

EYFS

Ruby

In Ruby class this week, we have thought about where we live. We've talked about the things we see in our town of Oldham. We had super ideas such as different houses, Alexandra Park, a car wash, roads, TESCO and even McDonalds! Miss Shepherd challenged us to build it - look at our fantastic teamwork!



Amber

This week, we have been learning about positional language in maths. We have also been talking about the importance of different sizes – so we have made lots of homes for different sized animals out of junk modelling.

KS1

Opal

In science, we have been sharing all our learning so far about the seasons. We had to solve a riddle to work which season was which and we managed to solve the problem as a team.



Jade

We have been learning all about measurement in our maths lessons this week. We have been using objects to measure height and length and we've even rulers to measure in centimetres too. The Year 2 children in Jade class have also been measuring in meters!



Pearl

In PE this week, we have been practising our rolls and jumps. We learnt three different types of rolls and three different jumps. We then practiced them on the gymnastics apparatus.



Lower KS 2

Topaz

This week, in our English lessons, we researched different animals from the Stone Age times. We discovered some interesting facts about the sabre tooth tiger, the woolly mammoth and the diprotodon. We then acted like our chosen animals and shared our facts with each other. Ask us how long a woolly mammoth's tusks were, you'll be amazed!

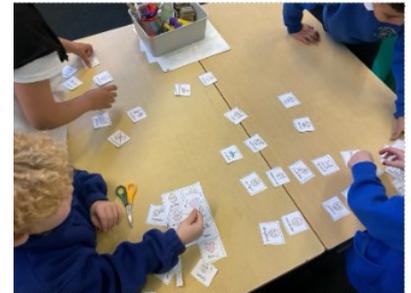


Citrine

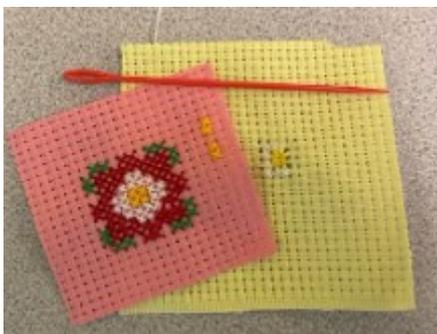
In our history lesson this week, we have been debating which was the best era - the Stone Age or the Bronze Age. We had to make sure we had some great evidence/reasons to share, and we were respectful to the opposition too.

Emerald

This week in PSHE, we have been talking about our own feelings and trying to become more self aware. We worked on grouping similar feelings together and then ranking them on intensity. We thought about what texture, colour, image, shape and sound they remind us of.



Upper KS2



Amethyst

This week, in D&T, we have been learning how to cross-stitch. We have designed a Tudor rose cross-stitch pattern and will be completing the detail withing these over the next few weeks.

Tanzanite

This week, we combined with Amethyst class for drama as part of our English lessons as we began our narrative based around Macbeth. The children acted out a story whoosh showing the rest of the story ready for us to write next week.



Sapphire

This week in geography, we have been learning about ordnance survey maps. We have identified human and physical features and have looked at the symbols used to represent these.



Star of the Week

Well done to this weeks stars of the week.

Amber	Masooma	For increased independence with her routines.
Ruby	Delanie Rein	For doing especially well in her English and maths learning with Miss Greenwood.
Opal	Arham Riaz	For a fantastic week especially in maths where we have been measuring length and height.
Jade	Poppy	For her improved confidence in phonics.
Pearl	Freyja	For becoming a much more independent learner.
Topaz	Yusroh	For ALWAYS doing the right thing in class and around school.
Citrine	Jannat	For always trying her best and putting her hand up to answer every single question in every single lesson.
Emerald	Afsa	For trying hard in all her learning this week and being an excellent role model.
Amethyst	Dekoni	For excellent effort in all subjects this week.
Tanzanite	Leon	For a massively improved attitude outside of the classroom this week.
Sapphire	All Sapphire class	For resilience and determination during Year 6 assessment week.

Principal Award Destiny - for huge progress in phonics



Principal's Reading Champions: Eliza, Jesse, Aysha, Ali, Mateo, Sofia, Sani, Isa, Jack, Hussain, Olami



PE lessons – dance and gymnastics

Across school, children are taking part in either a dance or gymnastics lesson every week. For health and safety reasons, children must not wear socks or shoes. Unless there is a valid medical reason for children not to have bare feet in the hall, the expectation is that they must do so. Thank you for your support with this.



