



Delivering an outstanding learning experience for all children so they flourish and thrive; enabling them to achieve their own individual excellence.

23rd January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a wonderful wintery start to the year we've had! We hope that you and your families have had a lovely Christmas and New Year and are looking forward to the start of 2023 at Excalibur.

Children's Mental Health Week

This year, Children's Mental Health Week is taking place on Monday 6th to Sunday 12th February. At school, your children will be taking part in a variety of activities on this year's theme: Let's Connect. In addition, on Monday 6th February, children are invited to come into school wearing scarves (and wear them during the day) to raise the profile of the importance of mental health.

Gymnastics in PE

This half term, each year group in school will be making use of our gymnastics apparatus to further develop their core stability and sport-specific skills. So far, KS2 have been practising use of the high platforms to successfully and confidently climb onto, balance and then dismount safely. In KS1, the children have been exploring different ways of travelling over equipment, including the balance beam and the horizontal ladder. Staff members have been really impressed with the children's developing confidence and creativity when using this equipment.

Alsager Tree

As you will know, one of Alsager's most distinctive and unique landmarks is the tree with the painted face, which can be found on Sandbach Road North between the Wilbraham Arms and one of the Salt Line entrances. With the tree recently repainted, a competition is now being held to give this famous tree a name. The name must begin with the letter "C" (this was randomly selected by the competition organisers). Name suggestions can be handed in at Alsager Library between now and Saturday 25th February.

FOE Christmas Hampers

Many thanks to everyone who purchased tickets for our Christmas hampers. FOE raised a grand total of £600. What a fantastic achievement!

Swimming

Over the last two weeks, Year 5 and 6 have attended swimming sessions at Alsager Leisure Centre. Instructors and members of staff have been really impressed with the children's confidence in the water and their eagerness to improve their swimming skills.

FOE

On Monday 16th January, a Friends of Excalibur (FOE) meeting was held. This was a really productive meeting with lots of great ideas. Stay tuned for information about the exciting events planned for the year.

OPAL

As you will be aware, we have been working in recent months to develop the outdoor play and learning provision for our children's lunchtimes. Many thanks to those members of our school community who have already donated items. Over the next couple of weeks, we are looking develop the outside area further. If you have any small play items, such as toy cars, trucks, figures or any old dressing up clothes that you would be able to donate, we would be extremely grateful.

Drinks in school

Just a gentle reminder that children should only be bringing water in to school to drink. This should be stored in a water bottle with a secure lid and taken home daily to be emptied, washed, refilled and returned. Many thanks for your co-operation in this matter.

Support with the Cost of Living

With the current financial situation effecting families across the country, Cheshire East Council offer a variety of support, including a Cost of Living Crisis Team. For more information, please click on the following link: <https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/livewell/education-employment-and-money/money-matters/cost-of-living.aspx>.

Safeguarding

If you have any safeguarding concerns or need safeguarding advice, please contact the school or, alternatively, our website has links to useful phone numbers:

<http://www.excalibur.cheshire.sch.uk/page/supportservices/6049>

Mrs Jones - Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs Rogers - Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Miss McArdle - Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs Hilditch - Safeguarding Ambassador
Noah - Safeguarding Ambassador
Imogen - Safeguarding Ambassador
Ewan - Safeguarding Ambassador
Ava - Safeguarding Ambassador

Diary Dates

Date	Event
23.01.23 & 24.01.23	Twig Twister Art in School
26.01.23	Non-Uniform Day for Arthur
30.01.23	Young Voices
01.02.23	Year 5 Class Assembly
06.02.23	Children's Mental Health Week Wear a Scarf Day
02.03.23 – 03.03.23	Year 4 Standon Bowers Residential
27.03.23 & 28.03.23	Life Education Workshops
28.03.23 & 29.03.23	Year 2 Delamere Activity Centre

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Jones
Head Teacher

Mr Hancock
Assistant Headteacher