

We were lucky to have Mr Hughes (our CEO) and Mrs Hainsworth (our Director of Education) come to Alt to visit on Wednesday this week. They were accompanied by Matthew Bulmer, the Director of Education, Skills and Early Years for Oldham Council for a learning walk in the morning too. Mr Hughes and Mrs Hainsworth also met with many of our children, parents and staff in the afternoon to discuss their views about the academy and their thoughts about what happens in school. It was great to have them with us!



## EYFS - Amber and Ruby

This week in Early Years, we have been reading 'Room on the Broom'. We have made spooky potions and magic spells. We had so many super ideas, ask your child what their potion was for!



## KS1

### Opal

In DT this week, we have been tasting different vegetables in preparation for making soup like Florence Nightingale did back in 1854.



### Jade

This week in PE, we have started learning all about gymnastic positions. We have been practicing pikes, straddles, tucks, back rest, forward rest and a straight position!



### Pearl

This week we have started our new topic all about influential people of the past. We have researched a lady called Florence Nightingale and explored her work through the key stage one provision.



## Lower KS 2

### Topaz

The children in Topaz class have been practising singing some Christmas songs for our performance (details to follow soon!). We have also learnt how to play 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star' on our ukuleles!



### Citrine

This week we have begun our topic: Stones and Bones. We have begun with some work on prehistoric cave paintings and discussed how they teach us much about what life was like many thousands of years ago. We produced some cave paintings of our own, inspired by some real cave paintings we found by searching the internet.



### Emerald

This week Emerald class have been practising some sketching techniques. We practised stippling, scumbling, shading, crosshatching and smudging.

## Upper KS2

### Amethyst

This week in Amethyst class, we have started studying Shakespeare's Scottish play, Macbeth during our English lessons. The children have particularly enjoyed using the medium of drama to explore the play's opening scene.



### Tanzanite

This week in our computing we have begun coding where we have focused on creating algorithms that simulate how objects we see and use everyday actually work .

### Sapphire

Our new class reader for this half term is Macbeth. We have been using drama techniques to explore the characters in the playscript. We produce freeze frames focussing on facial expression and body position. We became the characters using the script to support us to do this.



Star of the Week

Well done to this weeks stars of the week.

|           |         |  |
|-----------|---------|--|
| Amber     | Bobby   | For his continued effort and progress in joining in with role play activities.   |
| Ruby      | Isla    | For her kind and caring nature towards her friends in Ruby Class.  |
| Opal      | Minahil | For fabulous learning all week especially in maths.  |
| Jade      | Meklit  | For showing kindness and respect to her friends.   |
| Pearl     | Illiana | Being a fantastic role model.  |
| Topaz     | Emily   | For a fantastic effort, particularly in maths.   |
| Citrine   | Destiny | For showing so confidently that she knows more and remembers more in maths lessons and trying hard in phonics to become a better reader. |
| Emerald   | Lucy    | For always showing so much enthusiasm and effort in every lesson.  |
| Amethyst  | Ismail  | For an outstanding drama display in literacy this week.  |
| Tanzanite | Leon    | For his fantastic coding skills in his computing this week , where he demonstrated an amazing level of understanding.                    |
| Sapphire  | Ellie   | For working hard to manage and improve her behaviour particularly in drama and PE lessons.   |

Principal's Award: Sahil (Topaz) for consistently reading at home 3 or 4 times every week.



Word of the Week

Showing respect to those who lost their lives during the World Wars.

Poppy Appeal

Poppies will be on sale from the front of school every morning from 8:30am – 08:45am from Monday 4th November until Friday 8th November. If you would like to buy one, please speak to the children who are leading the stall. There won't be any change available so please bring the correct money. A quick reminder about making sure our children are treated with upmost respect at all times.



Midday Supervisor Vacancy

We are currently looking to appoint a midday supervisor. Please find a link to the advert on The Harmony Trust website here.

