



13th March 2017

Newsletter 13

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is definitely starting to feel like spring around school. We have had some sunshine, the daffodils are opening and we are beginning to practise our Easter songs.

Please note that this week is the last week for extracurricular clubs. A letter for summer term clubs will be sent out at the start of the summer term, first week back after the Easter break.

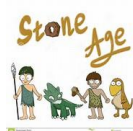
Oliver!

Y6 joined the cast at Alsager High School for their annual production of Oliver! It was a great success and everyone who was lucky enough to attend thought it was brilliant! Well done to everyone involved. As usual, it was also very special seeing so many ex-Excalibur pupils perform with such confidence.



World Book Day and Book Fair

Thank you for supporting World Book Day – lots of superb writing was created throughout school inspired by 'The Day the Crayons quit'. Also, thank you for supporting the book fair. We took £567.98. We receive 50% commission on this total which then allows us to buy books for the classrooms.



Y5 Stone Age trip

Year 5 enjoyed a fantastic trip to Weaver Hall Museum where they learnt about life during the Stone to Iron Age. The children were very well behaved and listened with interest. They handled really old artefacts with care. Everyone had a go at making a Stone-Age pot from clay using

methods that the Stone-Age people would have used. It was a great day for all. *Miss McArdle*

This is what our children thought:

It was epic!

It was the best trip.

We learnt so much.

Making the stone-age pots was brilliant.



Y1 go into space!

Year 1 had a fantastic trip to Spaceport on Tuesday. They enjoyed finding out about life as an astronaut and learning more about the different planets. The Space Dome experience allowed the children to find out about scientists' investigations into whether there is life on other planets. Exploring the hands on exhibits really brought their learning to life. I was very proud of all of the children. *Miss Robinson*

This is what our children thought:

My favourite part was zooming in the rocket.

We watched a big video on the roof.

I want to go again because it was very, very fun.

Mid year report card

This Friday, following feedback from parents/carers and in preparation for parent/teacher consultations, your child will come home with a short midyear report card. This is to help you to see how your child is progressing with their learning so far this year.



Friends of Excalibur

I am very pleased to say that following a well-attended AGM, we have a new core committee busy planning and organising events for our children and families. Keep your eyes peeled for upcoming events and see the updated calendar below. May I say, on behalf of everyone at the school, a big thanks to everyone who has supported our school – past, present and future. Your contributions make a real difference for all of the children.

Please see main points of contact below, but please do remember that you are very welcome

to be involved with Friends of Excalibur, attend meetings and help with events at any time and I am sure that your year group co-ordinators will be canvassing your support very soon! Minutes are uploaded to our website for your convenience.

F.O.E Co-ordinator – Donna Bourne
Secretary – rolling role
Treasurer – Yvonne Hilditch
Publicity – Kelli Nixon, Luisa Mackey, Nikki Ratcliffe

Year group co-ordinators:

Reception–Sarah Hawkesworth & Helen Gornell
Year 1 – Joanne Melia
Year 2 – Phillipa Maher
Year 3 – Nicola Westcott-Brown
Year 4 – Sarah Lavery
Year 5 – Sarah Brammeld
Year 6 – Luisa Mackey

Year 2 Class Assembly

Well done to Year 2 who shared some of their learning with parents/carers last week – they were confident in their presentations. We hope that you enjoyed it!



Sports Round-Up

On Thursday 9th March, a team of Year 5/6 dodgeball players competed in the Alsager Community Trust dodgeball competition.

Our first match against Alsager Highfields went wonderfully, with our team starting strong, winning all three matches. Secondly, we played Cranberry, winning all three matches. Our match against Pikemere proved our most difficult one so far, but our team showed grit and determination to stay on top. Again, they won all three matches.

Our final match was against St. Gabriel's. Destined to be our most difficult opposition, we fought strongly to keep on top in the overall rankings. We were crowned champions!

