

AUSTIN FARM

Academy

Newsletter 15/12/2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week was one of my favourite weeks of the year - our children performed their Christmas plays and what fantastic plays they were! Thank you so much for being fabulous audiences and making the experience so much fun for everyone. Thank you for your generous donations, we raised £139.55 for Childline, the NSPCC charity for whom we completed our 9 Acts of Kindness Challenge earlier on this term.

Today we had our Autumn Term Headteacher's assembly. Congratulations to the following winners:

EYFS - R. Abassi

Year 1 - L. Choak

Year 2 - A. Hayward

Year 3 - C. Ludgate

Year 4 - A. Willis

Year 5 - K. McDonald

Year 6 - K. Millar

Endeavour Awards.

Year 2 - L Walker

Year 6 - C. O'Reilly

I don't want to dampen the Christmas spirit, but Mrs Hill and Mrs Lockwood are leaving us to go and embark on some exciting new adventures. Mrs Lockwood has worked here for 22 years during which time she has taught hundreds of our children and taken on several roles! Mrs Hill has been here for 9 years leading our PSHE and developing our active school council. Together, they have made a great team in our Early Years and will be sorely missed. They assure me that they will be taking lots of fond memories of their time here with them and I know you will join me in wishing them well for their future. Don't forget to say hello if you see them out and about.

We have employed a new teacher for our EYFS/Yr1 class - Mrs L Bridgeman - who will be starting with us for a day a week in January before taking up her four day a week post from February half term. Mrs N Edwards, an experienced supply teacher who has been teaching year 3 this term will be taking the class for 4 days a week until half term.

On Tuesday Mrs Bojang & Mrs Robinson took some Year 3&4 children to the Panathlon Challenge sporting event where they competed against other Plymouth schools. I am excited to report that they came first!! Please see the successful competitors with their certificates and trophy below.

Next week, we are in on Monday for all of the classes to have their Christmas parties in the afternoon, remember to wear your party clothes to school - but please make sure that you have suitable footwear on for playing outside - if the weather is kind to us! On Tuesday we have the last celebration assembly of 2023. This is also when the winners of the Christmas squares will be announced - keep your fingers crossed for a extra Xmas bonus!

Year 2 Road Safety sessions - You were all sent leaflets explaining about the road safety programme starting next term. These leaflets are also the consent forms so please don't throw them away, but instead sign and return them to school to enable your child to take part.

Sustainability project - You may recall that we had a visitor from SOS (Students Organise Sustainability) to take an assembly earlier this term, they have asked for children and parent volunteers to come to 6 after school clubs next term from 3.15 - 4.15 on Friday 5th January, Friday 2nd February, Friday 23rd February,

Wednesday 6th March, Friday 8th March & Friday 22nd March. If you are interested, please come to the school office to put your name down so we can let them know numbers.

School lunches first week back, please note we are having to swap a couple around due to deliveries: Wednesday 3rd January will be Spaghetti Bolognese & Thursday 4th January is Roast Pork. Friday 5th is a Jumbo Fish Finger as on the week 3 menu. Thank you.

Next term, we are all back in school on Wednesday 3rd January; if possible, please can you pack your Christmas decorations away before the children return, as we always find that the children settle faster back into the school routines when the house is back to normal!

I wish you all a Joyful Christmas and Happy New Year.



Foundation: this week we have been practising counting to 8. We have placed our counters on a ten frame and noticed that 8 is 5 and 3. We are also counting things we cannot see like marbles dropping in a tin and claps. We did a marvellous job in our Nativity and sang all the songs with such enthusiasm! We have also been trying very hard to learn the last few set 1 sounds.