[The Harmony Trust: Job Vacancies](#)



## Programme of Coffee Morning Agenda 2023-24 Autumn 2

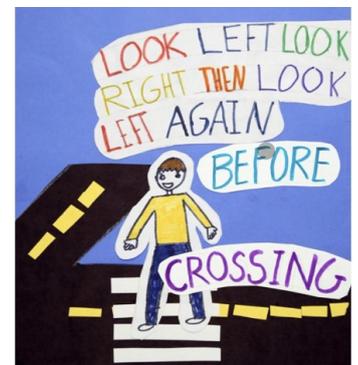
Coffee mornings will take place every Tuesday morning at 9:00am in the KS2 hall. Everyone is welcome to attend. Here is the agenda for this half term..... please come and join us!



| Week Number | Date of Coffee Morning            | Agenda   |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Week 2      | Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November  | Mahdlo   |
| Week 3      | Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> November | Coffee chatter and natter! <b>Homework Rubrics</b>                       |
| Week 4      | Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> November | Action Together - voluntary work & support to improve health & wellbeing |
| Week 5      | Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> November | Coffee, chatter and natter! <b>Reading</b>                               |
| Week 6      | Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December  | Kooth & Qwell - online counselling and emotional well-being service      |
| Week 7      | Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December | Coffee chatter and natter!   |
| Week 8      | Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December | Review & festive party   |

## Crossing Patrol

We are currently experiencing intermittent levels of school crossing patrol outside Alt Academy. This means, that there will be some sessions where there is not a crossing patrol on site. Whilst staff on duty can support a child crossing the road if they appear to be in danger, this support is not consistently available and is not to be relied upon. Please support your children to be safe on the crossing. If your child walks to and from school alone, please discuss road safety with them.



## Collecting children from school



Please can we ask that children are collected from school by a person who is at least 16 years of age. If there is a change to the person who usually collects your child, please notify the class teacher in advance.

School finishes at 3:20pm and we encourage all parents/carers to arrive on time. Thank you for your continued support with this.



## Attendance



*Overall attendance year to date – 93.1%*

*Weekly winners – Well done to: -*

**EYFS and KS1 – Ruby 94.5%**

**KS2 – Topaz 95%**

*Our target is 96%*



# Alt Academy's Golden Rules



**Be Honest**



**Be Respectful**



**Be Hardworking**



**Be Kind**

**This week, all children were introduced to the Alt Academy golden rules.**

These were selected by the Children's Leadership Team and then each class voted for the ones they felt were most important.

**All children reflected on positive behaviour choices linked to these rules.**

We explored all the possible rewards for good behaviour and also the consequences for poor behaviour choices too.

## Use of KS2 iPads at home



All KS2 children have signed an agreement to state that they will use their iPads appropriately at home.



All parents/carers have also signed an IT Acceptable Use Agreement which stipulates:

**'I will help my child to stay SAFE online and on their school device.'**

Please ensure that all iPad use is monitored closely at home in order to keep your children safe.

## Individual School Photographs

The photographer will be in school on **15th November** to take individual and in-school siblings. If you have children who do not attend our school, they won't be able to be included on the photographs.



# Oldham Christmas Parade

Saturday 18 November 12 noon

Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without the annual Oldham Christmas Parade, and this year it's back and bigger than ever! Join Santa and all his friends in the Town Centre, including over 200 local performers and community group members.

The not-to-be-missed festive carnival is filled with music and yuletide fun. Don't miss the brilliant festive performances from Dobcross Silver Band, Jubacana, and Oldham Scottish Pipe Band.

The parade starts at 12 noon and will travel through the town centre.



**NHS**

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## Top tips for teeth

Your kids need help brushing their teeth until they are at least seven years old.



### Spit, don't rinse

When we brush, our toothpaste builds a protective layer of fluoride around our teeth. If you rinse your mouth with water, you wash it all away. Spitting will do just fine.

Ask your dentist about fluoride varnish to make your child's teeth stronger. All children over 3 years can have this and your dentist may recommend it for some children under at risk of tooth decay too.

### Twice is nice!

Teeth should be brushed twice a day, once before bed and once at any other time that suits your family routine.