On Thursday 2nd March, a team of seven Year 4s attended the Alsager Community Trust Year 3/4 dodgeball tournament at Alsager School. Being the first time the team had played using the official dodgeball rules, they all did fantastically,

winning their first game comfortably.

Unfortunately, they couldn't quite repeat that success in their remaining games but some great performances were evident throughout. Great resilience was shown by all the players and they did Excalibur proud.

On Thursday 16th March, our reserve netball team attended a competition at Alsager School. During the event, the team played brilliantly, showing a large amount of grit to win all of their matches comfortably. Well done to everyone who took part. *Mr Hancock*



Science Week 10-19th March

Excalibur kicked off Science week by a visit from Science Boffins. We had a very exciting whole school assembly and then each class had a session with the boffins. The day helped to excite the children's interest in the wonderful world of science!

And finally

Please remember to visit the school webpage and look at information under the school funding tab: <http://www.excalibur.cheshire.sch.uk/page/school-funding/32968>

If nothing else, please sign the petition.

Additionally, we urge you to respond to the national funding consultation. There is guidance on the website, but please do try to put your response into your own words to ensure each individual response is counted and heard. All schools in Cheshire East are working together to challenge the grossly unfair proposals. We believe that our children are being discriminated against as a result of the postcode of their school.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to seeing you at the forthcoming parents evening – remember to book your appointment on ParentMail PMX if you haven't already done so.

Mrs Lise Houldsworth
Head Teacher

Diary Dates

A list of dates currently in the school diary.

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| 14-03-17 Y4 Standon Bowers |
| 16-03-17 Class photographs |
| 17-03-17 Mid-year report card sent home Y1-6 |
| 20-03-17 Y5 to Wesley Place – details to follow |
| 21/22/23-03-17 FOE Mother's Day gift wrap at lunchtimes – details to follow |
| 22-03-17 Governors – Learning & Teaching 5pm |
| 23-03-17 Parent/teacher consultations 4-7pm |
| 24-03-17 Y5 class assembly 9.15am |
| 27-03-17 Y2 to Ford Green Hall – details to follow |
| 28-03-17 Parent/teacher consultations 3.30-5.30 pm |
| 29-03-17 Full Governors 5pm |
| 31-03-17 Easter service – Juniors 9.15am – details to follow |
| 31-03-17 School closes |

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| 18-04-17 School opens |
| 26-04-17 Governors – Community 5pm |
| 01-05-17 May day – school closed |
| 03-05-17 Reception to Stockley Farm – details to follow |
| 04-05-17 Phonics workshop for parents 6pm – details to follow |
| 08-05-17 Y6 SATS week |
| 12-05-17 FOE children's discos – details to follow |
| 19-05-17 Y4 class assembly 9.15am |
| 19-05-17 FOE meeting 2pm school hall – all welcome |
| 22-05-17 Sports week |
| 24-05-17 Governors – Strategic Leadership 5pm |
| 26-05-17 Sports day KS1 9.15am, KS2 1.30pm (parents/carers welcome) |
| 26-05-17 School Closes |

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| 05-06-17 School opens |
| 08-06-17 Y2 Alsager sport activity day – details to follow |
| 12-06-17 Y1 Phonics screening week |
| 13/14/15-06-17 FOE Father's Day gift wrap at lunchtimes – details to follow |
| 20-06-17 Y6 Alton Towers – details to follow |
| 22-06-17 Y1 class assembly 9.15am |

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| 28-06-17 Y6 at Alsager High School – taster day |
| 29-06-17 Alsager interschool sports |
| 30-06-17 Reception class assembly |
| 30-06-17 FOE Summer Fair 5-7pm |
| 06-07-17 Reserve date for interschool sports |
| 07-07-17 End of year reports OUT |
| 11-07-17 Y5/6 production – afternoon |
| 12-07-17 Y5/6 production – evening |
| 19-07-17 Y6 leavers garden party/rounders 5pm |
| 21-07-17 Y6 leavers assembly 9.15am |
| 21-07-17 School closes |