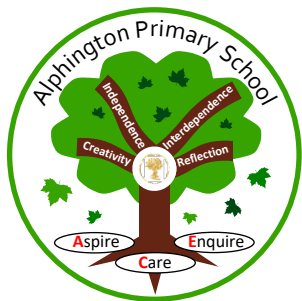




Alphington Primary School

Newsletter

01/10/2021



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents / Carers,

It has been another busy week at school with further developments of the running track, Rock Steady music band, an art project in year 1 and 2, as well as outdoor learning taking place.



Thank you to everyone who was able to complete our homework survey, it really is much appreciated and great to hear your views.

As you are aware we have put in place additional measures to ensure we are doing all we can to keep everyone as safe as possible. Based on the guidance we have received, these will continue for another week to ensure they have the intended impact. This means that children will still be in their year group bubbles for lunchtimes and playtimes, staff will continue wearing masks in shared areas of the school and will carry out increased lateral flow testing. One of the ongoing measures that we have in place, is ensuring rooms are well ventilated, meaning that doors and windows are being kept open. As we seem to be moving towards colder weather you may want to send your child in wearing an additional t-shirt under their school polo shirt.

Parents and carers can continue to help us by wearing a face covering when picking up and dropping off your child and not sending them to school if they are unwell.

Thank you again for your help and support with this.

Bike sheds:

Lots of children are making use of the bike sheds now that they are open which is lovely to see. To make things as easy as possible for you, please can I remind you that children can use the bike shed that is closest to their entrance. One bike shed is located on the year 1 playground and the other, by the top gate.

Bags:

Just a reminder that children only need a very small bag with them in school rather than a rucksack. Thank you for your help with this.

Library:

It has been lovely seeing the children making the most of the updated library as it is such a great space to share and enjoy a book.



Parents evening:

Foundation parents' evenings have already started, and pre-schools are due to take place next week. Parents evenings for years 1-6 will take place the week beginning the 18th of October. As things stand, these will be a telephone appointment and we will be sharing the booking information via email soon.

Mini Marathon:

Just a reminder that next week the children will be taking part in the sponsored London Mini Marathon for schools. Children will be running 2.6 miles around the running track, either by themselves or as part of a team. We would be grateful if you, family and friends are able to sponsor children for this event, as all money raised will go towards the development of our outside space. These funds must be paid via the school gateway app so once you have collected all your sponsor money, simply go to the payments section of the app and find the Mini London Marathon payment scheme then add to total amount that your child has raised. You can always contact the school office for any assistance with this.



School council:

We have really enjoyed being able to work with our new school council who were elected by the rest of their class, to represent and share their views. Their first task is to select names for our school house groups. They will be writing to introduce themselves to you soon.

Home Learning:

Thank you to everyone who was able to complete our homework survey as it really is much appreciated and great to hear your views. Based on this and working with staff we have revised our homework system. Please see the attached letter for more information on this. Home Learning will start on Wednesday next week.

American ★ Diner ★ Menu

at Alphington Primary School
Thursday 7th October 2021

Cowboy Sausage Roll

served with

**Oven Baked Curly Fries
and Salad Sticks**

or

Veggie Sausage Roll

served with

**Oven Baked Curly Fries
and Salad Sticks**

or

**Jacket Potato
with Cowboy Baked Beans and Cheese**

followed by

Chocolate Cracknel

**and hidden lucky stars -
to win a prize**



Special dietary options also available.

Phase News

Early Years news:

Autumn has arrived in Foundation and Preschool this week, and we have had a great time exploring the great outdoors during our forest folk sessions. We have looked for signs of seasonal change, picked apples and blackberries, and have made some brilliant art with the natural resources that we have collected.