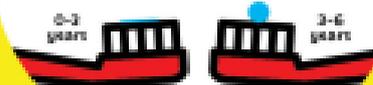
### Make fluoride your friend

The amount of fluoride in your toothpaste can usually be found on the side of the tube or on the packaging. Toothpaste that contains 1350 to 1500ppm fluoride gives your child the best protection.



Little mouths need less toothpaste

For kids under three you should use just a smear. For three to six year olds, a pea-sized amount is perfect.



### Ask your dentist for more top tips



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# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about iPADS

Apple debuted the first iPad in 2010, kickstarting the tablet market, and it remains the best-selling tablet to this day. Although Apple doesn't offer a child-specific version, iPads are hugely popular with youngsters due to their ease of use and endless choice of apps. There's a selection of models, with different-sized screens and distinct features – including the standard iPad; the iPad Air; the iPad Pro; and the iPad mini. Thankfully, they all offer parental controls so you can regulate how your child uses the device ... and how long they spend on it.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### PHYSICAL DAMAGE

While some tablets (such as the Amazon Fire Kids editions) come with rugged shock-proof cases, iPads aren't built for rough and tumble. They're also more expensive than most other tablets, and any damage your child's iPad suffers could be costly to repair. Buying a child-friendly case and screen protector for the device could be a wise move, especially if it's being used by younger ones.

### SCREEN ADDICTION

Like most digital devices, tablets have the potential to become quite addictive. You might find your child spending too long staring at their iPad, which could lead to irritability, mood swings and a loss of interest in more important tasks. If this happens, be sure to visit the built-in screen time settings and ensure you limit how long they're able to spend on the device each day.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

18  
CONCERN

Even if it would never occur to your child to go searching online for age-inappropriate sites, apps or information, there's always a possibility that something unexpected – perhaps a video that auto-plays or content incorrectly suggested by an algorithm – could appear on their tablet and upset them. You can help prevent this by adjusting the content settings (see our 'top tips' section below).

### SIRI SUGGESTIONS

The parental controls built into iOS (the fundamental operating system of Apple devices) enable you to block access to most age-inappropriate content – but your child could potentially still bypass these restrictions (either accidentally or deliberately) by using Siri, Apple's voice-activated digital assistant. To avoid this, toggle the 'Ask Siri' functions to 'off' in the iPad's settings menu.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Before letting little ones loose on an iPad, it's a good idea to set up Family Sharing, as this lets you utilise the parental controls to manage exactly how your child is able to use the device. You can do this fairly easily by going into the iPad's settings; once there, you'll be able to add an existing Apple account (if your child already has one) or set one up from scratch.

### APPLY SOME LIMITS

The 'Downtime' function allows you to tell the iPad to lock itself at certain periods (at mealtimes or before bed, for instance), while 'App Limits' removes access to certain apps once they've been used for a specified length of time each day. The iPad can display a reminder when these limits have nearly been reached, letting your child mentally prepare for the end of their gaming or viewing time.

### STOP ACCIDENTAL SPENDING

To empower your child with an increased sense of freedom on their device (without giving yourself something else to worry about in the process) you could enable the iPad's 'Ask to Buy' feature. Whenever your child tries to download or buy an app, game or product, the iPad sends you a request to approve (or deny) it. This option only becomes available if you've set up Family Sharing.

### SET CONTENT AND PRIVACY RESTRICTIONS

The parental controls can stop the iPad from displaying explicit or age-inappropriate content (in apps like iTunes and Safari, for instance) when your child is signed into their account. You'll also be able to restrict the capacity to download and install apps, and you can specify permissions which prevent children from changing the iPad's privacy settings once you've selected them.

### TRACK IT DOWN

Just like the iPhone, Apple's iPads have 'Find My' software to help you locate your child's iPad – or indeed, any linked Apple devices that have gone AWOL, including phones, watches and AirPods. If you enable 'Find My' in the settings menu, it will display the last known location of an iPad that's been mislaid, as well as giving you the option to lock a missing iPad that you suspect has been stolen.

### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech-focused *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



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