



Austin Farm Academy Weekly Newsletter



18/11/2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy, yet enjoyable week we have had, starting with the exciting visit from Pudsey bear in our whole school assembly!

On Monday, the children wore odd socks for National Anti-bullying week to promote and celebrate our individuality.

On Tuesday just over half of the school had their nasal flu vaccinations, I am pleased to say how sensible they were and polite to the lovely nurses who come here. It is reassuring to know that in the event of a flu outbreak that our children should be well protected.

On Wednesday, Mr Hutchings came to see Power Maths in action; he was very impressed with the consistency he saw across the school, the high-quality questioning from the teachers and TAs, the children's use of manipulatives to support their understanding and how much the children said they enjoyed their maths lessons.

As you know, we are always looking for ways to improve our practices in school and something we have noticed needs a bit more focus is the children's fluency when recalling times tables. Look out next week for a letter from your child's class teacher containing a log in for Times Tables Rockstars which they can access from home to speed up their recall in a fun and engaging way.

Today is Children in Need Day and it has been great to see the children wearing spotty clothes, (& sometimes faces!), Pudsey t-shirts and ears. All the children have had a tasty Pudsey biscuit to enjoy at playtime, thank you to the kitchen for making these and thank you to you all for donating online to raise money for this fantastic cause – if you still wish to donate to Children in Need, please go to your Parent Pay account where you can do this.

PTA news

The Fun Food Friday tuck shop last week raised £50.87, thank you to the PTA for organising it and to you for supporting them.

They are already busy planning the school Christmas Fayre and have a plea for your help – if you know anyone who has a business who could donate some prizes to the Christmas raffle, please contact Mrs Gilbert at school.

Remember that it is parent's evenings next week; please see your child's class teacher to make an appointment to talk about your child's progress in school and see their books. We are all part of a team supporting your children's education and feel it is very important that you show them how involved you are in this too.

The Christmas dinner order form has come out today via a Microsoft link, please follow the link to order your child's Christmas dinner.

As the temperature has dropped, please ensure your child comes to school appropriately dressed for cold weather.

I hope you all have a fabulous weekend.

R Baptiste

Foundation: This week we have been trying out some interesting words from our story Farmer Duck. We explored feeling weary, listened to creaky noises and talked about what things could be squeezed like the animals who squeezed under the lazy farmer's bed! We have also created some incredible circle pictures in the style of Kandinsky.

Year 1: One of our continuous provision activities this week was linked to our science work on 'Everyday Materials'. We had to investigate which materials were absorbent and which were not absorbent. Firstly, we made a prediction and then we carried out the test. Finally, we recorded our results and compared these to the predictions we had made.

Year 2: Have been enjoying the Argyle sessions this week and have been working on their fundamental skills. They have worked hard in English and Maths, developing strategies for independence during their class work. Well done year 2 😊

Year 3/4: We are learning about different ABBA songs and so far, have listened and appraised Mamma Mia, Dancing Queen and Winner Takes It All. So far, our favourite is Mamma Mia. We are learning to sing the song and accompany it with glockenspiels. Year 3/4 are superb singers!!

A big well done to our learners of the week:

Foundation: C.Smith

Year 1: L.Walker

Year 2: J. Ashton

Year 3: R.Platten

Year 4: P.Sellwood

Year 5: A.Lester

Year 6: M.Willis

Our Attendance winners are:

Year 2

Great effort!!!!

Year 5: This week, we have looked at the following:

Science – methods of separating mixtures of materials

English - writing up our final narratives based on the Tear Thief

Maths – finding squared and cubed numbers.

Year 6: This week, we have covered some really tricky fractions work where we have been adding fractions (including mixed numbers). The children have shown lots of perseverance and resilience and are very proud of what they are achieving. In music, we were having lots of fun learning techniques to aid with our singing, 'Happy' by Pharrell Williams. Parents – ask your y6 child for a rendition 😊

Dates to remember:

- 21/11/2022 - Parents evening all classes.
- 22/11/2022 – Parents evening. Foundation, Yr 1, Yr 3, Yr 4 and Yr 6 3.30pm-6pm. Letters will be sent home.
- 23/11/2022 – Parents evening. Yr 2 and Yr 5. 3.30pm – 6pm Letters will be sent home.
- 02/12/2022 – Mufti day – donations for Christmas fayre, details to follow.
- 08/12/2022 – Christmas dinner and Jumper Day – Microsoft form will be sent out for orders.
- 05/12/2022 – Christingle service – no parents, please send your child in with an orange.
- 09/12/2022 – Mufti day – donations for Christmas fayre, details to follow.
- 09/12/2022 – PTA Christmas fayre 3.15pm-5:15pm, more details to follow.
- 12/12/2022 – Foundation and KS1 Christmas play 2:30pm. 2 tickets per household, one viewing only. booking form to follow.
- 13/12/2022 – KS2 Christmas play 2.00pm & 5.00pm. 2 tickets per household, one viewing only. booking form to follow.
- 14/12/2022 - Foundation and KS1 Christmas play 2:30pm. 2 tickets per household, one viewing only. booking form to follow.
- 15/12/2022 – Class Christmas parties, details to follow.

Notice board:

- Does your child ride their bike or scooter to school? If so, please make sure they are wearing their helmets, staff will be vigilant and phone calls home will be made home.

