



# Austin Farm Academy Weekly Newsletter



Dear parents/carers,

The Autumnal weather has closed in this week and as well as heavy rain showers, the temperature has dropped; with this in mind please ensure your child has a warm, waterproof coat in school each day.

Today is Remembrance Day; we acknowledged the sacrifices of the fallen, who gave their lives for our freedom and thought about those currently serving in our Armed Forces by observing a 2-minute silence. Thank you to those of you who have bought poppies and wristbands to raise money for the Royal British Legion, yet again showing the thoughtfulness and generosity of our school community.

We are constantly looking for ways we can ensure all children keep up with their class learning; we have recently introduced pre-teaching for Maths; these sessions start at 8.50am. Please ensure your children arrive at school by 8.45am every day so that those who need it can benefit from this important support.

On Wednesday some of our KS2 children went to a football event with other local primary schools; they showed fantastic teamwork, were considerate of other children and came second overall. Those I spoke to, reported that it was a great morning and they thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Each class held their school council elections this week, well done to all the children who put so much effort into writing and rehearsing their speeches. Congratulations to the council members elected, I will keep you updated with the school council's activities in future newsletters.

It has been brought to my attention that some of you have safety concerns whilst waiting in the morning on the pavement outside the school. As the gate to the drive is closed to cars from 8.30am, you are welcome to wait within the school grounds on the pavement next to the drive, as well as on the path from the walk gate. Please can I remind you that vaping is not allowed anywhere on the school site and this includes the path and the driveway.

Next week is national anti-bullying week 2022 with the theme 'Reach Out'. On Monday, your children can wear odd socks to show their uniqueness; this fits in well with our current PSHE learning - Celebrating Differences.

Throughout next week each class will do an NSPCC assembly during their PSHE lessons. We have attached a parent guide on e-safety to this letter which will also be on the school Facebook page. Please talk to your children about how they can "speak out and stay safe".

Next Friday is Children in Need Day, which will be a mufti day in school where the children can wear something spotty, or their own clothes, with Pudsey t-shirts or accessories in exchange for a donation, a link will be sent out on Monday to enable you to donate via ParentPay to this amazing charity.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend,

*R. Baybiste*

## What 's been happening in our school this week...

**Foundation:** this week we have made fruit kebabs by selecting 6 pieces of fruit of our choice. We compared our kebabs using the words more, fewer and the same. We have been learning the story of Farmer Duck and using the farmer's voice as he shouts to the duck. We have also been exploring Diwali and making Diva lamps as well as Rangoli patterns.

**Year 1:** Over the past two weeks, Year 1 have begun an orienteering based unit in PE. We have been working in teams to run up to a cone, look at a letter underneath and then report this letter back to our team. After each set of 5 colour coded letters, we had to unscramble the letters to reveal a word linked to our 'Seasonal Changes' science topic. Next week, we will be studying photographs of places in the school grounds and will have to work as a team to locate the exact spot to collect the given letter.

**Year 2:** This week year 2 have continued to develop their art skills and have created cityscapes in the style of Monet using soft pastels. For most children, it was their first time using the soft pastels; the artwork that they created was very effective. Well done!

**Year 3:** This week in science, we've been investigating the different layers of soil; organic, topsoil, subsoil, parent material and bedrock. It was a hands-on lesson where we made our own jars filled with the different layers. It was a lot of fun! In English, we've been working hard on practising our writing using different composition techniques to help with our understanding of the text. We're looking forward to writing our own version next week.

**Year 4:** In Year 4 we have just started our new topic on electricity. During this week's lesson, we learned how electricity is generated and what renewable and non-renewable means. We know that fossil fuels are non-renewable and that they will run out eventually and we will not be able to use them to generate electricity in the future.

## A big well done to our learners of the week:

Foundation: L. McCoulough  
Year 1: B. Harrison  
Year 2: L. Janek  
Year 3: D. Lisenko  
Year 4: J. Cater  
Year 5: K. Millar  
Year 6: A. Mann

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### The Attendance award goes to

Year 2

Fantastic effort everyone, good job!!!

Year 5: In English, we have 'boxed-up' and are beginning to write our narratives. In Maths, we have begun a new unit looking at multiples, using division and multiplication. We have also been developing our fundamental handling and passing skills in netball.

Year 6: In Art this week, we have begun making the model for our Mayan masks. We used paper maché and are looking forward to finishing these over the next few weeks.

## Dates to remember...

- 14/11/2022 – Odd socks day (Anti Bullying week) and Pudsey in assembly.
- 15/11/2022 – Flu vaccinations This link has now closed 10/11/22 midnight.
- 16/11/2022 – Foundation and Year 1 Fluoride application.
- 18/11/2022 – Children in need, Mufti, online donations only.
- 22/11/2022 – Parents evening. Foundation, Yr 1, Yr 3, Yr4 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.
- 16/12/2022 – Last day of term.