

AUSTIN FARM

A c a d e m y

Newsletter 24/11/2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week the temperature has dropped but luckily the rain has steered clear of playtimes so we have been able to get out in the fresh air, please ensure your child has a warm coat in school at all times and please put a name on it! Despite the colder weather outside, the children have been working hard as always, please see below for what they have been learning this week.

As you can see, the wall is now fixed, so there shouldn't be any more mud on the path for you to jump over in the mornings! However, we will have to wait until the Christmas holidays to get the path re-surfaced. Thank you for your understanding.

Calling all keen artists! Cool Milk is running a design a Christmas card competition - If you would like to enter this competition, please fold over a piece of A4 paper and draw your best Christmas design with a milk theme! (We can provide a piece of paper if you need one - please ask at the school office). If you are the winner, there is prize of £100 Amazon voucher for the child and £100 for the school, as this is a competition against all other schools in the area, only the best designs will have a chance of winning, so make sure you are trying your best. Please give all completed entries to the school office by Friday 1st December. See the poster below for more details.

Year 2 - after the Christmas holidays we have been offered 6 weeks of road safety training for the children by Plymouth road safety officers. This will consist of small groups, learning about in the local area for around 30 minutes a week, accompanied by 3 road safety officers. Please read the leaflets that your child has brought home today and if you are happy for your child to take part in this opportunity, complete the road safety training consent by 8th December. As you know, the roads around our school are dangerous with speeding traffic and this will support them to notice road hazards - this is not designed for them to walk independently, but to be more aware of what is going on around them.

Unfortunately, as there have been no volunteers to take on the PTA, we have had to close it down. This means there will be no Xmas Fair this year and no further fundraising for the year 6 Prom and the gym trail we have planned for the area next to the playground where the hut has been demolished. If you are interested in finding out how to become a member of the PTA then please come to see me, it really isn't a lot of time throughout the year, just a couple of discos, an easter egg hunt and a Christmas & Summer fair. It is ideal for a few parents who are friends to get together and organise. We can support as a school, but we can't do it all ourselves.

Social Media - yet again we have had to deal with upset children in school due to the use of Social Media outside of school, please monitor your children's use of their mobile phones & other devices and make them aware of the consequences of sharing their own (or anyone else's) personal information & pictures on Social Media. The age of criminal responsibility in England, Wales and Northern Ireland is 10-years-old; if a complaint is made to the police, children could be investigated and if the behaviour is found to be illegal, the consequences for anyone 10 or older could be worse than they have considered when sharing in a group chat. The legal age for using Snap Chat is 13 years old and we strongly advise against any child in our school using it.

Xmas dinner forms - these were sent out earlier this week, thank you to the 64 people who have already got their orders in. The deadline for completing them is Thursday 30th November and no further orders can be taken after this date.

Xmas play booking forms - these were sent out today - please complete them by 4th December for a chance to see your children's acting skills on show! Due to fire safety rules, we must have a register of everyone coming and won't be able to let anyone in on the day without pre-booking.

I hope you all have a great weekend,



Foundation: this week we have been exploring part whole models in Maths; we have learnt how to separate numbers into parts. In English, we have tried out being the three little pigs and described how we have felt at different points in the story. We have also been thinking about who we talk to in class if we have a problem in our Jigsaw lessons.



Year 1: we have innovated our story of the three little pigs and decided our new characters are three cheeky blackbirds. As we write our new story we are underlining capital letters with red pencil and

underlining our past tense verbs with green to help us remember key parts of our sentences. In Jigsaw we have continued to explore what bullying means and who we can talk to if we have a problem.



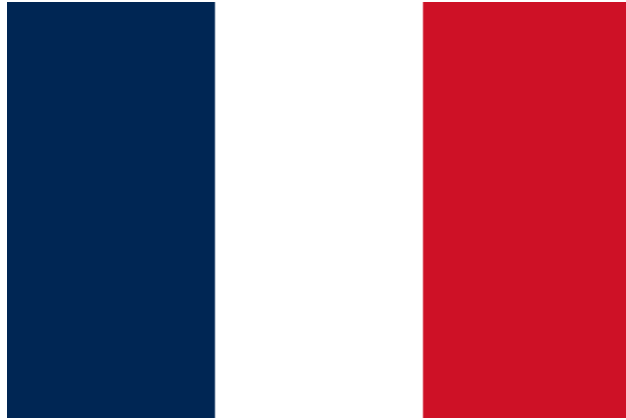
Year 2: we have begun our preparations for our nativity performance. The class has been rocking with the sound of us learning the songs! We are already getting excited!



Year 3: this week we have been practising our writing for our English unit. We have also planned our stories ready to write next week!



