# **AUSTIN FARM**

# Academy

# Newsletter 08/12/2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

What an exciting week we have had! Preparations for Christmas are definitely in full swing here at Austin Farm.

On Monday, everyone made Christingles and Reverend Ann came to take our Christingle assembly with Reverend Tatiana. They were extremely impressed with our children's knowledge of what each part of the Christingle represented; when we turned off the lights and lit all 125 Christingles, it was a lovely sight.

On Wednesday we had our Christmas lunch; the hall was full of Christmas cheer with music playing, children laughing, crackers being pulled and a delicious roast turkey lunch (provided by Devon Norse) being enjoyed by all. Please see below for pictures of everyone in their finest Christmas jumpers having a fantastic time!

Christmas play rehearsals are in full swing, yesterday your child should have brough home tickets for your chosen performance; please bring these with you next week when you come to watch. We will be collecting donations on the door for Childline if you would like to bring some cash with you to give to this worthwhile charity.

Despite all of the festive fun, the children have still been working hard; lots of classes are doing their final writes and I am looking forward to reading them when they are finished either this week or next.

Next week there will be a headteacher's assembly on Friday at 2.30pm; this will replace the usual celebration assembly which we will have on the last day of term (Tuesday 19th December). Those of you who's children have won should have received a phone call today - remember to keep it a secret!

From Monday, we will be selling squares outside the office for £1 a square there are two prizes: a £50 note or a Christmas hamper. We will announce the winner on the last day of term, so make sure your child is in school on 19th December to find out if you have won!

I hope you all have a great weekend,











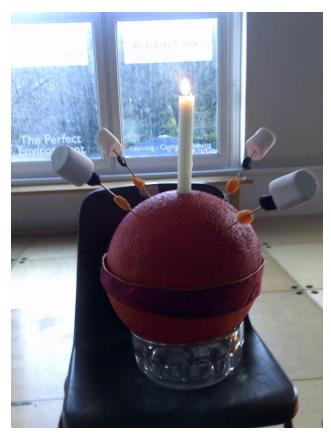


























































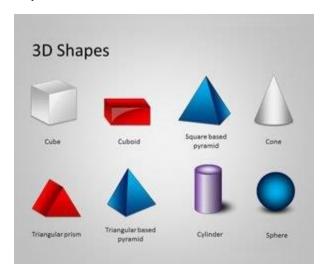




Foundation: have been hard at work practising their Nativity and counting above 5 this week. We have been practising writing numbers and also learning how to describe the position of objects using words such as in front of, behind, in and on.



Year 1: have shown great resilience in practising their Nativity. They have shown excellent listening skills and are making the team very proud. We have been hard at work writing our own versions of the three little pigs. In maths we have been devising complex patterns with 3d shapes and spotting what is being repeated to continue a pattern.



Year 2: have been learning all about 3D shapes. We can now identify the edges, vertices and faces of a whole variety of 3D shapes and well as use them to make a repeated and symmetrical pattern.

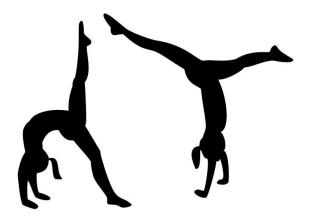
Year 3: this week we have been practising hard for our Christmas play. However, we have also started our new English unit called the River and been practising our 2, 5 and 10 times tables. Please practise these at home with the children.

12 X 12 Multiplication Table													
×	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2	0	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
3	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36
4	0	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40	44	48
5	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60
6	0	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72
7	0	7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70	77	84
8	0	8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80	88	96
9	0	9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90	99	108
10	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
11	0	11	22	33	44	55	66	77	88	99	110	121	132
12	0	12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108	120	132	144

Year 4/5: this week we have been in full swing preparing for the Christmas production and yet somehow still managed to fit in all of our learning! We finished our unit of Geography and have been learning all about how mountains affect what humans do. We were focusing on the mountain range Snowdonia.



Year 6: this week we have begun our new English unit, which is based on Christmas cards that give us clues to stories. We have been mixing the pictures up and creating our own stories. We have had a big focus on using multi-clause sentences and are really impressing the reader. In PE, we finished our unit on Gymnastics and performed a routine with our apparatus. Finally, we have been working hard on our Christmas production and are looking forward to showing it to you.



# Learners of the week, well done everyone!!

Foundation: G.Hendry

Year 1: N.Parker

Year 2: B.Harrison

Year 3: L.Janek

Year 4/5: L.Gray

Year 6: B.Weir

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The attendance award goes to yr1 for getting 98.8% this week. Well done!



#### Dates to remember!!!



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.

15.12.23 - Headteacher's assembly @ 2.30pm.

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.



#### Menu Week 1



#### **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

#### 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?

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95% Attendance - 2 whole weeks of school missed.
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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



#### Agreed for wider distribution

		ug 20:	24		
Т	W	Т	F	S	S
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13	14	15	16	17	18
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27	28	29	30	31	
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6	7	8	9	10	11
13	14	15	16	17	18
20	21	22	23	24	25
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27					
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Spring Term Dates: Monday 6 Jasuary to Friday 1.4 February, then Monday 2.4 February to Friday 4 April Term 3 IO days (Inc. School NPO Monday 6 January)
Term 4 IO days

Summer Term Dates: Tuesday 22 April to Friday 23 May, then Monday 2 June to Tuesday 22 July (Note: NPDs on Mo 21 and Tu 22 Jul '25 are disappropriet for stuff twilight training throughout the year. The last day of the ac

#### Children's NHS Dentist



<u>Plymouth Information Advice and Support for SEND. - Supplying you with information, advice and support (plymouthias.org.uk)</u>

Safeguarding posters