

Parents Meetings

Parents Meetings have taken place across school this week. The teachers have enjoyed talking to all parents/carers about their child's learning and the progress they have made so far this year. It has been great seeing so many parents/carers support their child to make sure they have a successful year and reach their full potential. If for any reason you have not yet spoken to your child's teacher, please arrange to do so as soon as possible.



EYFS



Ruby

We have been shape hunting outdoors!
We have been exploring different 2D shapes and finding them in a variety of forms!



Amber

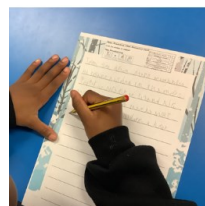
This week, we have been looking at Doctors and Nurses as people who help us. We have learned how to keep ourselves safe and how to help others using DR ABC! We even put our friends in recovery position. Ask us to show you!



KS1

Opal

In English, we are writing a retell of the story The Great Explorer and we have been learning to extend our sentences using conjunctions.



Jade

This week in gymnastics, we have been learning about different jumps and rolls. Ask us all about the types of jumps and rolls we have learned.

Pearl

In science, we have been learning about how the number of hours varies over the different months of the year. We even created some physical pictograms show this.



Lower KS 2

Topaz

The children in Topaz class have learnt all about the benefits of a healthy diet and exercise. We even did a 5 minute Joe Wicks workout to get our bodies moving! Ask us to put it on our iPads at home and have a go with us!



Citrine

This week, the children in Citrine class have clocked up hours of times tables practice and have developed their strategies for multiplication and division using concrete and pictorial representations.



Emerald

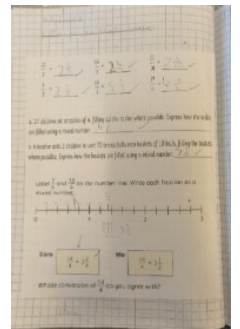
This week in PSHE we have been talking about our emotions. We discussed our difficult feelings and what we can do to help ourselves and other people when they are experiencing them. We worked together to create a tree for our classroom with reminders of how we can help.



Upper KS2

Amethyst

We have begun to investigate fractions in our maths lessons this week. We have learnt how to convert improper fractions to a mixed number.



Tanzanite

This week we have collected pieces of information from our reading in class and our English lessons where we have focused on Macbeth and our History lessons on the Tudors to create our own report about Witchcraft in Tudor England.



Sapphire

This week in science, we have been learning about the planets in our solar system. We have investigated the relative distance and size of the planets as well as comparing the time taken for each planet to rotate. We are working on creating a 3D model of our learning.



Star of the Week

Well done to this weeks stars of the week.

Amber	Hajra	For continued effort towards building your confidence with your sounds!
Ruby	Jacob-Jack	For being so focused and fantastic in all his learning.
Opal	Paul	For having a fantastic week in school and trying his best .
Jade	Abdullah	For an improvement in his phonics and writing.
Pearl	Ensley	Working so hard on his reading and phonics.
Topaz	Harris	Some fantastic listening and contributions in class.
Citrine	Hibba	For putting in the extra effort each and every day. From producing extra work to ensuring all work is beautifully presented, Hibba is proud to work hard and gets the results she deserves.
Emerald	Kaylen	For working really hard with his reading this week and not giving up when he finds words tricky
Amethyst	Laaibah	For making excellent progress in maths this week.
Tanzanite	Laila	For demonstrating excellent resilience and determination in her maths this week .
Sapphire	Inayah R	Demonstrating to the whole class how to calculate finding the common denominator in two unlike fractions. Super work!

Principal's Reading Champions:

Saman, George, Charlie, Shaz, Geniviene, Zayaan, Lucie, Iysla-Mae, Daud, Isla, Olivia.

Reception & KS1 Nativity

The children in Reception will perform the Nativity, whilst children in KS1 will be singing during the performance. There will be two performances – 09:15 and 14:00 on Monday 18th December. Due to the capacity levels of the hall, there will be two tickets available for each family. To ensure that all families can watch their child, this will be strictly adhered to. Tickets will need to be shown to gain entry to the performance. Young children under 3 may attend if they are sat on their parents' knee – they won't have their own chair. Tickets will be on a first come first served basis and will be available at the school office from 08:30 on 4th December. Should there be tickets still available on 11th December, they will be offered to Reception parents first, followed by KS1 parents. The performance will be shared on our private YouTube page so that you can watch it at home too!



We are sure that this will be a super performance and we can't wait to share it with you.





Thank you to the families who have secured a place on the Robinwood residential trip by paying the deposit. Now that the numbers are finalised, we will start to arrange the finer details – we will keep you updated! The remainder of the balance (£50) is due no later than Wednesday 10th January. You can pay either in full or in instalments on Parent Pay.

Word of the Week

Word of the Week ...



polite

thoughtful

humble

appreciate

Well-mannered

gracious

courteous



Christmas calendar

27.11.23	Deadline to order a Christmas lunch for children who usually have a packed lunch – a letter will be sent out about this.
1.12.23	Christmas card post box open – located in KS2 entrance hall.
4.12.23	Baskets in the KS2 hall for chocolate donations – these will be used during Christmas celebrations.
4.12.23	Tickets for the Reception and KS1 Nativity will be available from the office from 08:30. Strictly 2 tickets per family allocation.
14.12.23	Ukulele Showcase, 09:15 – Year 3 and 4 families welcome to attend.
18.12.23	Reception and KS1 Nativity performances, 09:15 and 14:00 (strictly ticketed event, 2 tickets per family).
18.12.23	Steel Pan & Glockenspiel Showcase, 10:30. Invited families will be informed in advance.
21.12.23	Christmas lunch.
22.12.23	Christmas jumper and party day. £1 per child donation (Year 6 fundraising opportunity).
22.12.23	Last day of term.