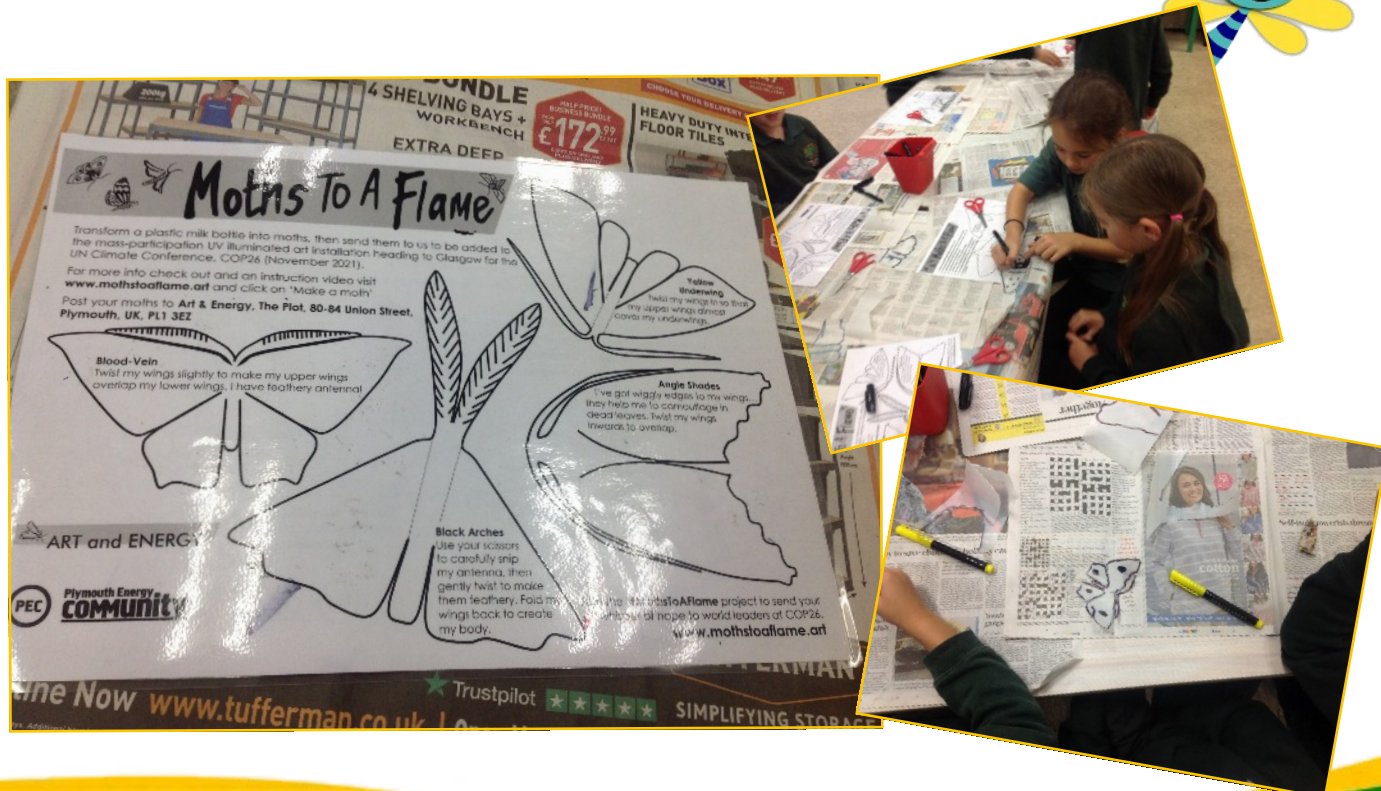
Foxes and Hedgehogs had an exciting start to their week with a surprise visit from the 'evil pea' who arrived in our classroom after capturing vegetables and causing mischief. We have been enjoying sharing the story of 'Supertato' and solving learning challenges from the evil pea, to help to free the vegetables.

This week, the Ladybirds have enjoyed baking with the fruit they collected during forest folk. They have been developing their mark making skills with a range of different media and practising balance and control on bikes and scooters.



KS1 news:

This week, our key stage 1 children took part in a brilliant art project called 'Moths to a Flame!' Some visitors from the 'Art and Energy Collective' came into school to make some moths out of old milk bottles with us! We had to use a template, cut out our moths and then we wrote a message to world leaders on the back of our moths, in special glow in the dark pens! During the day, we made 102 moths - what great teamwork! The moths will be taken to Glasgow and exhibited as part of an art installation at the COP26 Climate Change conference. We look forward to seeing the moths on display and will update you if we see our artwork on the television!



Phase News Year 3 and 4:

Year 3

This week, Year 3 have shown such creativity with their final writes and produced wonderful writing about a journey to a made-up planet. Alongside this, in Theme the children made beautiful postcards. They also learnt more about Mount Vesuvius and learnt why people might choose to live near a volcano! Some of us thought it still might be a bad idea though- just in case! In PE, the Year 3 have been focusing on their basketball skills and been improving their skills of dribbling and passing with control and fluency.

Year 4

What a super couple of weeks it has been in Year 4. The children have been enjoying learning even more about the Stone Age and have identified different items that Stone Age people would have had. After learning about Stone Age shelters and how they changed over time, the Year 4 made amazing shelters for a Lego caveman to keep him safe and warm. Their collaboration was excellent. The teachers are also really proud of the children for their final writes this week. They completed superb stories based on the book: Wolves in the Walls about snakes in the ceiling, tarantulas in the toilets and even a pony in a pool! Finally, the children made models of the digestive system in science - it was messy but fun work!



Phase News Year 5 and 6:

Year 5

We have had a fab couple of weeks in Year 5 continuing to learn even more about mountains if that were possible! The children have learnt about contour lines and accurately created contour maps. In outdoor learning, the children have been extremely creative making mountain range collages using a range of natural materials from Pearl's Land and the woods. Finally, they did a great job with planning and writing their final writes, creating a Mountain Survival Handbook showing off everything they knew. They were beautifully written. The children also enjoyed making their Christmas cards this week which looked superb. They look forward to sharing those with you soon!