Year 1: we have been very busy writing up our alternative stories of the three little pigs. We are now using descriptive language and reading our sentences to check that they make sense. In maths we are looking carefully at teen numbers and revisiting our number bonds to 10 to help us. The 'Topmarks' hit

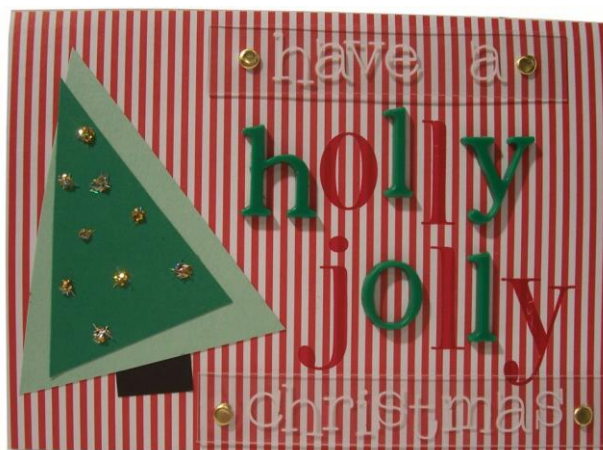
the button game is a great way to become speedier at this. It can be played for free on laptops or iPads. We were fantastic in our nativity and sang all of the songs brilliantly!



Year 2: what an exciting week year 2 have had performing their Christmas show three times in front of delighted audiences! All the children did amazingly well, speaking loudly and clearly and singing enthusiastically.



Year 3: this week we have been working hard performing our Christmas show. We have also made Christmas cards and have been busy completing our synoptic tasks for RE and Geography.



Year 4/5: we have been blowing your socks off with our fantastic singing and performing in the Christmas play. Well done to all the children who had lines, stepped up for people who were away and for every single one of you for being brave and performing in front of such a large audience!

We were also very lucky to have a visitor in on Thursday teaching us all about Dartmoor National park, about wildlife, conservation and sustainability. The children were fascinated by Scottish Wildcats...the rarest animal in the UK!



Year 6: this week we have displayed our fabulous acting and singing skills!! We are well and truly in the Christmas spirit. We have also created our own Christmas stories in English. On Thursday we were lucky enough to have some visitors for a Dartmoor workshop.



Learners of the week, well done everyone!!

Foundation: R.Stott

Year 1: K.Doyle

Year 2: J.Nuttall

Year 3:

Year 4/5: L.Cater

Year 6: M.Hayward

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Dates to remember!!!



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.

03.01.24 - Children to return to school.

03.01.24 - New sporting afterschool club information will be sent home this week, please have a look at what we offer.

04.01.24 - New sporting afterschool club links will be sent via email to parents/carers.

08.01.24 - New sporting afterschool clubs start this week.

08.01.24 - Yr 2 Road safety consent form deadline (children cannot participate unless we have these consent forms returned).

15.01.24 - Primary school admissions closes.

16.04.24 - Primary school offer from admissions

23.04.23 - Deadline to accept Primary school offers.

CO-OP FOOD CLUB



9:30-12:00



FRIDAY



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- 12 items for £3.50
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- Cash or Card Accepted



Manadon@PAFC.CO.UK



01752 522 202


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

PLYMOUTH FIT AND FED

December 2023

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Keyham Barton Catholic Primary School
Weston Mill Community
Courtlands SEND School
Mount Wise Community
Prince Rock Primary


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www.argylecommunitytrust.co.uk

Foundation/ Yr 6 - Height and Weight



Letters went out Wednesday 13th December 2023. **ALL** children are opted in to this measuring programme, please only return the form if you wish to **OPT OUT** of this programme.

Menu Week 3

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; 16/03/24				

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 Bolognese	Jumbo Fish Finger
Option 2 (v)	Vegetable Fajita	Cheese Whiz & Wholemeal Pasta	Quorn and Leek Pasty/Puff	Mediterranean Vegetable Bolognese	Veggie Fingers
Sides	Potato Wedges Sweetcorn or Winter Coleslaw	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				

1 - Please note, when we return on Wednesday 3rd January 2024, we will be offering Beef Bolognese and we will offer the Pork on Thursday 4th January 2024.

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://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
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Sep 2023						
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Oct 2023						
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31						

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Apr 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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Oct 2024						
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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

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<https://www.spadental.co.uk/for-patients/spadental-south-west-children/>
to complete the "contact us" form.

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

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Safeguarding posters