Word of the Week

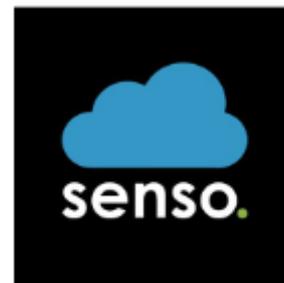
Word of the Week ...



Being comfortable, healthy, or happy in your body and your mind.

Safeguarding updates on pupil iPads

The children have had the new app, Senso, installed on their iPads. This is our Academy's safeguarding filtering/monitoring system. It has an extensive catalogue of what will be blocked and reported and uses AI to support this. It will immediately notify all members of the Senior Leadership Team if a child tries to access sites or words that are not age appropriate. It works both from home and school.



Children have been taught about the software and understand that it is in place to keep them safe.

Please can we remind all parents and children of the acceptable use policies they signed when children received their iPads. The new filtering system now being in place means that any breaches will involve parents and children may lose their iPads, should concerns continue to present or should we feel that they are unable to be kept safe online.



Chocolate baskets in the hall

On the last day of term, children will be having parties in their classrooms. If families would like to donate any sweet treats or crisps for children to share, there will be two baskets in the hall from next week to put these into. Thank you for your support.

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.

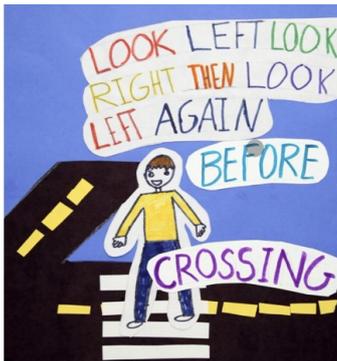


Programme of Coffee Morning Agenda 2023-24 Autumn 2

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
6	Tuesday 5 th December	Kooth & Qwell - online counselling and emotional well-being service
7	Tuesday 12 th December	Coffee chatter and natter!
8	Tuesday 19 th December	Review & 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



MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD IS IN SCHOOL EVERY DAY.

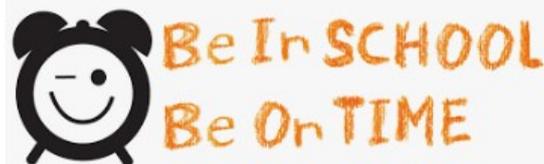
Overall attendance year to date – 93.1%

Weekly winners – Well done to: -

EYFS and KS1 – Pearl 92.7%

KS2 – Topaz 96.7%

Our target is 96%





Christmas Calendar

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.
12.12.23	14.00pm - 15.20pm Christmas Parent Workshop EYFS
14.12.23	14.00pm - 15.20pm Christmas Parent Workshop EYFS
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.

Christmas Tree

On Friday afternoon, Miss Ferguson and the Children's Leadership Team members decorated our Christmas Trees. We have one in the foyer in the Key Stage Two building and another in the Key Stage One hall. Here are some photographs to enjoy for now but we are looking forward to welcoming our families into school in the lead up to the festive period where you will see them in real life! A super job CLT and Miss Ferguson!



The HAF Programme is funded by the Department of Education and provides enriching holiday activities as well as a hot meal for children in receipt of free school meals due to a benefit entitlement.

Our specific camp will be running the camp at St Agnes C of E School, Lees on January 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th.

Each day will run from 09:00am - 14:00pm and will focus on sports education, mentorship, routine establishment, and nutrition awareness.



A poster for a Winter Camp. The background is blue with white snowflakes. At the top left is the Department for Education logo. In the center, it says 'Winter Camp' in large red letters. To the left, a pink circle says 'Lunch provided'. To the right, a pink circle says 'Ages 6-13 yrs'. Below this, a brown banner says '1st Jan-4th Jan | 10am-2pm'. Underneath, it says 'Sports Activities, Crafts & much more!'. A list of venues is provided: Oldham Greenhill, Jalalabad mosque cabin, and Werneth Cricket Club. A registration link is given as 07523955792. At the bottom, it says 'Free if in receipt of BENEFIT RELATED FREE SCHOOL MEALS' and 'Limited free places on Universal Holiday Activities'. The HAF logo and Oldham Council logo are at the bottom.