Year 4/5: have been exploring melting points in a science experiment and year 5 have been learning about metamorphosis. The class have also wowed me with their growing knowledge of French words! Très bien!



Year 6: this week we have been writing a shared story about an adventure for Chitty. We have travelled back to WW2 and really focused on our dialogue to show the different characters' personalities. In History, we learned about the oldest story known – The Epic of Gilgamesh and discussed the different themes of the story as well as our favourite parts. In one of our PE lessons, we are learning how to play Kwik cricket. We are all becoming very accurate with our bowling technique and are scoring lots of points by hitting the stumps.



Learners of the week, well done everyone!!

Foundation: F.Morgan

Year 1: N.Sands

Year 2: Z.Adey

Year 3: A.Cruickshank

Year 4/5: C.MacGregor

Year 6: M.Carroll

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The attendance award goes to yr4 for getting 98.8% this week, with yr6 a close 2nd at 98.4%



1 - Fantastic job everyone!!

Dates to remember!!!



24.11.23 - Whole school Christmas production links to book tickets being sent out.

30.11.23 - Christmas dinner order form deadline.

27.11.23 & 29.11.23 - Parent's evenings years 1-6. Please return the letters to your class teacher to book a time.

01.12.2023 - Plymouth Half marathon, consent and payment deadline.

6.12.23 - Christmas dinner day! You can wear a Christmas jumper to school!

12.12.23 & 14.12.23 - EYFS & KS1 Christmas play in the hall at 2.30pm, parents/carers can come to one performance - no toddlers please.

13.12.23 - KS2 Christmas play at 2.30 & 5.00pm, parents/carers can come to one performance - no toddlers please.

18.12.23 - Class Christmas parties - you can come to school dressed in your best party clothes.

19.12.23 - Last day of term - only 4:30pm pick up option for afterschool club.

ARGYLE COMMUNITY TRUST lewis.jenkins@pafc.co.uk

PLYMOUTH FIT AND FED
December 2023

High View School

Keyham Barton Catholic Primary School

Weston Mill Community

Courtlands SEND School

Mount Wise Community

Prince Rock Primary

FREE
To those eligible for benefit-related free school meals

Offering fun physical activities, games & wider enrichments, plus a hot & healthy meal for all children. Ages 5-16.

 Book now 01752 562561 ext. 6
<https://officialsoccerschools.co.uk/argyle/courses>

www.argylecommunitytrust.co.uk



Cool Milk

CHRISTMAS CARD Competition



DESIGN A MILK-THEMED CHRISTMAS CARD!
Cool Milk is holding a competition for Primary School children,
ages 5-11, to design their official Christmas Card for 2023



ENTRY DEADLINE:
Monday, 4th December 2023

***Terms & Conditions:**

- Entries must be milk-themed and received by 5pm 4th December by email to marketing@coolmilk.com.
- Please write child's name, age and school in the body of the email.
- Entries must be on folded A4 and coloured in pencil, pen, marker or paint (no glitter or cotton wool).

Menu Week 2

Week One						
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Option 1	Facciotta Margherita	Chicken Katsu Curry & Rice	Roast Gammon Steak & Pineapple	Meatballs in a Ragu sauce	Fish Fingers	
Option 2 (v)	Veggie Bean Wrap	Cheese & Potato Pie	Vegetarian Plait	Veggie Balls in a Ragu Sauce	Veggie Nuggets	
Sides	Herby Glazed Potato Coleslaw or Sweetcorn	Peas Baked Beans	Roast Potato Broccoli & Carrots Gravy	Spaghetti Green beans & Crusty bread	Chips or Wholemeal Pasta Peas or Baked Beans	
And for pudding	Pancakes with Banana & Honey	Chocolate Surprise Brownie	Oat and Sultana Cookie	Apple Crumble & Custard	Pip Organic Lollies	
Jacket Potato	Cheese, Beans or Tuna	Cheese, Beans or Tuna	Cheese, Beans or Tuna	Cheese, Beans or Tuna	Cheese, Beans or Tuna	
Available each day	Freshly Prepared Salad, Fresh Bread & Drinking Water. Fresh Fruit or Organic Yoghurt available as a pudding alternative.					
Week starting:	30/10/23; 20/11/23; 11/12/23; 08/01/24; 29/01/24; 26/02/24; 18/03/24					

