

# AUSTIN FARM

## Academy

### Newsletter 13/10/2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

After such a sunny weekend only 5 days ago, we ended this week with cold and rain. Please remember to always bring a coat into school from now on, I think this Autumn weather is finally here to stay. The weather hasn't dampened the children's enthusiasm for work, please see below what they have been learning this week.

Thank you all for your kindness and generosity so far, our Foodbank display is growing, Monday is the last day for any items you are able to donate.

In assembly on Monday I introduced the 9 Acts of Kindness Challenge for Childline, this is starting now and finishing in the second week after half term: 6th - 10th November. School council have told the children more information and a parent letter will follow. Already, the children have completed two acts of kindness: 1) they have coloured in some Christmas bunting for the Starlight charity to

decorate children's hospital wards for those poorly children and their families who have to spend their Christmas day in hospital and 2) made donations to the Plymouth Foodbank. What a great start!

PTA - We need you! After years of volunteering, several of our current PTA members have stepped down. We need new members to support the school and organise our fundraising. We have already had some interest, please come to the school office to let us know if you are interested/able to join. It is not a huge time commitment and is a great opportunity to meet other parents in the school who you might not usually get to know.

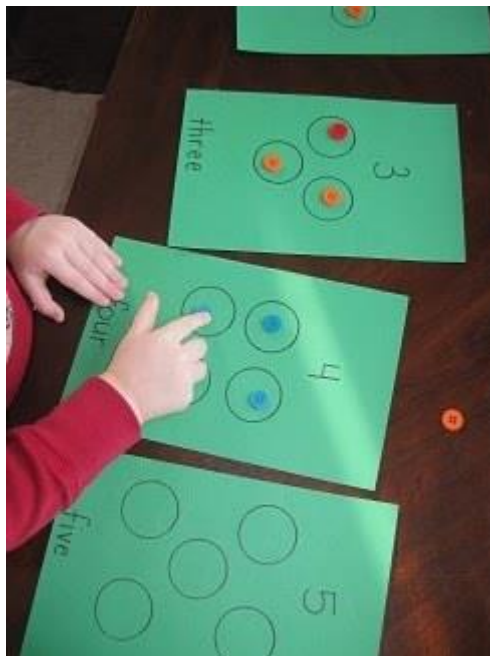
On the first day back after half term, Tuesday 31st October, your child can come to school in Halloween fancy dress, for no cost. Please consider that there are young children in school, so please do not wear scary masks.

On Friday 3rd November we are having a special Bonfire lunch: hot dogs (meat or vegetarian) and firework shortbread biscuits! Sounds delicious!

I hope you have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Baptiste

Foundation: we have been continuing to explore more than, fewer and the same with groups up to 5. The children are making really good progress with touching or moving each counter as they count. In English we have been talking about our main character who made up lots of stories about how she hurt her knee. We have been thinking about whether she has behaved in a nice way or a not nice way. We have been on an exciting Autumn hunt to find lots of different colour leaves and seeds. Our sounds this week are b, f, e, l, h.



Year 1: we have been exploring part whole models and fact families. We have learnt that the whole is the largest number and we have discovered that we can move the parts around in the number sentence and also move the equals sign and add sign around too. In English we have been learning how we can add 'ing' to verbs like jump or cook to change our sentences. We have also been hunting

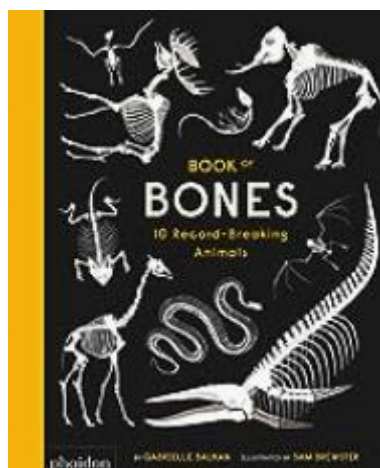
for the signs of Autumn around our school. We have noticed how the days are getting shorter, the weather is changing and lots of trees are losing their leaves.



