

Austin Farm Academy Weekly Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers

This week has signalled the start of December and in preparation for the next two weeks of Christmas activities, the children have begun rehearsals in the hall for the first time in 3 years!

Mrs. King took a lovely Advent assembly on Monday and discussed the importance of trying to remain patient whilst waiting for something exciting!

School council decided on the final school rules after gathering suggestions from their classes and these were approved by the SLT on Thursday.

They are based on our values of being Proud, Resilient and Respectful.

- 1. Be kind, be proud, be brave
- 2. Respect everyone and their belongings.
- 3. Come to school with a good mindset.
- 4. Consider other people's feelings.
- 5. Always be willing to learn even if you don't understand straight away.
- 6. Make good choices at playtimes.
- 7. Always be helpful.

On Thursday afternoon, Rob Haring the CEO of Westcountry Schools' Trust came to school and had a walk around to see the children; he was pleased to see them all engaged in their learning and commented afterwards on how polite and calm our children were. We are all very proud of their respectful

Today the children were all wearing mufti in exchange for donations towards our Xmas Fayre which is next Friday, thank you for the lovely bottles and toiletries you have donated, I am sorry for the short notice I accidentally missed that information out of the newsletter last week.

Next week there is so much happening; to make sure I don't forget anything; I have listed the main events below:

Monday: we will be having a Christingle assembly in school, for the children; Rev. Ann will be leading this. Please send your child in with an orange on Monday morning which they will use to make a Christingle during the day and then bring home after the assembly.

Thursday: Christmas jumper & Christmas dinner day. Please send your child in wearing their snazziest Christmas jumper ready to enjoy a delicious roast turkey dinner cooked by our festive kitchen staff.

Friday: Mufti Day in exchange for donations for Christmas fayre: Homemade cakes or any chocolate. If you wish to make a cake, please make sure all ingredients are listed, in case of allergies.

3.15 – 5.00 PTA Xmas Fayre!! In the hall and classrooms in the lower part of the school (years 1-4). Please come to see if you can stock up on any presents and meet our special guest...HO! HO! HO!

have also learnt how to make a Christingle and why we make them at Christmas.

I hope you all have an enjoyable weekend; several children have told me they will be busy decorating your homes and putting up Christmas trees!

<u>Year 1:</u> In our science lesson this week we carried out two investigations to test the properties of materials. The first investigation was to find out which materials are waterproof / non-waterproof and the second was to test which materials are bendy / rigid. We began by making a prediction, then we tested and finally we recorded our results. We particularly

Foundation: This week we have been learning how to talk about one more in maths using first, then and now actions. We

<u>Year 2:</u> This week Year 2 have been getting excited for Christmas. We started reading our new book 'How to Catch Santa'. We've written letters to Santa and created a brilliant Christmas Eve soundscape in class:)

Dates to remember:

- 05/12/2022 Christingle service no parents, please send your child in with an orange.
- 08/12/2022 Christmas dinner and Jumper Day the deadline has now passed. Thank you.

enjoyed water soaking through the non-waterproof materials onto our hands and arms!

- 09/12/2022 Mufti day donations for Christmas fayre: Homemade cakes or any chocolate. If you wish to make a cake, please make sure all ingredients are listed, in case of allergies.
- 09/12/2022 PTA Christmas fayre 3.15pm-5:15pm. (face painting, a picture with Santa (donation) Raffle, Lucky dip and Hot beverages stand, Tuckshop and more. Please bring small change.
- 12/12/2022 Foundation and KS1 Christmas play 2:30pm. 2 tickets per household, one viewing only. Tickets will be sent home.
- 13/12/2022 KS2 Christmas play 2.00pm & 5.00pm. 2 tickets per household, one viewing only. Tickets will be sent home.
- 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.
- As the cold weather is here, please make sure children bring their coats to school.

A big well done to our learners of the week:

Foundation: D.Rice Year 1: J.Balagat Year 2: L.Borda Year 3: D.Bejan Year 4: D.Bejan

R Barotiste

Year 5: L.Stidwill Year 6: J.Canby

Our Attendance winners are:

Year 1

<u>Year 3/4:</u> In English this week, we've been very busy learning about different sentence structures. We've discussed what makes a compound sentence, and then learned about subordinating conjunctions with subordinating clauses. After this, moved the subordinating clauses to the front of a sentence. We enjoyed the challenge and look forward to writing our poetic stories in the next couple of weeks.

<u>Year 5:</u> In maths lessons this week, we have been finding equivalent fractions and identifying patterns. We have been exploring different sections of our 'Stone Age' book in English.

Our Viking history unit is ending but we have been sketching designs for a Viking mask in Art.

<u>Year 6:</u> This week we have finished choreographing our 'football' dance – next week, we will be perfecting the transitions. It's rather good – if we do say so ourselves! In Maths, we have completed an end-of-unit assessment on fractions. Lots of learning in this unit was really quite tricky and I was so proud of the children's results – they tried hard, showing their workings, and working methodically through each step.