



February



AJA News – 02.02.24

A message from Mr Dunn

Hi everyone,

I hope that you have had a good week.

On Class Dojo you have been sent a link to the Alvaston Junior Academy Parent Questionnaire. I hope that you will find the time to read it through and complete it. We are always keen to receive feedback from you on your children's learning and anything else related to the academy. The SLT and staff are really trying to listen to your thoughts and act upon them as we do realise that working with you is the best way for your child to reach their potential and really Believe, Achieve and Succeed!

If you have any questions about the questionnaire, please speak to a member of staff and I am sure that they will be able to help.

Have a fantastic weekend and I look forward to seeing you bright and early on Monday morning.

Mr Dunn

A message from Mrs Bower

The new reading books are now labelled and in the classrooms. All pupils have had a chance to look at the new books and over the next few weeks they will have the opportunity in class time to read them. Using the money raised from the Christmas fair, each class has spent £60 on their classroom reading area. Here are a few photos. There are more photos on the school's Twitter page.



Every week, I check a sample of reading records from children across the school and I hear a selection of children read. If you have any concerns about your child's progress in reading, or if you have any ideas about reading in school, always feel free to come and speak to me on the gate.

Have a lovely weekend and I will see you on Monday!

Important Dates

World Mental Health Week
5th – 9th February

Tuesday 6th February
Safer Internet Day

Thursday 15th February
Last day of term!

Friday 16th February
INSET day
School closed to pupils

Monday 26th February
First day of term

Spelling Shed

School spelling champion this week is **Malakai Stanley**.

Second champion is **Arnie Wild**.

Third champion is **Amelia Whittamore**.

Winning class: **Brilliant Bees!**

Attendance

This week's attendance
93.78%

Highest class attendance
Kind Koalas 99.2%

What's been happening this week?

Year 3



This week we had a visit from our CEO, Director of Education and two Trustees, they were incredibly impressed with your children - well done and thank you! This week, we have been learning about perimeter in maths, fault lines and locations in geography and translucent, transparent and opaque in science. However, it is our English that has impressed us the most. We are writing a retell about 'Escape from Pompeii'. We have used some fantastic descriptions in our writing when describing a scene - 'a sinister snowstorm of ash' is one example. Next week, we are writing our final draft, our reading is linked to our mental health - how to be happy - and we are moving onto fractions in maths. Thank you for a super week and have a lovely weekend.

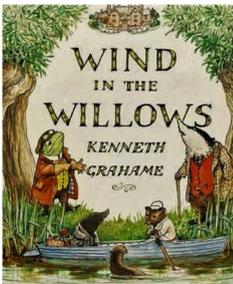
Year 4



This week, we have been writing our final piece on deforestation including the effects of deforestation and why deforestation happens. Pupils have written their double page spread and did a SUPER job writing well thought out sentences and included some lovely illustrations. Ask your child their thoughts on deforestation. They will have lots of facts to share with you!

This term in RE, we have been learning some of the parables in the Bible: The Good Samaritan, The Lost Son and The Unforgiving Servant. We have been thinking about the theme of forgiveness. Next week, we will be recapping the events of the Easter story again thinking about forgiveness and why Jesus is an inspirational person to Christians. Wishing you all a lovely weekend. See you on Monday!

Year 5



This week, Year 5 have been working hard and impressing their teachers solving division word problems in maths. We have enjoyed stepping into the role of the Police to interview the witnesses of Mr Toad's great escape, ready for our big write up! In reading, we have continued to learn about our rivers - this week exploring a fact file about the River Thames. Our favourite this week has been our poly printing! After a few weeks of designing and carving our river designs, we have finally printed onto paper and the results are magnificent!

We have lots of children reaching 200 and even 300 dojos! WOW! Keep it up year 5! Have a super weekend Year 5!

Year 6



With Mr Williams and Mrs Saunby on a course looking at writing, there has been a real focus on drafting, editing, improving and writing the final drafts of our diary accounts this week. The writing at Alvaston is writing to be proud of and we are looking forward to marking this piece! Great excitement was generated on Monday when we had several piles of new books - fantastic books linked to our curriculum, mountains, animals, changes and moving on as well as the world around us. With this encouragement, we have reignited our enthusiasm and love of reading, sharing with our friends. The year group impressed Mr Hughes, Mrs Hainsworth and our Trustees with their enthusiasm for reading, their explanations of their learning and their ability to reflect on the school's curriculum and journey. Listening to them, we can identify the future leaders and diplomats our world might need. Our science this week is all about micro-organisms, yes, we are growing mould! We have sealed bread and damp bread in a plastic bag and we await the results. If there is a desire to leave food out or put it in strange places, you will know why! In PE, we have enjoyed learning about tag-rugby developing our skills of tagging others and tactics as to how to steal bean bags, great fun. Please encourage the children to complete their homework, the more they do in bitesize pieces, the more confident and successful they will be when SATs finally arrive. We want them to know that if they have worked hard all year, taken all opportunities (homework, boosters) then they should believe in themselves, have confidence in their abilities, and their ability to be successful. Anyone struggling is welcome to join any of the teachers at a break or lunch or early morning. Wishing you all a very happy weekend.