any feedback from parents. We are aware there are some technical difficulties when using it on different devices which we are currently sorting with the company.



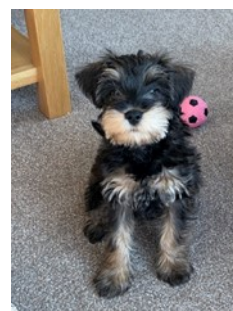


No Pens Day:

Alphington Primary School has signed up to an exciting one day event which schools across the country are getting involved in, called No Pens Day Wednesday. The aim of the day is to encourage spoken language and listening skills and raise awareness of their importance in education and beyond. For one day, children in the school will put down their pens and all lessons and activities will have a focus on spoken language skills rather than writing skills. Reading and writing are very important and valuable skills but people are often not aware of how important spoken language and listening skills are too. Schools that include spoken language in a planned and structured way for children in their lessons, see improvement in their classroom involvement. No Pens Day Wednesday gives your child a chance to practice their spoken skills for a whole school day. The day will allow all pupils in your child's class to become involved in a whole school event, and to contribute to class activities, getting a chance to talk. All pupils will be able to use what they have learnt from this day throughout the school year.

Children In Need: It is Children In Need on Friday 15th November so children are able to wear their own clothes to school for a donation to the charity.

Winnie: Well done to Winnie who has completed her puppy class training. The children were very pleased to see her receiving her certificate in assembly last week!



West Exe year 6 Primary Sports Festival.

Well done to the all who participated in the West Exe year 6 Primary Sports Festival. All children played with great commitment and positivity throughout the duration of the festival and they excelled in their performance in both sports. They were a real credit to the school.

Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 12th November – Year 2 production to parents

Tuesday 12th November – Flu Vaccinations

Tuesday 12th November– Foundation night walk.

Wednesday 13th November– No pens day!

Friday 6th December @2.00– Pre-school/foundation show to parents.

Wednesday 11th December– Year 3 puppet show

Thursday 12th December– Year 3 puppet show

Friday 13th December– Secret present room

Tuesday 17th December—Year 2 Medieval banquet

Wednesday 18th December– Christmas lunch

Wednesday 18th December– Year 5 carol concert

Friday 20th December– Foundation Christmas cracker afternoon

Friday 20th December– Last day of term.

