



AJA News – 08.09.23

Check our website <https://www.alvaston.theharmonytrust.org/> regularly for school and class updates.

A message from Mr Hughes

You may have seen on the news that some schools have been asked to close due to concerns about RAAC concrete. We have undertaken visual inspections and there is no sign of RAAC in our building. Please rest assured that we are monitoring this situation closely and undertaking monitoring and inspection in line with DFE requirements. Should you wish to find out further information, a letter with further details can be found on the Harmony Trust website.

A message from Mr Dunn

Hello everyone,

I hope that you all had a fantastic holiday! It was lovely to see all the boys and girls return on Tuesday full of news about all that they have been up to over the six weeks break. They all seem to have grown and seem considerably taller!

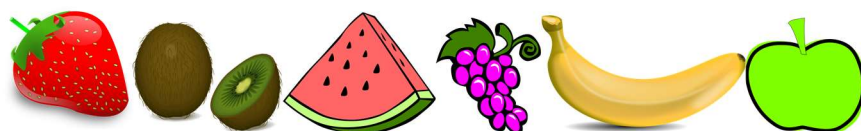
We have changed a few things over the summer, one of those being introducing two sittings at lunchtimes. One for the younger children and another for the older. The response to this seems to be very positive. The children have more space to play and use the equipment. They have more time to eat their dinner and it is much less of a rush for them. And finally, we are hoping that there are going to be less accidents and bumps as scratches as time goes on.

I hope that you all have a restful weekend, and we will see you all bright and early Monday morning.

Mr Dunn

Break time snacks

We encourage all pupils to bring a piece of fruit for their break time snack. Due to food allergies, we request that children **do not** bring items with nuts or dairy. A banana, apple, orange, or other fruit items are allowed.



Important Dates

Thursday 11th September

Y4 swimming starts
(Half of Year 4 go swimming, half remain in school for PE)

Wednesday 13th September

Year 4 Clarinet lessons begin

Tuesday 19th September

Rock Steady starts

Monday 25th September

Year 3 visit Alvaston Library

Friday 20th October

School photographs

Wednesday 11th October

Year 2 Welcome Evening

Wednesday 18th October

Parents' Evening

Friday 27th October

Last day of term

Monday 6th November

First day of term

Friday 17th November

INSET Day
School closed for pupils

What's been happening this week?

Year 3

We welcomed our new Year 3's this week and what an impact they have had already! You should be super proud of how they have started life at AJA. Confident, mature, focussed, and resilient. This week we have thrown them straight into year 3 learning - writing character descriptions of Mr Twit, maths using number bonds to 20 to answer questions, shared reading lessons - The Wormy Spaghetti chapter of the Twits and we have been practicing our spellings and handwriting.

This half term our topics are: Location, Location, Location, magnets, DT - bridges and introducing the children into Zones of Regulation. We will have fun writing about the Twits - creating our own prank and in maths we will be looking at place value of numbers up to 1000!

Year 4

Our topic this term is Ancient Greeks, and we will be kicking this topic off with a WOW Day on Monday. We will study how the Ancient Greeks lived, the gods they worshipped, the impact they had on modern society, and, most importantly, the food they ate! Our reading lessons will focus on a selection of different texts about the Ancient Greek era, including newspaper reports, fantasy stories and fact-files. Writing will be surrounding the gorgon Medusa and the legend that surrounds this hideous monster! We will be creating character and setting descriptions, which will be presented in creative ways, as well as a play script. Maths will focus on place value, such as the value of 4-digit numbers, counting up and down, and missing number lines. We will enhance this learning with fun practise activities such as bingo and snap. Do not forget to use TT Rockstars and Sumdog at home to practise! It is physics for science this term, investigating the differences between solids, liquids, and gasses. We will be conducting lots of experiments and investigating how materials can change from solid to liquid and liquid to gas. Clarinet lessons will start this Wednesday with our expert Vicki; once we have learned the basic notes, we will allow the clarinets to be taken home to practise. PE this year will be on a Thursday and Friday, and our top colour is yellow. Alongside swimming lessons, we will be learning some balance and ball skills to prepare for some team games nearer the end of term.

Year 5

Hello and welcome to Y5! The children have made a great start to Y5 and have settled well into their new classes. In the first half of the Autumn term, our topics are led by history, which is the Tremendous Tudors! This is linked to our English text, The Pirate Queen, which is a story based on the Tudor pirate, Grace O'Malley. We also base our reading texts on the Tudors for this half term. In science, we will be studying the effects of forces, such as gravity and air resistance. Parachutes may be involved! For maths we are extending the children's knowledge of numbers into 6-digit numbers, and learning how to add, subtract, multiply and divide using these larger numbers. After half term, our topic, Marvellous Maps, has a geography focus. This is when we learn how to use OS maps and 6 figure coordinates! For English we will be studying Shakespeare - Romeo and Juliet! Our Science changes to Earth and Space, where we learn all about the Earth, planets, and the Solar System. Lots of exciting learning coming up! We cannot wait!

Year 6

The Year 6 team have been so impressed and pleased with the positive start by all the new Year 6. They are engaged and focussed, shown excellent manners and respect around school, and have coped with the changes. We are looking forward to their first piece of creative writing today. We begin next week with a WOW afternoon where we introduce our topic for this term: World War Two! We begin our English with a biography of Winston Churchill before moving on to working with 'Goodnight, Mister Tom'.

Year 6 topics are below:

History: WWII Science: Electricity Computing: Networks PSHE: Rights and Responsibilities

RE: How can religions help us when times are hard, a look at how religions view death and the afterlife

DT: Anderson Shelters Music: Following a beat!