Year 2: this week we had an interesting lesson tasting and cutting different fruits. We tried plums, bananas, oranges, apples and grapes. We learnt how to carefully use a knife to cut the fruit. We used our knowledge to design our own fruit salad that we will be making next week.



Year 3: this week we have been writing our version of Book of Bones. The children have been researching and writing about skunks, ostriches and Komodo dragons. They are really excited to complete their class book! The children have also designed their canopic jars...keep your eyes peeled for updates!



Year 4/5: have been working very hard. The class have been really enjoying our RE lessons and have finally found out the last part of the story of Rama and Sita. Ask your child to tell you their favourite part of the story.



Year 6: we have been learning how to use short division, some of us found this tricky at first but have shown true resilience. We have now mastered it!! We have finished our learning about the Hindu story, Rama and Sita. We are looking forward to relating the learning through this story to how Hindus celebrate today.



**Learners of the week, well done everyone!!**

**Foundation: E. Ninnim**

**Year 1: E. Goodwin**

**Year 2: A-J. Warner**

**Year 3: P. Curran**

Year 4/5: K. McDonald

Year 6: A-S. Lisenko

.

**The attendance award goes to year 1 for getting 99.5% this week.**



*1 - Fantastic job everyone!!*

**Dates to remember!!!**



**16/10/2023 - Foodbank collection & Harvest Festival**

**20/10/2023 - Last day of term.**

**30/10/2023 - Non pupil day.**

**31/10/2023 - Children to return to school.**

**31/10/2023 - Children can dress up in Halloween costumes. No scary masks.**

**3/11/2023 - Bonfire Lunch! Hot dogs (Vegetarian Hot dogs) & firework shortbread biscuits!**

17/11/2023 - Children in Need Day - Details to follow.

£5.00 Hobby Craft voucher.



Follow this link to create an account and you get a £5 voucher after signing up: [Sign in page with registration \(hobbycraft.co.uk\)](https://www.hobbycraft.co.uk/sign-in)

Dress up for Halloween - 31/10/2023



**Children can dress up in Halloween costumes. No scary masks, if we feel the mask is too scary for the little ones, we will ask your child to remove it.**

Children in Need day 17/11/2023



*2 - Your child can come to school wearing something spotty!*

## Harvest festival suggested donations.



**Long-life Fruit Juice**

**UHT Milk**

**Tinned Meat**

**Tinned Fish**

**Tinned Fruit**

**Tinned Custard / Rice Pudding**

**Tinned Tomatoes**

**Pasta Sauces**

**Cereal**

**Biscuits**

**Jams / Choco Spread / Peanut Butter**

**Coffee**

**Toiletries (Toothpaste, Shower Gel, Deodorants, Shampoo etc)**

**Our Harvest Festival will be on Monday 16th October when the food will be blessed by Reverend Ann and Andrew from the Foodbank will come to collect our donations.**

## Menu Week 2

Week One						
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Option 1	Freshly Prepared Margarita Pizza	The Norse Beef Burger in a Bap with Homemade Salsa	Roast Chicken with Stuffing	Freshly Prepared Beef Bolognese	Battered Fish Fillet	
Option 2 (v)	Quorn Burger in a Bap with Relish	Quorn Hot Dog in roll with Relish	Freshly Prepared Vegetable Lentil Loaf	Mediterranean Vegetable Bolognese	Vegetable Fingers	
Sides	Baked Beans Crunchy Salad Herby Diced Potatoes	Sweetcorn, Homemade Coleslaw, Jacket Potato Wedges	Fresh Broccoli Fresh Carrots Roast or New Potatoes & Gravy	Green Beans Wholewheat Spaghetti & Crusty Bread	Baked Beans or Crunchy Vegetable Sticks Wholemeal Pasta or Chips	
And for pudding	Flapjack	Apple & Cinnamon Muffin	Organic Pip Ice Lolly	Chocolate Surprise Brownie	Homemade Custard Biscuit	
Packed lunch	Falafel, Spinach & Mango Chutney in a Wrap	Mini Ploughman's	Tuna Mayo & Cucumber Wrap	Cheese & Salad Sandwich	Ham & Salad Baguette	
Available each day	Freshly Prepared Salad, Bread and Drinking Water. Fresh Fruit or Organic Yoghurt available as a pudding alternatives					
Week starting:	17/04/23—08/05/23—05/06/23—26/06/23—17/07/23—18/09/23—09/10/23					