The links to register are:-

<https://forms.gle/M5tQ5GcjougrEcn48> - Free School Meals

<https://forms.gle/KecNfdbQvfc5CUWk8> - Universal Holiday Activities

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

"Inappropriate" means different things to different people. What's acceptable for one age group, for example, may be unsuitable for a slightly younger audience. Online, young people can chance upon inappropriate content in various ways – from pop-up ads to TikTok videos. The increasingly young age at which children become active in the digital world heightens the risk of them innocently running into something that they find upsetting or frightening. Trusted adults need to be able to help children be aware of what to do if they're exposed to age-inappropriate content.



SOCIAL MEDIA

Age-inappropriate content is easily accessible through many social media platforms. TikTok, for instance, is hugely popular with young people but is arguably best known for clips featuring sexualised dancing or profanity. Some social media users also express hate speech or promote eating disorders and self-harm, which could cause lasting damage to a child's emotional and mental health.

GAMING

Gaming is an enjoyable source of entertainment, but many popular titles can expose children to inappropriate material such as violence, horror, gambling or sexually explicit content. Playing games unsuitable for their age risks normalising to children what they are seeing. Some games also include in-game chat, where other (usually older) online players often use language that you probably wouldn't want your child to hear or repeat.

STREAMING

The range of video streaming services available online means that users can find almost anything they want to watch on demand. Children are therefore at risk of viewing TV shows and movies which contain nudity, drug and alcohol abuse, explicit language and extreme violence. Unfortunately, these streaming platforms can't always determine that it's not an adult who's watching.

ADVERTS

Online adverts frequently include age-inappropriate content: usually gambling and nudity or partial nudity, although adverts for alcohol or e-cigarettes are also common. Some search engines also feature adverts that are responsive to your search history: so if you've recently looked up a new horror movie, shopped for lingerie or ordered alcohol online, then the ads appearing on screen could reflect this the next time your child borrows your device.

18 Advice for Parents & Carers

TALK IT THROUGH

Embarrassment or fear of getting into trouble can make it difficult for children to talk openly about age-inappropriate content they've watched. Remind your child they can always come to you if they're troubled by something they've seen online, without worrying about consequences. Before offering advice, discuss what they saw, how they felt and how they came to find the content in question.



CONNECT, DON'T CORRECT

If your child's been particularly distressed by exposure to content that wasn't suitable for their age, it's important to offer guidance to prevent them from repeating the same mistake – but it's equally vital to help them deal with the emotions that the situation has raised. You could tell them about any similar experiences you might have had at their age, and how you dealt with it.



BLOCK, REPORT, CONTROL

After discussing the problem, you and your child can take action together. This could include blocking any inappropriate sites and reporting any content which violates a platform's rules. To further safeguard your child online, set up parental controls on internet-enabled devices that they use. This will significantly reduce the chances of your child being exposed to age-inappropriate content in future.



GET SPECIALIST HELP

Age-inappropriate content can potentially have a negative impact on a child's mental health, which is sometimes displayed through changes in their behaviour. If the problem becomes more severe, you might consider reaching out to a mental health professional or an expert in this field who can provide you and your child with the proper support.



STAY CALM

Even though it is obviously difficult to stay rational in a situation where your child has been put at risk, it's essential to think before you react. Your child may well have hesitated to open up to you about watching inappropriate content for fear of the consequences, so being calm and supportive will reinforce the notion that it would be easy to talk to you about similar issues in the future.



Meet Our Expert

Cayley Jorgensen is a Registered Counsellor with The Health Professions Council of South Africa, and she runs a private practice offering counselling to children, teenagers and families. Her main focus is creating awareness and educating the community on the mental health pressures of today's world, as well as resources and techniques to understand and cope better.



Sources: <https://www.education.gov.za/documents/about/programmes/bullyingstoppers/inlineappropriate.pdf> | <https://www.esaf.gov.za/education/training-professionals/professional-learning-programme-teachers/inappropriate-content-factheet/> | <https://www.reading.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/childrens-media-18+-year-7.pdf>