Week Two						
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Option 1	Macaroni Cheese	Butchers Sausages & Gravy	Roast Chicken with Sage and Onion Stuffing	Beef Lasagne	Filet of Fish	
Option 2 (v)	Tomato & Basil Pasta Bake	Vegetarian Sausages & Gravy	Yorkshire Pudding Stuffed with Quorn Pieces	Vegetarian Lasagne	Cheese Omelet	
Sides	Broccoli & Garlic Bread	Creamed Potatoes & Carrots	Roast Potato Broccoli & Carrots Gravy	Coleslaw or Green Beans & Crusty bread	Chips or Wholemeal Pasta Peas or Baked Beans	
And for pudding	Crispy Chocolate Cornflake Cake	Peach Sponge & Custard	Arctic roll	Shortbread Biscuit & Fresh Fruit salad	Pip Organic Lollies	
Jacket Potato	Cheese, Beans or Tuna	Cheese, Beans or Tuna	Cheese, Beans or Tuna	Cheese, Beans or Tuna	Cheese, Beans or Tuna	
Available each day	Freshly Prepared Salad, Fresh Bread & Drinking Water. Fresh Fruit or Organic Yoghurt available as a pudding alternative.					
Week starting:	06/11/23; 27/11/23; 18/12/2023; 15/01/24; 05/02/24; 04/03/24; 25/03/24					

Week Three						
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Option 1	Cheese & Tomato Pizza Pocket	Fish Pie	Roast Pork & Apple Sauce	Beef Bolognaise	Jumbo Fish Finger	
Option 2 (v)	Vegetable Fajita	Cheese Whewk & Wholemeal Pasta	Quorn and Leek Pasty/Puff	Mediterranean Vegetable Bolognaise	Veggie Fingers	
Sides	Potato Wedges Sweetcorn or Winter Colelaw	Peas Baked Beans	Roast Potato Broccoli & Carrots Gravy	Penne Pasta Green Beans & Crusty bread	Chips or Wholemeal Pasta Peas or Baked Beans	
And for pudding	Strawberry Mousse	Sticky Toffee Cake & Sauce	Fruit Jelly	Chocolate Crunch & Chocolate Sauce	Pip Organic Lollies	
Jacket Potato	Cheese, Beans or Tuna	Cheese, Beans or Tuna	Cheese, Beans or Tuna	Cheese, Beans or Tuna	Cheese, Beans or Tuna	
Available each day	Freshly Prepared Salad, Fresh Bread & Drinking Water. Fresh Fruit or Organic Yoghurt available as a pudding alternative.					
Week starting:	11/11/23; 04/12/23; 01/01/24; 22/01/24; 19/02/24; 11/03/24					

Social Media



We are increasingly having to deal with issues at school that are actually from inappropriate or unkind use of social media. Please check your child's mobile phone daily to monitor the messages they are sending and receiving, particularly the language they are using. This is a parent's responsibility rather than a school one, we can educate them but not monitor their devices. The legal age for having all social media apps e.g. Wink, Snap Chat, Facebook, Instagram, etc. is 13 years old - no child in our school should be using them.

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://www.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)

- **5 Minutes late each day - 3 days lost**
- **10 Minutes late each day - 6.5 days lost**
- **15 Minutes late each day - 10 days lost**

- 20 Minutes late each day - 13 days lost
- 30 Minutes late each day - 19 days lost

Term dates

WeST Term Dates

2023 to 2024

Aug 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
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Sep 2023						
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Oct 2023						
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Dec 2023						
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Jan 2024						
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Feb 2024						
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Mar 2024						
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Apr 2024						
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May 2024						
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Jun 2024						
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Jul 2024						
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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 36 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 28 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.

Aug 2024						
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Sep 2024						
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Oct 2024						
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Nov 2024						
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Dec 2024						
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Jan 2025						
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Feb 2025						
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Mar 2025						
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Apr 2025						
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May 2025						
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Jun 2025						
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Jul 2025						
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Key: Peach - holiday periods; light green - weekends; blue - Trust NPDs; yellow - School NPDs

Important dates

Autumn Term Dates: Monday 2 September to Friday 25 October, then Monday 4 November to Friday 20 December

Term 1 40 days (inc. School NPD Mon 2 Sept and WeST NPD Tues 3 Sept)

Term 2 35 days

Spring Term Dates: Monday 6 January to Friday 14 February, then Monday 24 February to Friday 4 April

Term 3 30 days (inc. School NPD Monday 6 January)

Term 4 30 days

Summer Term Dates: Tuesday 21 April to Friday 23 May, then Monday 2 June to Tuesday 22 July (Note: NPDs on Mo 21 and Tu 22 Jul '25 are disaggregated for staff twilight training throughout the year. The last day of the academic year for students and staff is Friday 18 July 2025)

Term 5 23 days

Term 6 37 days

Children's NHS Dentist

Children's Appointments!

NHS 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.



Safeguarding posters