Week Two						
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Option 1	Freshly Prepared Mac & Cheese	Lemon Herb Chicken	Honey Roast Gammon & Pineapple	Norse's Butchers Sausages	Fishtastic Wrap	
Option 2 (v)	Freshly Prepared Roasted Vegetables Pasta Bake	Homity Pie	Homemade Cheese & Leek Parcels	Vegetarian Sausages	Halloumi Pizzola	
Sides	Green Beans, Fresh Sliced Carrots, & Crusty Bread	New Potatoes, Green Salad or Corn on the cob	Fresh Broccoli Fresh Carrots Roast or New Potatoes & Gravy	Baked Beans, Tomatoes & Hash Browns	Baked Beans or Crunchy Vegetable Sticks Wholemeal Pasta or Chips	
And for pudding	Berry Pancakes	Summer Fruit Salad	Gelato (Arctic Roll)	Chocolate Mousse	Organic Pip Ice Lolly	
Packed lunch	Egg Mayo & Cress Sandwich	Cheese & Salad Sandwich	Fish Finger Roll	BBQ Jackfruit & Lettuce Wrap	Ham & Salad Sandwich	
Available each day	Freshly Prepared Salad, Bread and Drinking Water. Fresh Fruit or Organic Yoghurt available as a pudding alternatives					
Week starting:	24/04/23—15/05/23—12/06/23—03/07/23—04/09/23—25/09/23—16/10/23					

Week Three						
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Option 1	Homemade Cheese Wheels	Meatballs in Tomato Sauce	Roast Loin of Pork & Apple Sauce	Bubble Salmon	Fish Fingers	
Option 2 (v)	Quorn Sausages	Veggie Balls in Tomato Sauce	Veggie Roast	Vegetable Enchilada	Sweet Potato, Spinach & Feta Frittata	
Sides	Baked Beans, Peas & Herby Diced Potatoes	Green Beans, Wholewheat Spaghetti & Crusty Bread	Fresh Broccoli Fresh Carrots Roast or New Potatoes & Gravy	Stir fry Vegetables & Potato Salad	Baked Beans or Crunchy Vegetable Sticks Wholemeal Pasta or Chips	
And for pudding	Orange & Sultana Oaty Cookie	Chocolate Cracknel	Fruit Jelly	Lemon Drizzle Cake	Organic Pip Ice Lolly	
Packed lunch	Egg Mayo & Salad Sandwich	Cheese & Salad Roll	Tuna Mayo & Salad Sandwich	Jays Sausage Roll & Veggie Sticks	Ham & Salad Baguette	
Available each day	Freshly Prepared Salad, Home Baked Bread and Drinking Water. Fresh Fruit or Organic Yoghurt available as a pudding alternatives					
Week starting:	01/05/23—22/05/23—19/06/23—10/07/23—11/09/23—02/10/23					

## Social Media



Whilst it has been amazing to share are "GOOD" news on Social Media, we cant help but notice that a number of our children have accounts/profiles on Social Media. We advise parents/carers that there is an age restriction on Social Media and encourage you to be cautious.

Term time holidays- - Is it worth it ?



**Mulitple families have now been issued fines from Plymouth County Council due to taking their child/ren out of school during term time. Please follow the link below to understand the charges and potential legal action that these holidays can result in.**

[School attendance and absence | PLYMOUTH.GOV.UK](https://plymouth.gov.uk/school-attendance-and-absence)

## **Attendance.**

**Every moment in school counts, and days missed add up quickly. The higher a child's attendance, the more they are likely to learn, and the better they are likely to perform in exams and formal assessments. We are implementing new procedures to help parents get their children to school.**

**Do you know your child's attendance ?**

95% Attendance - 2 whole weeks of school missed.

90% Attendance - 4 whole weeks of school missed.

85% Attendance - 6 whole weeks of school missed.

80% Attendance - 8 whole weeks of school missed.

