

AUSTIN FARM

Academy

Newsletter 26/04/2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week the children have been working hard as always, please see below for what they have done in class this week.

On Wednesday morning, every class took part in an orienteering taster session with Hayley from PSSP. The session was based on map work; all of the teachers said that the children loved it and their great teamwork skills were on show! Luckily the sun shone for these sessions and the children loved being

on the field; hopefully the weather will be dry for long enough so that we can use the field for our lunchtimes soon. Please see the photos of them enjoying their orienteering.

On Sunday we are going to the half marathon and completing our Fun Run Mile on the Hoe, those taking part know what to do; the rest of you are welcome to come and cheer us on from about 11.15.

Next week, work is going to start on our new garden space next to our school entrance. This is very exciting news! As I mentioned last week the PTA are fundraising for one of the game boards voted for by our children. Their next goal is for outdoor gym equipment on the grass beside our playground. Please come to the PTA meeting on Wednesday 8th May at 2.30pm to find out how you can help at the summer fayre.

I hope you all have a great weekend; if we see you at the Hoe on Sunday make sure you cheer loudly, it might not be sunny but hopefully the rain will hold off!

Mrs Baptiste

Foundation: the foundation children have worked very hard 'counting back' in maths this week; they have been using number lines to support their learning.

Year 1: the Year 1 children have been really stretching their brains by exploring different amounts in groups during our maths lessons.

This week Foundation and Year 1 children have started their new science topic 'Plants'. They were all very excited on Thursday afternoon to plant their very own sunflower seed. We talked about how to care for the seeds and will be keeping a weekly record of our observations.











Year 2: for this term's 'Creating Music' computing unit, Year 2 were listening to music and learning to describe rhythm and pulse. We then visited a website called 'Chrome Music Lab: Rhythm' where we were able to create rhythms using digital instruments. We could choose from 3 instruments each time in order to create our rhythm. We could then play our piece of music back and make any changes to improve it. We discussed which rhythm was our favourite and why.



Year 3: in Science, Year 3 have started their new unit on 'Animals including Humans'. Last week, we started looking at the skeleton, naming bones from the human body. This week, we carried out an investigation. The big questions were: Do people with longer legs jump further? Do people with longer arms throw further? We worked together to find out the results – please ask your child what they discovered!

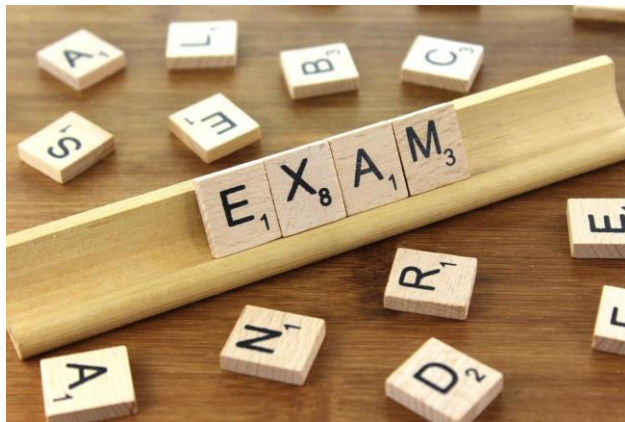
Year 4/5: this week Year 4/5 were amazing on our local walk to Efford Marsh. We were linking our walk to our class text 'Where My Wellies Take Me' and were preparing for writing our recounts next week. They showed fantastic engagement and were super representatives of Austin Farm Academy when we met members of the public! I was very proud of them.







Year 6: in Year 6 this week we have achieved **AMAZING** arithmetic scores; these are a result of our hard-work, resilience and perseverance over the last couple of months. In Art, we enjoyed making our personal hearts to go on the school display and exploring plant structures; we are looking forward to creating sculptures near the end of the unit. Two more weeks until SATs! 😊



Learners of the week, well done everyone!!



Foundation: A-J.Rowe

Year 1: E-F.Sheridan-Aston

Year 2: O.Oliver

Year 3: M.Carroll

Year 4: L.Rudd

Year 5: C.MacGregor

Year 6: J.Westcott

The attendance award goes to yr 3 for getting 99% this week. Well done !



Dates to remember!!!



08.05.24 - Class photos.

26.06.24 - Sports day on the field (weather dependent) gates open at 12.30 .

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 3

[illegible]

[Plymouth Information Advice and Support for SEND. - Supplying you with information, advice and support \(plymouthias.org.uk\)](http://plymouthias.org.uk)

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 ?

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.

[School attendance and absence | PLYMOUTH.GOV.UK](#)

Term dates

WeST Term Dates

2023 to 2024

Aug 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Sep 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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Oct 2023						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

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 30 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 28 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 NPDs.

Aug 2024						
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Oct 2024						
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Nov 2024						
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Dec 2024						
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30	31					
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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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.



[Plymouth Information Advice and Support for SEND. - Supplying you with information, advice and support \(plymouthias.org.uk\)](https://plymouthias.org.uk)