



AJA News – 13.10.23

A message from Mr Dunn

Hi everyone,

I hope that you have had a good week. If you have not made an appointment yet to see your child's teacher next week then there is still time, just have a chat with them at the end of the school day to arrange one. It is so important that you come to these meetings to have a look at your child's work and discuss the progress that he or she is making. Any issues can be discussed along with anything else school related. We really are looking forward to seeing you.

On a different note, lots of the staff have asked me to mention that some children are not coming to school with a coat. Please ensure that your child does come to school with a coat as the weather is most certainly starting to change. Don't forget to put a name in the coat too!

Have a great weekend!

A message from Mrs Bower

I was excited yesterday when I saw that the poet Mark Grist liked our writing display on the school Twitter page. Our Twitter name is Alvaston_j if you would like to have a look.

It was lovely to meet so many Year 2 children and their families from Alvaston Infant school this week. We enjoyed showing you our wonderful academy and we look forward to meeting you again very soon!

Next Friday, (20th) we have the school photographer in taking individual photos of all pupils. Children need to wear school uniform for this. If it is PE that day, come in full school uniform but wear trainers. (Feet will not be seen on the photo!)

If you would like your child to receive the flu vaccine, click the link below <https://nhslmms.azurewebsites.net/session/fb78c26e/>

The vaccinations will take place on **Tuesday 21st November**. The link will close on **Tuesday 14th November**. If your child has already had the Nasal Flu vaccine since September 2023, they will not be able to take part.

Have a brilliant weekend! See you on Monday!

Important Dates

Wednesday 18th October

Thursday 19th October

Parents' Evening

Friday 20th October

School photographs

All pupils to wear school uniform

Friday 27th October

Last day of term

Monday 6th November

First day of term

Wednesday 8th November

Parent workshop

Zones of Regulation

Friday 17th November

INSET Day

School closed for pupils

Tuesday 21st November

Flu vaccinations

Attendance

This week's attendance

95.15%

Highest class attendance

98.8%

Perfect Pandas

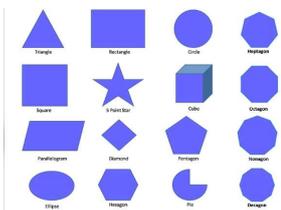
What's been happening this week?

Year 3



Another great week! This week, the Year 3 children have really got to grips with the English and geography topic. The writing task in English links to the topic of the UK in geography. Children are building up their subject knowledge, learning how to use a variety of sentence types and using present tense to write our reports. In our maths, we have used the subtraction methods taught to the children from Year 2 (using the skills of partitioning) to begin our 'semi-formal' method which provides a solid base for children being able to move onto subtracting numbers up to 1000! On Thursday, we all joined a zoom meeting with Hannah Gold, who is an author, the book she wrote – *The Last Bear* - is being read by Mr Smith to his class! Keep practicing spellings, reading 4 times a week and continue with your learning logs - well done Year 3, keep it up!

Year 4



Year 4 have shown fantastic behaviour and work ethic this week! We have studied the properties of 2D shapes and we can now identify shapes based on a description of their common features. We have had fun creating instructions for how to kill the gorgon Medusa in writing! We studied the water cycle in science, discussing how important it is to life on Earth, and what could potentially disrupt this vital cycle. History focused on ruling a country by democracy, discussing the advantages and disadvantages of voting our leaders, as the Ancient Greek civilisation did. We then had a democracy of our own, electing Class Parliament Leaders to represent the class on a whole-school level - congratulations to our chosen 3 who were elected by their peers. Thank you for your hard work and enthusiasm this week.

Year 5



We've started work on a new piece of writing this week in Year 5. We are planning an alternative ending for the *Pirate Queen*! The children have come up with some fantastic ideas, and we can't wait to see their finished endings. To help us we have been working on direct speech and using inverted commas correctly. We've been learning a song about it, which is on the Y5 blog if you want to hear it. Warning - it's a bit of an earworm! We also had the chance to join another Meet the Author event this week, meeting Hannah Gold, author of *'The Last Bear'*. In maths, we've been learning about short division. It has been hard, but we are so proud of the way that the children have tackled this new learning and shown real resilience and persistence. They are also experts on Henry VIII's six wives after completing fact files about them in history. Ask them to tell you all about it!

Year 6



A challenging week in maths as we have been learning the chunking method for long division. Although challenging, we have seen many successes as well as excellent resilience to ensure progress. We are very proud of all the effort. In English, we have begun to look at *Goodnight, Mister Tom* and the graveyard setting next to Mister Tom's house where Willie liked to draw. We have really enjoyed trying to use personification and high-level vocabulary to design a creating atmosphere. In reading we have continued our focus on Black History Month through studying Johnny Smythe, a young West African mathematician who trained as a navigator for a Short Stirling bomber crew. Sadly, he ended up in a German POW camp for 18 months but ultimately became the Attorney General to the Sierra Leone Government. Science has been great fun creating our own switches to attach to a circuit, allowing us to send our own morse code messages! There has been great excitement over the planning lessons for DT when we will be building our own 3D models of an Anderson shelter. Looking at the plans, we were amazed to see the detail from paths to vegetables, flowers and even miniature books. Incredible! Have a wonderful weekend.