Parent Conduct

School is a safe place for all children and families. Thank you for your support in ensuring that this is maintained. Please note that disrespectful



interactions between parents will not be tolerated. Should school be made aware of any concerns, parents will be refused entry onto the school grounds. Please model friendly and respectful interactions so that our children see great social role models.



Programme of Coffee Morning Agenda 2023-24 Autumn 2

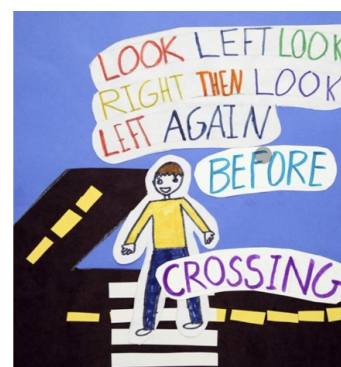
Coffee mornings will take place every Tuesday morning at 9:00am in the KS2 hall. Everyone is welcome to attend. Here is the agenda for this half term..... please come and join us!



Week Number	Date of Coffee Morning	Agenda
Week 5	Tuesday 28 th November	Coffee, chatter and natter! Reading
Week 6	Tuesday 5 th December	Kooth & Qwell - online counselling and emotional well-being service
Week 7	Tuesday 12 th December	Coffee chatter and natter!
Week 8	Tuesday 19 th 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.



Attendance



Overall attendance year to date – 93.2%

Weekly winners – Well done to: -

EYFS and KS1 – Amber & Opal 93.3%

KS2 – Citrine 95.7%

Our target is 96%





Reindeer parade



On Saturday, we were very proud to be part of the Oldham Christmas Parade.

The parade saw Santa and his friends start the Christmas celebrations. It was a super opportunity to be part of the yuletide fun and a wonderful time was had by all!



ONLINE CONTENT

10 tips to keep your children safe online

The internet has transformed the ability to access content. Many apps that children use are dependent on user-generated content which can encourage freedom of expression, imagination and creativity. However, due to the sheer volume uploaded every day, it can be difficult for platforms to regulate and moderate everything, which means that disturbing or distressing images, videos or audio clips can slip through the net. That's why we've created this guide to provide parents and carers with some useful tips on keeping children safe online.



1 MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Whilst most apps have moderation tools, inappropriate content can still slip through the net.



2 CHECK ONLINE CONTENT

Understand what's being shared or what seems to be 'trending' at the moment.



3 CHECK AGE-RATINGS

Make sure they are old enough to use the app and meet the recommended age-limit.



4 CHANGE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Make accounts private and set content filters and parental controls where possible.



5 SPEND TIME ON THE APP

Get used to how apps work, what content is available and what your child likes to watch.



6 LET CHILDREN KNOW YOU'RE THERE

Ensure they know that there is support and advice available to them if they need it.



7 ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING

Talk about what people might post online and why some posts could cause distress.



8 LEARN HOW TO REPORT & BLOCK

Always make sure that children know how to use the reporting tools on social media apps.



9 KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

If a child sees distressing material online; listen to their concerns, empathise and offer reassurance.



10 SEEK FURTHER SUPPORT

If a child has been affected by something they've seen online, seek support from your school's safeguarding lead.

 **National Online Safety**
#WakeUpWednesday





PARENTING SUPPORT COURSE FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH SOCIAL COMMUNICATION DIFFICULTIES INCLUDING AUTISM

This course is aimed specifically at supporting parents and carers whose children are verbal and have social communication difficulties including Autistic Spectrum Conditions. The training is presented informally and provides an opportunity to better understand social communication difficulties. It offers practical strategies that you can implement at home, provides a chance to meet others in a similar position and to share valuable experiences.

This accredited course is provided with funding for parents from the BIRD Charity.

The SEVEN session workshop is part-funded for parents/carers. The Charity has secured funding for parents to run this course and we politely request that parents only book a place on the course if they are able to commit to all sessions.

The course will run online over 7 sessions on:

Tuesday, 9 th January	9.30am – 11.30am
Tuesday, 16 th January	9.30am – 11.30am
Tuesday, 23 rd January	9.30am – 11.30am
Tuesday, 30 th January	9.30am – 11.30am
Tuesday, 6 th February	9.30am – 11.30am
Tuesday, 13 th February	9.30am – 11.30am
Tuesday, 27 th February	9.30am - 11.30am

Does your child struggle with any or all of the following?

- focussing their attention or understanding of what others say
- understanding their own emotions and being able to control their feelings or behaviour
- understanding others' body language and non-verbal communication
- having conversations with other children or adults
- knowing what others are thinking and feeling

Would you like to learn some practical tips and ideas about ways you can help them at home with some of these difficulties?

The course is designed for parents of children who are verbal and experience social communication difficulties including those children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The course covers:

- What is involved in communication and what aspects do children with social communication difficulties particularly struggle with.
- Ways to help your child communicate more effectively
- How you can use physical and visual structure at home to support your child's understanding and reduce anxiety
- How to develop your child's listening and understanding
- How to support your child's interaction with peers and other adults
- How to understand and support your child's behaviour more effectively
- How to support your child with sensory issues

The course is relaxed and informal and provides a chance to chat to other parents in a similar position and to share valuable experiences and ideas.

The course will be delivered by an experienced Speech and Language Therapist. The course will be run online and places are limited. Places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Once you have completed this course, further workshops will be available to you.

The cost of the course is £195, this is part-funded by the charity and a contribution of £25 is requested from parents. If a family would have a difficulty in finding this contribution, please speak to us.

BOOKING IS REQUIRED – places are limited. If you wish to book a place, please email admin@birdcharity.org.uk or call 01244 678629.