



Austin Farm Academy Weekly Newsletter



Dear parents/carers,

As we reach the end of another week, it appears that this has been the time for the usual Autumn bugs to start spreading through the classes, we are continuing to encourage your children to wash their hands regularly and cover their mouths when coughing; please can you support this at home too.

We have watched our kindness grow over the course of this week as the donations for the foodbank have been displayed in the hall. On Monday, Andrew from Plymouth foodbank will attend our harvest assembly to collect it all and distribute it to families in the local area. Thank you for being so generous with this appeal.

On Tuesday Mrs Blake and Mr Kemp, one of WeST's directors of education, went into lessons to see Power Maths in action and were both impressed with the teaching and learning they saw: the children were all purposefully engaged and relishing the problem-solving challenges. Ask your child about the characters who help them in their Maths lessons - I wonder who their favourite is?



Our first open days for next September's EYFS intake started this week and parents visiting our school for the first time were astounded by the respectful attitude and welcoming nature of our children, as well as their calm focus when learning.

Another visitor to our school felt compelled to email: "I thoroughly enjoyed my visit and the children were a credit to your school. They were extremely well behaved and very polite."

I am immensely proud of how our children showed our school in such a good light, especially as this is how they always behave, it was not just put on for visitors!

I think they have all earned a well-deserved two days off school! I hope you all enjoy yourselves.

R Baptiste



A big well done to our learners of the week:

Foundation:

Year 1:

Year 2: A.Crucikshank

Year 3: T.Reagan

Year 4: C.MacGregor

Year 5: D.Hutson

Year 6: T.Williams

The Attendance award goes to

Year 6

Fantastic effort everyone, good job!!!

Dates to remember.....

- 11/10/2022 - Foundation stay and play and RWI workshop (please go to Foundation gates @ 2.30pm)
- 14/10/2022 - Foundation stay and play and Tapestry workshop (please go to Foundation gates @ 2.30pm)
- Foundation September 2023 starters, if you have any family members or friends looking to join us in September 2023, please pass on our open dates. Tuesday 11th @ 9:45am and Thursday 13th /Friday 14th October 2022 @ 2pm (please call the office on 01752 705367 to arrange booking).
- On Friday 21st, the last day of half term, the PTA are organising a Halloween dress up day. It will cost £1 to come in fancy dress and there will prizes for the best dressed in each class, this does not have to be bought, as you will see, I love a home-made costume! Please note, there are young children in the school who might be scared if the effects are too realistic, no terrifying masks and not too much gore/blood, etc. Please do not send any weapons in as part of the fancy dress e.g. scythes, knives etc. As part of the day in school the children will have a spooky disco in the hall, the kitchen will be making their famous Halloween biscuits to sell for £1 and at the start and end of school there will be some stalls e.g. guess how many sweets in the cauldron and guess the name of the Halloween toy etc. We hope to end the first half term back with a fun filled day.

Notice board:

- Please read some safety tips, information and advice about Roblox.
- Children's absences: Parents need to call every day to explain why their child is off school. Failure to do so may result in an unauthorised mark.
- Year 5 and 6 parents, you should have received a Microsoft form to complete if you would like your child to go to Skeme Lodge for the residential. We have managed to bring the cost down slightly and there is also the option to make monthly payments, please be aware that the initial deposit is non-refundable. We have a few spaces left, but not many, please complete the form by the end of next week to guarantee a place.
- Cauliflower card Extension: please return by Wednesday 12th October 2022.

What 's been happening in the classrooms this week.....

Foundation - We have been adapting the story of 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt,' to create our own version. In Read Write Inc, we have started to learn to blend sounds to read simple words, using magnetic letters and boards. We have also been creating autumnal trees, using pastels and fingerprints.

Year 1 - we have been exploring our new book 'Dear Mother Goose' by Michael Rosen and Nick Sharratt. We worked together to come up with actions for two text maps to help us when we come to our inventing stage as we will be writing our own nursery rhyme character letters and replies from Mother Goose.

Year 2 - This week we have been tasting and evaluating root salads. The children were fantastic at trying new foods. In English we are reading a new book called 'Mixed up Fairy Tales' and the class love the book because we can make silly stories!

Year 3 - we have been proudly presenting our final draft of our explanation texts. We have each created an animal from 2 different animals and then have explained about its different characteristics. We have had lots of fun presenting our work which we will have proudly on display next week.

Year 4 - This week the children have published their information texts about Tutankhamun. In RE, they have learnt about different Christian festivals and debated which one is the most important to Christians. In Art the children have started their portraits of Julius Caesar. Finally, this week in Maths we have been learning how to use column addition for using 4-digit numbers. In Year 4 science, we have been investigating which type of drink will cause the most tooth decay. We are testing Coke, Diet Coke, Red Bull, orange juice, milk and water and we are using hard boiled eggs to represent the teeth. We have predicted which drink might cause the most tooth decay and are excited to see the results.

Year 5 - We have been reading about Shackleton's Adventures to Antarctica and writing our own adventure stories. We have been comparing and rounding numbers up to 1,000,000 in Maths. In SMSC - we have been discussing the importance of rewards and sanctions. Do we need both? Ask your child what they thought.

Year 6 - In English, we are reading Chitty Chitty Bang Bang and the Race Against time and really enjoying it. We have been exploring language patterns; looking at how the writer has been affected by these. We then wrote our own and were really successful in doing so. We are looking forward to writing our own 'Chitty adventure' in the next couple of weeks.

7/10/2022

