

AUSTIN FARM

A c a d e m y

Newsletter 08/09/2023

Dear parents/carers,

Welcome back to a new school year! It has been lovely to see all of the children's smiling faces as they come into school; they are looking very smart in their new uniforms.

Our new EYFS children have made a great start to their school life and have settled in really well. From Tuesday next week they will be in for their lunch. I am pleased to report that our kind and considerate older children are looking after them superbly at playtimes; I am sure they will do the same at lunchtimes.

Today KS2 had an Egyptian day to start their new History learning. It was fantastic to see the effort that everyone made, the costumes were amazing! This exciting day provided all of our children with a shared experience and is part of our ongoing curriculum development - all KS2 children will be using a curriculum called Opening Worlds for their History, Geography and RE and the recommendation is that they all start with the same learning which builds up over the years. Please come to the meet the teacher presentations next weds at 3.30 or 4.00 to find out more. As the year progresses we will also be updating the curriculum information on the school website www.austinfarmacademy.com

OFSTED

As you now know our OFSTED report is here, I shared a copy with you all yesterday; I am sure you are as proud of the outcomes as we are. Austin Farm Academy is a good school and our Early Years is outstanding. The report will appear on the OFSTED website from Monday 18th September. If you have any friends with children who would like to join our school, then please ask them to call the school office to arrange a tour.

RAAC

You may have seen recent media coverage regarding Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) and its use in educational settings. RAAC is a lightweight form of concrete; because it is weaker than regular concrete, concerns have been raised about its long-term durability. Department for Education (DfE) has recently changed its guidance to education settings on the management of RAAC to take a more precautionary approach and as a result areas in affected spaces will be vacated.

We wanted to inform you that we are not affected by this decision as we do not have RAAC in any of our buildings and therefore they will continue to function as normal. We understand that parents may want to understand more about the support to educational settings to manage RAAC safely. You can read more through the article published by the DfE on the Education Hub.

Building work

Over the summer holidays we had a number of building projects completed by WeST. We have fantastic new toilets for the classrooms in the lower part of the school, which all children can use at playtimes and lunchtimes. There are new bright LED lights in all classes which are not only great for them to see their work but also better for the environment. As you know the demolition of the hut and the conference room/Crownlands centre is only partially complete and this can't be done whilst the children are in school, so the rest of the demolition is due to happen over October half term. After this, we will need to wait for grass to grow before we can use the space. In the meantime, School Council will be working on a sustainability project for exciting ideas about what to do with this space.

NEXT WEEK

Wednesday 13th September is Roald Dahl day and this year we will be celebrating in classes by sharing our favourite stories by the famous author, there is no need to dress up on this day.

Wednesday 13th September - Meet the teacher - please come to your child's classroom at either 3.30 or 4.00 to find out information about your child's new year at school. This is really important in

helping to know what the expectations of school are and how to support your children at home; it also shows them that we are a team working together to give them a good education.

I hope you have a lovely weekend and make the most of the sunny weather!

Learners of the week, well done everyone !!

Foundation: C.Weaver

Year 1: D.Willis

Year 2: P.McDonald

Year 3: L.Skitmore

Year 4/5: Both years

Year 6: A.Burton

Attendance awards commencing next week.

Menu w/b 11/9/23

Dinner menu W/B 4.9.2023

Wednesday main -
Meatball pasta with garlic bread
V. pasta with garlic bread

Thursday main -
Roast pork with trimmings
Quorn fillet with trimmings

Friday main -
Breaded fish chips and veg
V. Sausages with chips and veg

Please note: Desserts will be a selection of cakes, yoghurts and fruit.

Available until Friday 20th October 2023
School packed lunches (cheese, tuna, ham)
Jacket potatoes (cheese, tuna, ham)

Dates to remember!!!



19/09/2023 - Family photos via Tempest - 8am-8:30am. Please book via Microsoft link, this will be sent closer to the time.

