



Alexandra Park Primary School
Care, Aspire, Achieve

Friday 7th October 2022

As our infant children and parents came in this morning, I am sure you will have noticed that there is some further work happening in the playground. Our reception children have loved and hugely benefited from the improvements to their playground, and we are excited to say that in a week's time there will be a climbing frame for the Year 1 and Year 2 children. We also have plans for the junior playground too. None of these things are possible without the support of our parents. Thanks again to everyone who contributed in any way to the school fair.

As I mentioned in my email earlier this week, we have decided to set up alternative ways for people in our community to donate at any time to the school fund if they want to, and are in a position to. This is a way that people can support the school and other families, just as many did when we developed our library and arranged Covid Care packages. There are now two new ways to donate:

1. You can donate a set amount (£5, £10 and £20) via School Money. This is now live in the 'shop' area of School Money
2. You can complete a direct bank transfer to the 'Alex Park Friends and Family' School Fund account below:

Account Name: Alexandra Park Primary School Friends and Family

Sort Code: 77-67-17

Account Number: 08643668

A huge thank you to all the people who have already contributed to the school fund, which means we can support people with the Chester Zoo trip and continue to develop the play areas for the children.

Care in the Community

Please send in all nominations for the Care in The Community Champions by this Friday. The breadth of things our children do, and the effort they make, never ceases to amaze our staff and is inspirational for the other children too. This Friday afternoon in class, we will celebrate all the great things the children have been doing to help others. Then next Friday, we will have our special 'Care in the Community' assembly.

Reception

This week in Reception we have been learning about the importance of keeping our teeth and gums healthy. We have been talking about how important it is to brush our teeth properly, make healthy food choices and drink water and milk. To help us to make healthy choices, we made our own fruit kebabs and it was fun to choose our own fruit to make fruit patterns. We also had great fun during our first Pedal Day where we talked about the importance of exercise and practised our bike and scooter skills.



Year 1

This week, Year 1 investigated a suspicious crime scene! We returned from our afternoon break to find 4 areas of our classroom that had been trashed. We explored the evidence and displayed our curiosity by asking thoughtful questions and making predictions about what could have happened. We came to the conclusion that the Naughty Bus was at fault! We used our maps of the classroom to plot each area and we drew a potential route that the Naughty Bus could have travelled. We used geographical language, such as near, far, left and right, to describe the route.



Year 2

This week, we finished our first writing unit of the year, in which we wrote some amazing character descriptions based on characters from the book Esio Trot. We worked incredibly hard on our final pieces, and loved writing them up into our brand new 'Gold' books. As our final lesson of the unit, we teamed up and shared our 'Gold' pieces of writing. The children had all put so much pride, determination and independence into their work, and it was a fantastic chance to share what we had produced. Everyone loved reading each other's writing and left some lovely, thoughtful compliments on their work!