75% Attendance - 9 plus whole weeks of school missed.

5 minutes late, does it really matter ?



Lateness = Lost Learning

(Figures below are calculated over a school year)



## Children's Appointments!



SpaDental South-West

SpaDental Plymouth and SpaDental Saltash

invite children under 12 years of age

for NHS appointments

Book an appointment today!



To book an appointment, or for more information, please scan the QR code or visit the link:

<https://www.spadental.co.uk/for-patients/spadental-south-west-children/>

to complete the "contact us" form.

SpaDental Plymouth: 2 Hyde Park Rd, Mutley, PL3 4RJ

SpaDental Saltash: 77 Fore St, Saltash, PL12 6AF

Help your child keep healthy teeth for life.

**spa**dental

## Safeguarding posters

All National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

**National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

# REMOTE EDUCATION

## 10 TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS

Remote education ensures continuous learning outside the classroom. For parents and carers, remote education isn't always straightforward and there can be a number of factors they need to consider, especially around ensuring their children feel comfortable and are familiar with the whole concept. That's why we've created this guide to help parents and carers support their child in getting the most out of their remote education experience.

- 1. TAKE AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING**  
 As a parent or carer, your school may have explained how remote education works already, but children may still need help. Take an active interest in their learning and help support them whenever they need a helping hand.
- 2. MONITOR YOUR CHILD'S COMMUNICATION AND ONLINE ACTIVITY**  
 It's important to remind your child that despite being at home, the same level of behaviour and conduct exists as if they were at school. Encourage them to remain polite, remember their manners and not to post or send any negative comments just because they are behind a computer.
- 3. ESTABLISH A DAILY SCHEDULE AND ROUTINE**  
 Working from home and trying to learn in a more casual setting that children might associate more with play and a degree of freedom might take a bit of getting used to. Try to stick to a daily routine and use the timetable to make sure that school hours are kept to help children keep on top of their daily learning.
- 4. ENCOURAGE SCREEN BREAKS AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AWAY FROM DEVICES**  
 Remote learning and especially remote lessons mean interaction with computers, laptops and tablets. Teachers will inevitably advise on screen breaks however, it doesn't hurt to keep a check on their time online or encourage them to get some fresh air/exercise.
- 5. ENSURE YOUR LEARNING DEVICE IS IN PUBLIC SPACE IN THE HOME**  
 It's important to consider where your PC or laptop is placed if live video is being used. Try to keep the background neutral, with no personal information visible and prove learning device out of the bedroom as this could be deemed inappropriate.
- 6. IMPLEMENT SAFETY CONTROLS AND PRIVACY RESTRICTIONS ON APPS AND SOFTWARE**  
 Depending on how your school implements remote education, your child may be required to download certain software or apps. Whilst these are likely to be relatively safe to use, like any other new app or platform, parents should still implement safety controls as a precaution.
- 7. ENSURE YOUR CHILD ONLY USES OFFICIAL SCHOOL COMMUNICATION CHANNELS**  
 It's important that all communication with teachers and school staff is directed through approved school channels, whether that be through the school's online portal or the relevant secure messaging app.
- 8. FAMILIARISE YOURSELF WITH RELEVANT SCHOOL POLICIES**  
 Schools should have a policy on remote education that they can share with parents. Familiarise yourself with this and ensure you know what is expected of teachers and your child during lessons, both online and offline.
- 9. MAINTAIN FEEDBACK WITH TEACHERS**  
 Engage in communication with teachers where possible, and try to feed back progress and development as well as any helpful suggestions around the learning process. Be transparent but remain professional and only use official channels for communications.
- 10. MONITOR YOUR CHILD'S WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH**  
 Remote education will likely mean that your child won't get the same level of social interaction and might not see their friends for a while. Keep a check on their wellbeing and try to encourage them to get out as much as they can. Whilst learning from home might seem fun and positive to start with, missing out on seeing their friends every day might take its toll.

[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) Twitter: @nationalonlinesafety Facebook: /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram: @nationalonlinesafety

Source: Remote education good practice. OFE guidance. | Safeguarding and remote education during coronavirus (COVID-19). OFE guidance.

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