



AJA News – 29.09.23

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

A message from Mr Dunn

Hi everyone. I hope that you have had a good week!

I just wanted to remind you all that the homework for the boys and girls for this half term should be either out now or will be very soon. There should be a mixture of tasks for your children to tackle, all linked to the topics that they are studying. Some are practical and some are more pencil and paper activities. I have already seen a fantastic model of a Greek temple come into school this week. Parents, if you want to work with your child as they complete their tasks then that is very much encouraged and welcomed. I can't wait to see what you all come up with as you work through your tasks.

Have a restful weekend!
Mr Dunn

A message from Mrs Bower

A message was sent on Class Dojo earlier today about how to apply for Free School Meals. If your child is eligible and registered for 'Free School Meals' school will receive extra funding called 'Pupil Premium.' This money is used by school to provide extra educational resources and experiences such as iPads, reading books, school trips and mental health interventions. At our academy, we receive an extra **£1,455** for every eligible pupil who is registered for Free School Meals. This extra money makes a real difference to the children attending our school.

You can register online at [Free school meals - Derby City Council](#). Please let us know if you need any support and we will be happy to help you.

Next Monday, **Year 4 and 5** will attend the Read Achieve Succeed author event on Teams with Sir Lenny Henry. We are looking forward to hearing all about his new book and asking Sir Henry questions. A reminder that the Trust has paid £7.99 for each child to have a copy of Sir Lenny's new book - The Boy with Wings: Clash of the Super Kids. To help with our costs, we ask for a donation of £5 per child towards the cost of the book, payable on Parent Pay.

Next Thursday is National Poetry Day. All classes have been writing poems linked to the theme *This Is Me*. We will be displaying the poems in school and sharing an example from each class in Thursday's assembly.

Well done to Mr Bull's class who achieved 100% attendance this week!

Important Dates

Monday 2nd October

Author event on Teams
Year 4 & 5 Sir Lenny Henry

Tuesday 3rd October

Y6 Parents' residential meeting
in the assembly hall 5.30pm

Friday 20th October

School photographs

Wednesday 11th October

New Year 3 Welcome Evening

Wednesday 18th October

Parents' Evening

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

Attendance

This week's attendance

95.07%

Highest class attendance

Kind Koalas 100%

What's been happening this week?

Year 3



iPads! The key learning from this week has involved iPads and iPad training. The first lesson is complete - children setting up passcodes and fingerprint log ins. Next the children learn about how to use their iPad, staff safe online and how to maximise learning potential. A letter went home yesterday for you all to sign - this is important, please read it and scan the QR code regarding internet safety and awareness; it is very useful. Alongside the children being introduced to their iPad, they have been learning how to add numbers, writing their own pranks and learning the countries and capital cities of the UK!

Learning Log: the children have some homework! The learning log is a series of tasks that the children want to do - not all are compulsory. Enjoy the homework, some may involve parent participation! Have a super weekend!

Year 4



We have worked hard in Year 4 this week with our subtraction methods, with all children trying hard with the tricky exchanges and problem solving.

In writing, we have been publishing our 'This Is Me' poems and starting our new unit on playscripts; we will be studying the playscript of Perseus and the Witches. History has focused on comparing the Ancient Greek beliefs of death with the Ancient Egyptian - aiding the children to make links and comparisons within topics and cultures. Science was super-fun this week; we explored the properties of gas molecules, how they move and how to identify if a material is in gas state. Thanks to all year 4 students for working hard this week. The Year 4 team.

Year 5



It's been another busy week in Year 5! In maths, we have been working hard on column subtraction using larger numbers and solving word problems. In English, we have been learning how to use parenthesis (brackets, commas, dashes) to add more information to our writing, and we have started work on retelling the story. The children are enjoying learning all about the Tudors, and especially Henry VIII! Next week, we will be finding out more about his wives. In science last week, we planned an investigation into air resistance, and this week we have conducted the experiment. Ask the children to show you what we did with the spinners! Have a lovely weekend!

Year 6



Another successful and busy week in Y6 where we have begun looking at the story 'Hero at Dunkirk'. We have tried to imagine what it might be like to be on the English Channel, in a small boat, bombs and aircraft, hidden U-boats and soldiers calling around us. Looking forward to seeing how the fabulous vocabulary is used in their own version of this war adventure story.

In maths, we are continuing to consolidate our basic operations - and even including some decimals!

We have loved taking on the role of wartime politicians debating Chamberlain's policy of Appeasement. Another highlight, has been investigating a change in voltage, and its effect on bulbs in our electrical circuits. Ask the children what voltage means - new vocabulary this week! Have a great weekend!