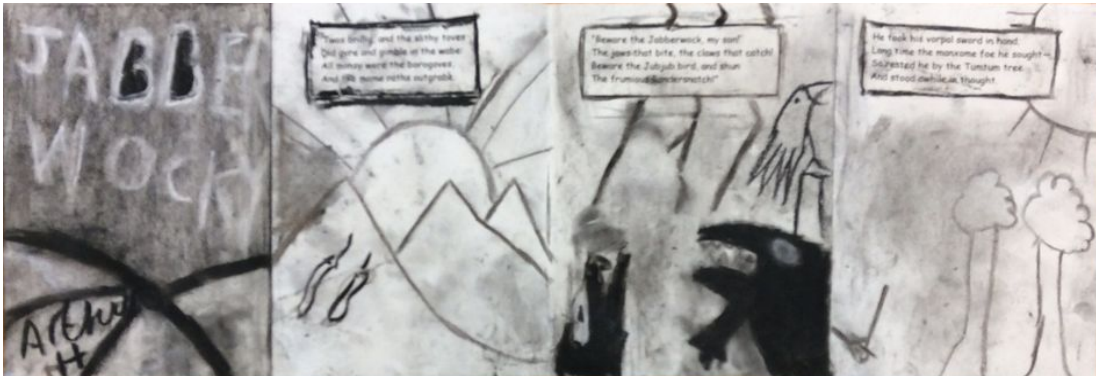
Year 3

This week, Year 3 took part in a rocks and fossil workshop where they looked at rare fossils and examined different types of rocks. As they have been learning about rocks in science, they were exploring the different types of rocks such as Igneous, Sedimentary and Metamorphic and had the opportunity to look at lots of samples of the three types of rocks to help deepen their knowledge further. They also got to learn more about what a fossil is and how they are formed. They even got to touch a dinosaur fossil! What amazing scientists we have at Alex Park!



Year 4

Last Friday our parents came into school at the end of the day to see our “Stories Through Illustrations” art exhibition. Our artwork was inspired by illustrator Laura Calin. We used charcoal, chalk and rubbers to create illustrations of “The Jabberwocky” by Lewis Carroll. The children showed great creativity and curiosity throughout this project. We have many budding artists in the making!



Year 5

This week, we have started learning about important and inspiring figures in Black history. One of those people was mathematician Katherine Johnson (1918 - 2020) who worked for NASA. The children were fascinated to discover how she started high school at the age of ten and graduated at 14! We felt she truly reflected our school values of Care, Aspire and Achieve throughout her life, especially considering the challenges and inequality that she experienced as a black woman. After learning how this iconic woman's calculations helped get Apollo 11 to the moon (and more importantly for her, got Apollo 13 *safely* back to earth saving the lives of the whole crew) the children set about calculating their own rockets to launch. Luckily, it was only a simulation on a computer as there would have been some costly damage! The children showed real determination, creativity and collaboration and the photos below show you the pride they felt when they conquered the challenge - and a few mishaps! We think Katherine would have been overjoyed to see the motivation and care that the children put into this challenge.



Year 6



This week, we were very excited to reveal that our very own Ella Walters in 6 Turing is the winner of the Stockport Academy Maths Department open evening competition. She was presented her own certificate and was awarded a brand new calculator that will no doubt come in handy very soon! Congratulations Ella - keep up the fantastic work!

Science

This week in science, Year 6 have been using their prior knowledge of light and reflection to explain how a periscope works. They then had a go at making their own periscopes. Year 5 have been exploring mixtures and deciding the best way to separate them using sieves or filters. Year 4, have been making electrical circuits and discovering which materials are conductors and which ones are insulators.



Stay and Read

Thank you once again to those of you who joined us for 'Stay and Read'. It was a fantastic turn out. Don't forget to join us every Thursday from 8.40 until 9.10.



Star of the Week



Mrs Wood and Mr Seneviratne had the pleasure of meeting with this week's 'Stars'. The highlight is definitely hearing the children talk about the reasons they have been chosen this week and seeing how proud they are of this achievement. They were also extremely impressed with the children's enthusiasm and confidence when they were talking about their reading, and why reading is important. Lots of them talked about how you support them at home, sharing books and listening to them read, so thank you for your continued support.

Linked to this, the phonics and reading parent

workshop held in September is now available to view online:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kpr8JSXLGv1EOc2yCYJAOLxE76G7csMi/view?usp=sharing>

Important Dates

- Stay and Read for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children and parents will continue on Thursday mornings 8.40 to 9.10am
- Care in the Community nomination to be sent in via Seesaw on **Friday 14th October**
- Donations for our 'New and Nearly new' t event **Wednesday 19th October and Thursday 20th October**
- 'New and Nearly New' event on **Friday 21st October from 8:45 onwards in the junior hall**
- Black History Month - Friday 21st October
- School breaks up for half term on Friday 21st October
- School reopens on Tuesday 1st November
- Parents evenings Wednesday 9th November 3.15pm to 6.00pm
- Parents evening Thursday 10th November 3.15pm to 7.30pm
- Stockport Academy Christmas Market - Saturday 26th November 11am - 2pm