



# January



## AJA News – 26.01.24

### A message from Mr Dunn

Hi everyone - I hope that you have had a great week!

Over the last few weeks here at AJA, we have started to look at how the boys and girls are presenting their work. We are trying to make their books look that extra bit special, with dates, layouts and handwriting consistent across the classes. There is a presentation prize to be won each week by one lucky child, who will get to keep a Presentation Trophy beside them on their desk all week! We intend to keep this initiative going for the foreseeable future so there will be many opportunities for your child to win the prize!

Have a great weekend everyone! We look forward to seeing you bright and early on Monday morning.

Mr Dunn

### A message from Mrs Bower

I have had a lovely week in school. This afternoon, Year 6 pupils on the Children's Leadership Team helped me to label the new Year 6 books for the classrooms. On Monday, we will continue with the other year groups. The books are fantastic and I know the children will LOVE reading them!

It was nice to see Year 5 pupils return from the Space Centre today full of enthusiasm and knowledge about Space! I hear the planetarium show was fantastic!

This afternoon, I popped into Mr Smith's class and saw the children creating beautiful paintings! It made my day. The colours were lovely and the paintings really were superb. I have put some photos on the school's Twitter page. Well done 3CS!

### A message from Mr Scott

I have some exciting news regarding homework! Before the Christmas break, I conducted some research into how we completed homework at AJA. In response to this research, we have developed our new homework sheet **that will go out to all classes on Monday**. We believe that the most effective way to engage our learners is through our educational applications such as Times Tables Rockstars, Sumdog and Spelling Shed. However, we recognise that creative projects are a vital aspect of homework learning too. So, with these points considered, we hope that your children like the way in which we promote homework. We are continually doing our best to learn and improve so please give us any feedback if you have any. Thank you.

### Important Dates

**Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January**  
Academy visit by CEO Mr Hughes

**World Mental Health Week**  
5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> February

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February**  
Safer Internet Day

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February**  
Last day of term!

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February**  
INSET day  
School closed to pupils

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February**  
First day of term

### Spelling Shed

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

Second champion is **Arnie Wild**.

Third champion is **Oliver Rolling**.

Winning class: **Brilliant Bees!**

### Attendance

This week's attendance  
**96.03%**

Highest class attendance  
**99.2% Kind Koalas**

# What's been happening this week?

## Year 3



This week (and continuing in the foreseeable future) we have had a focus on presentation. We are doing 2 or 3 lessons per week on handwriting where we are encouraging children to join letters. So far, we have been very impressed with their handwriting and presentation - keep it up! We are really enjoying our volcano topic, our reports we have written are excellent and our work in geography is very good. This week we have been learning how to use the column method for subtraction and exchanging - I put on Dojo the method last week. This will be revisited most weeks in our arithmetic session we do daily. Next week, we are moving onto perimeter and starting our new writing topic based on the book - Escape from Pompeii. Please look out for news re homework. Have a super weekend and keep reading!

## Year 4



Year 4 have been impressing their teachers with rainforest facts this week! We have explored the physical and human geographical features of the Amazon rainforest in geography, classified and identified the species of jungle animals in science, and discussed the causes and effects of deforestation on tribes in English. Maths has focused on how to measure the perimeter of rectilinear shapes, and how to calculate missing edges. Swimmers will soon receive their achievement certificates, with the next group starting in Spring 2. Thank you to year 4 for working hard this week.

## Year 5



This week in Year 5 we are all very excited! However, more about that later! We have been incredibly busy in maths multiplying 2 digits using column and grid methods, in reading we have enjoyed a twist on the classic '3 Little Pigs' with the '3 Wolves and the big bad pig!'. In English, we have started our new topic - Wind in the Willows. We have been exploring Mr Toad and his great prison escape ready to write a police report! And lastly, we thoroughly enjoyed our trip to the National Space Centre, we have learned so much, had a great time and the children were all a credit to the school. Well done Year 5!

## Year 6



We are almost through the first month of the year, this week we began thinking about the features of a diary as we prepare to write as the character of Sam, a young lad who ran away from his New York home to live with nature in the Catskill Mountains. The book is our class reader, and we are learning so much through studying it! In maths, we have been learning about perimeter and area including solving SATs style problems. We have been using branching databases in science to classify different types of big cats which was a great lesson. In addition, our geography has focused on mountains across the world, learning all about a specific mountain - did you know there were mountains on every continent?

The first week of the CGP book homework has been well received. Most children handed in their work on time, or early, a fantastic start - well done Year 6. 😊

We wish you a very good weekend.