19/09/2023 - Individual school photos

22/09/2023 - Jeans 4Genes MUFTI £1 donation to wear jeans or denim skirt with school jumper

w/b 2.10.23 - Bikeability week.

Term dates

WeST Term Dates					2023 to 2024				
Aug 2023					Sep 2023				
M	T	W	T	F S S	M	T	W	T	F S S
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14	15	16	17	18 19 20	11	12	13	14	15 16 17
21	22	23	24	25 26 27	18	19	20	21 22 23 24	
28	29	30	31		25	26	27	28 29 30	
Oct 2023					Nov 2023				
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Dec 2023					Jan 2024				
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Feb 2024					Mar 2024				
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			26	27 28 29	25	26	27	28 29 30 31	
Apr 2024					May 2024				
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Jun 2024					Jul 2024				
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					22	23	24	25 26 27 28	
					29	30	31		

Important dates
To shade (or clear) cells in the month tables, select the cells to shade and then, on the Table Tools Design tab, choose Cell Shading.
To view this calendar with all formatting and layout, on the View tab, choose Reading View.

Autumn Term Dates Monday 4 September to Friday 20 October then Monday 30 October to Tuesday 19 December
Term 1 33 days Term 2 30 days School NPD Monday 4/WeST NPD Tuesday 5 September/ WeST NPD Monday 30 October

Spring Term Dates Wednesday 3 January to Friday 9 February then Monday 19 February to Thursday 28 March
Term 3 29 days Term 4 28 days WeST NPD Monday 19 February

Summer Term Dates Monday 15 April to Friday 24 May then Monday 3 June to Tuesday 23 July
Term 5 29 days Term 6 35 days School NPD Monday 22/23 July

Three Trust NPD's and three school NPD's. 189 teaching days in total.
Peach – holiday periods, Purple weekends, Green Trust NPD's, Blue School NPD's.

Egyptian day

Best dressed awards for homemade and shop bought are:

J.Medway-Gould

D.Lisenko

M.Scott

L.Janek

M.Scott

M.Hayward

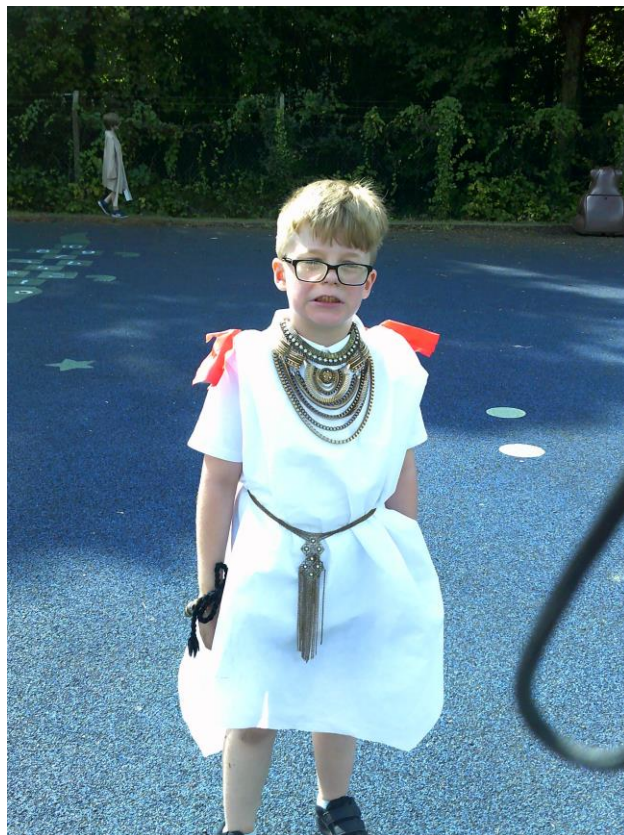
Please see below some amazing photos of the children and staff, fantastic effort everyone!!















Our new toilets....



