AUSTIN FARM

Academy

Newsletter 15/03/2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

What happened to the sunshine we had last week? At least we managed to get outside for playtimes between the showers, please remember to send your children in to school with waterproof coats every day. The children have worked hard as always, please see below for what they have learnt this week.

Today we supported Red Nose Day by wearing as much red as we could. Thank you for your donations we raised a fantastic £105 exceeding our target of £100 which helps to provide support for a homeless family, the children had already won £3 from me by answering all quiz questions correctly in Monday's

assembly - ask them how much they won from their class teachers to add to the total! Please see the photos below; whilst they look fantastic in red, I do prefer our blue uniforms!

Some children have brought in chewing gum today; please be aware that we do not allow it in school. This issue seems to be worse on days when we ask for donations, we have a feeling that some pupils are spending their donation money at the Co-op before school. Please have a chat with your children about this and check bags/pockets if needed.

PTA News!!

On Wednesday we had a meeting to discuss plans for forming a new PTA, what we are fundraising for and what events we are aiming to do. We had two very keen parents who were full of great ideas and very experienced at fundraising, but we need more volunteers to make this work. Our next meeting will be Wednesday 8th May at 2.30pm please come if you can. We will be selling squares for an Easter hamper and class Easter eggs this term and then next term is the Summer Fair - we have set the date for Friday 5th July and need to start organising straight after Easter so keep your eyes peeled for further PTA news, including ways you can help.

Easter hamper squares will be sold outside the office from Monday morning for £1 a square - the winner will be drawn on the last day of term during the headteacher's assembly, 28th March.

Classes will also have their own Easter Egg squares which will be sold at 50p each, this will start on Monday too and be drawn on the last day of term.

I hope you have a fabulous weekend,



















































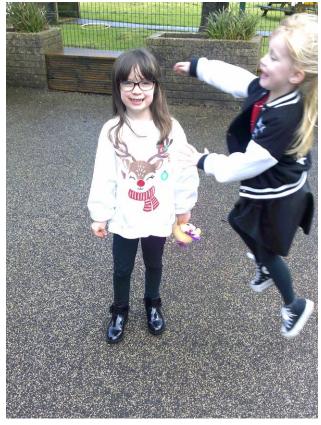






























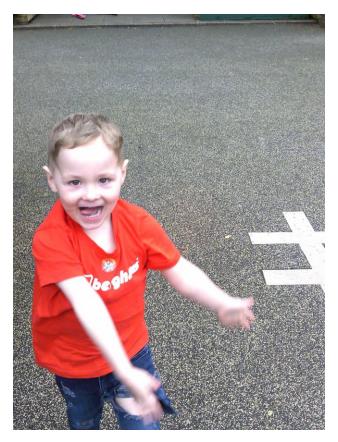














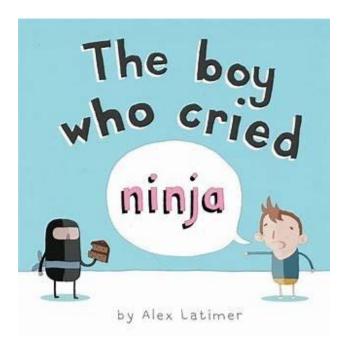


Foundation: this week the children in Foundation have enjoyed creating large scale rainbows during child-initiated play time. They have worked together really well and were very proud of their efforts! They have also worked very hard in maths this week, looking closely at subtraction.

Year 1: in music this week the Year 1 children really enjoyed listening to a selection of Rock music. They have shown lots of talent this term during our music lessons, understanding how to find the pulse (beat) of the music and learning the class song 'I wanta be in a band!' We have a class full of future Rock Stars!



Year 2: this week year 2 have started a new English unit based on a story called 'The boy who cried ninja'. We've met a sunburnt crocodile and a time-travelling monkey so far. We've been thinking about the best adjectives to describe the characters.

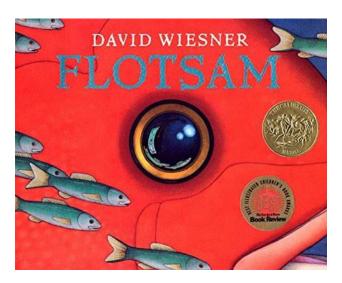


Year 3: in music, we have been learning to play the glockenspiels to 'Three Little Birds' by Bob Marley. The children were excellent at following along to the tempo. In three shorts lessons, they have learned how to sing the song, and play it with expertise. Well done, Year 3!

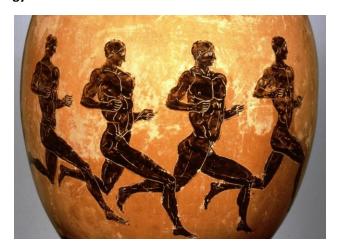
Bob Marley & The Wailers - Three Little Birds (Official Music Video) (youtube.com)



Year 4/5: this week the children have been amazing me with their descriptive writing. They have been busy creating their independent narrative linked to the story Flotsam. Make sure you check out our writing in the folders outside our classroom once we are finished! In Jigsaw we have been addressing Body image and the class took part in some really good discussions. We have had a very busy but productive week. Well done everyone!



Year 6: in year 6 this week, we have been learning about pie charts; after a tricky start to our statistics unit, we are absolutely mastering the pie charts!! In RE, we have looked at the differences and similarities between the Ancient Greece city-states. We have learned a very funny fact about why only men were allowed in the gymnasiums – ask us!!



Learners of the week, well done everyone!!



Foundation: S.Tippett

Year 1: N.Parker

Year 2: T.Ludgate

Year 3: J.Ashton

Year 4: J.Lyndon

Year 5: C.MacGregor

Year 6: J.Lyle

The attendance award goes to yr 1 for getting 100% this week. Well done!



Dates to remember!!!



18.03.24 - Easter hamper, Mrs Pickard will be outside the office to sell the squares - £1 per square.

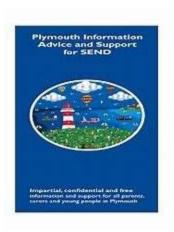
18.03.24 - Easter egg squares sold in each class 50p a square.

19.03.24 - All years parents evening.

- 20.03.24 All years parents evening.
- 28.3.24 Last day of the Spring term.
- 16.04.24 Primary school offer from admissions
- 23.04.23 Deadline to accept Primary school offers.
- 26.04.24 Yr 6 hoodies ordered and paid deadline.
- 26.06.24 Sports day on the field (weather dependent) gates open at 12.30.
- 17.05.24 Class photos.
- 03.07.24 Reserve Sports day on the field (weather dependent) gates open at 12.30.
- 05.07.24 Summer fair on the field 3.30 5.00pm

Menu Week 1





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



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.

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

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.

School attendance and absence | PLYMOUTH.GOV.UK

Term dates

WeST Term Dates 2023 to 2024 . T F S S S 1 2 3 4 6 7 8 9 10 11 13 14 15 16 17 18 20 21 22 23 24 25 27 28 29

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 38 days School NPD Monday 4/WeST NPD Tuesday 5 September/ WeST NPD Monday 30 O

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

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 NPDs.

Agreed for wider distribution

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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



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