Year 6

In Year 6, the children have been working really hard on their quick arithmetic skills and been working at solving questions with all four operations with numbers up to and beyond a million! The Exeter Chiefs have been focussing on what discipline means and they have enjoyed an 'act like a chief' workshop. In Theme, Year 6 have been looking at 4-digit grid references as well as designing spy gadgets. They have researched and asked a range of different people's opinions to improve their designs and been using they market research to refine their gadget plans to create a high quality blue print. Finally, the Year 6 have been completing their final writing producing amazing spy chapters. They have been awesome reads! Well done Year 6!



PTFA News:

Welcome to a new school year at Alphington Primary School, especially the parents of children who have just joined the school this September 2021!

**Autumn 2021 recipe competition for Year 1 to Year 6 to participate in!
Only £1 entry fee per recipe. New starter recipe competition category!**

The PTFA have teamed up with some local businesses to bring you a great competition creating snack recipes, starter recipes, main meal recipes and dessert recipes! So put on your chef cap and get thinking of recipes! Please pay the £1 entry fee to the PTFA bank account (account name is Alphington Primary School PTFA, sort code is 30-93-14, account number is 02892335) with a reference of first initial and surname of your child and Year group (e.g. Yr1).

When checking the PTFA bank account we have discovered that some people have entered recipes and not paid the entry fee yet so we would be very grateful if you could you pay the entry fee if you have not yet done so.

We are asking for an entry fee to help pay towards the printing costs of creating a cookbook with all the children's wonderful recipes in it that would be available through the Saronti website. Recipe submission is via the online submission form below.

<https://saronti.com/alphington> Password: 4Lph1nqton



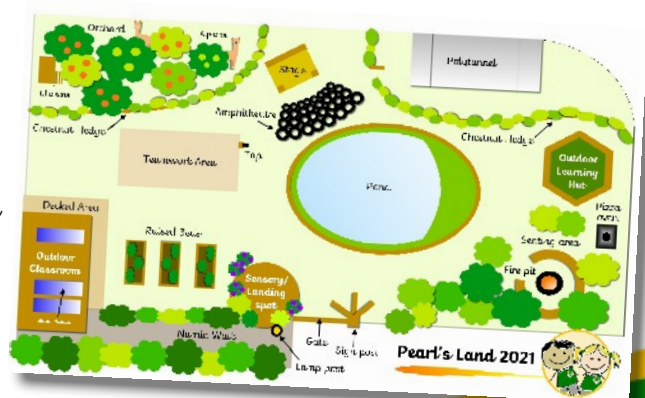
Coolings restaurant are judging the snack, starter and main meal competitions. The starter competition and main meals competition will be for Year 3 to Year 6. The snack competition is for the Year 1 and 2 children, so a Year 1 child isn't competing against a Year 6 child in the same competition! Coolings restaurant, The Devon Hotel and the New Inn in Alphington are all donating meal voucher prizes and the New Inn have added a couple of Exeter City football tickets to their prize!

The Cakery in St Thomas are judging the dessert entries. The Cakery and Kerry's Cake Kitchen are providing some amazing prizes for the dessert recipe competition including a cake accessories kit and bespoke birthday cake/cupcakes. The dessert competition is for Year 1 to 6 but Year 1 and 2 will have their own mini competition so a Year 1 child isn't competing against a Year 6 child in the same competition!

If you have any questions about the competition, don't hesitate to contact us on PTFA@alphington.devon.sch.uk.

Is there a local business out there who would like to sponsor the printing of our fundraising cookbook and feature in our cookbook?

If so, do please get in touch with us at PTFA@alphington.devon.sch.uk! We are creating this cookbook to help raise funds for the development of Pearl's Land into a super interactive area for the children at the school. (Picture attached from the 17th September school newsletter so you can see what the developed area will look like. What a great place for the children to explore nature!) Please help us and the school bring this vision to life!



Other ways to donate and support Alphington Primary School PTFA

If you don't want to attend an event but still want to donate to help raise funds for the school, then hop over to our JustGiving page where you can gift aid your donation if you are a UK taxpayer.

<https://www.justgiving.com/alphingtonprimaryptfa>

The PTFA earns commission when people shop online through The Giving Machine and Amazon Smile, so if you shop online please remember us!

<https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/causes/alphington-primary-school-ptfa/>

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/>

If you are thinking of trying Tropic Skincare products, you can raise funds for Alphington Primary School effort-free! Place your order with Amanda <https://www.tropicskincare.com/amandagibbins> and 20% of your total order value will be donated to the PTFA. If you have any questions just get in touch with Amanda at <https://www.facebook.com/amandawithtropic>. Amanda will be doing an online pamper week from Monday 11th October to Sunday 17th October and we will post more details about this in the school newsletter and on our P.T.F.A Facebook page when we have the information from Amanda. If you don't have time to read school newsletters and do not use Facebook you can always email us on PTFA@alphington.devon.sch.uk to ask for information about the online pamper week.

