



8<sup>th</sup> February 2018

## Newsletter 11

Dear Parents/Carers,



### Singing success

Last week we took a group of junior children to Sandbach School to enter this year's Love Music Trust competition heats. It was a wonderful event and our pupils showed 100% commitment and enthusiasm. We are one of three schools who have got through to the final and the group will perform on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March at Crewe Lyceum. Tickets for the primary school final are available here:

[www.priorbooking.com/e/cheshire-east-primary-schools-music-competition-final](http://www.priorbooking.com/e/cheshire-east-primary-schools-music-competition-final)

Congratulations to everyone involved and thanks to Mrs. Bain for leading on this!



### Budding Film makers

On Monday 22nd January, Year 6 visited the National Media Museum in Bradford as part of their "Lights, Camera, Action" topic. Experiments in the Wonderlab included a mirror maze; an echo sound tunnel; a voice synthesising machine; an ultra-violet room; a heat detector and a large projecting globe which displayed planets and moons from across the solar system.

Afterwards, the children visited three of the museum's galleries. Next was the animation gallery, including original models from British TV shows such as Wallace & Gromit, the Wombles, Gordon the Gopher, Thunderbirds, and Zippy & George. To finish the morning, they visited the TV gallery, where they were treated to a journey through the history of television, from the foundation of the BBC in 1922, through iconic TV

moments, such as the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II through to modern day.

After lunch, we were collected by our guide and led to Dawn, a professional animator, who was going to lead us through an animation workshop. During the workshop, the children were challenged with creating a story using stop-motion animation on an Apple iMac software called iStop-Motion. The stop-motion was a time-consuming process, with the children working solidly for nearly an hour and a half to produce some fantastic animations - they will soon be emailed to school.

All of the children behaved wonderfully, showing enthusiasm throughout and asking pertinent questions to further their understanding of what was being learnt. Many thanks to all school staff and volunteers who assisted with the event and many thanks to the National Media Museum and their staff for providing such an engaging experience for us all.

### Y4 Class Assembly

Y4 shared their learning from the autumn term with their parents/carers and the rest of the school last week. They clearly enjoyed learning all about Ancient Egypt, spoke confidently and liked sharing some of the creative pieces of work in their Study Showcase books. Well done Y4 and thank you Miss Taylor.



### Netball League

On Thursday 1st February, a squad of seven Year 5 and 6 children competed in the first week of the Alsager Community Trust netball league. During the afternoon we played two matches, the first of which was against Cranberry Academy. Playing over four five-minute quarters, we gradually pulled away from the opposition, scoring point after point through perseverance and teamwork. In the end we won the match comfortably, making a solid start to the tournament.

Our second match was against Alsager Highfields. The match started off evenly, with no points scored in the first quarter. But then, as the second quarter began, we pulled ahead, with a terrific

display of consistent shooting. In addition, the defending was exemplary - we didn't concede during the whole game.

### **Alsager Community Trust Enterprise Finals**

In the run-up to Christmas, the whole of Year 6 were busy working on their Enterprise projects, where they designed and produced their own products to sell at the Christmas Fair. The Christmas Fair, supported by parents and friends of the school, was a huge success, with over £200 raised for a variety of charities by Year 6.

A couple of weeks ago, each team, of which there were six, presented their Enterprise projects to Mrs T and Miss McArdle, who selected two teams to represent Excalibur at the Enterprise competition at Alsager School. Joining the other primary schools in Alsager, the two teams, Red Nosed Reindeers and Selling Santas, competed for a trophy and the pride of being Enterprise Champions 2018.

During the afternoon, the teams had to present to a set of three judges, as well as the other primary schools. Presentations included photographs of their endeavours, as well as team responsibilities, details about products and end profits. As well as this, they had to recreate their stalls from the Christmas Fair and pitch their products to groups of Alsager School students, who circulated with tokens to give to the team of their choice.

At the end of the afternoon, one of the judges stepped up to announce the winner. We were delighted when Red Nosed Reindeers were crowned the champions, reclaiming the trophy that Excalibur have now won for three consecutive years - 2016, 2017 and 2018!

It must be said that the quality of all of the teams was truly exceptional this year - it was a tough decision to choose between them. Well done to the whole of Year 6 for embracing the Enterprise project, and for their outstanding teamwork and the way in which they independently worked towards their goals.



### **Safeguarding Reminders**

Please can we remind parents/carers of a few key points to help to keep our children and site safe?

- Do not park or stop on the yellow zig zag lines, even for a short time, even in the rain!
- School cannot let parents/carers wait inside the school building when afterschool clubs are taking place.
- Please do not let anyone follow you through the pedestrian gate when you have been given access to the school grounds.
- If you need to come in to speak to us at any time, please come in through the main entrance and speak to reception first who will find out if the teacher is available, arrange a suitable meeting time or pass on a message. Teachers will respond as soon as we can, but a polite reminder that they are with their classes from 8.50am – 3.15pm – thank you.

Thank you in anticipation of your support 😊



### **Y1 visit space!**

Y1 visited Spaceport this week and had a most exciting day! Here is what the children thought:

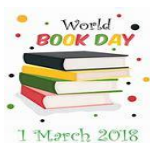
*My favourite part was the theatre because we saw the international space station. Reuben*

*I enjoyed launching the rockets. Jack*

*I liked looking up at the sky in the planetarium. Cerys*

*I liked the activities. Isaac*

As always, the children represented Excalibur very well. Thank you Year 1.



### **World Book Day**

1<sup>st</sup> March is World Book Day 2018. The staff have decided to base a day of activities around the book 'Journey' by Aaron Becker and use this day as another opportunity to promote to our children high quality literature and the joy of books.

As usual, your child will receive their £1 voucher which they can use to help offset the cost of a book. The book fair will be visiting Excalibur from 2<sup>nd</sup> March and will run after school on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> March. Remember school receives commission on all purchases made from the fair which we then use to stock up our own shelves.

### **Y4 Standon Bowers meeting**

A reminder that there is an information session for parents/carers about the Standon Bowers residential on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February at 3.15pm in the Y4 classroom.

### **Y4 and Y6 parents' evening dates**

Due to the Standon Bowers residential on 22-03-18, Year 4 and Year 6 parent/teacher consultations will be held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 4-7pm and Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March 3.30pm – 6pm.

### **And Finally**



A reminder for smart uniforms and hairstyles on March 1<sup>st</sup> for class photos!

Thank you for your continued support.

**Mrs Lise Houldsworth**  
Head Teacher

**Mrs Juliet Tomkinson**  
Deputy Head Teacher

## **Diary Dates**

12-02-18 FOE meeting 7pm
<b>13-02-18 School nurses IN – Reception hearing &amp; eye checks</b>
15-02-18 Reception trip to Runway Park
<b>16-02-18 Year 3 class assembly 9.15am</b>
<b>16-02-18 Year 6 rehearsal – The Hot Mikado AHS</b>
16-02-18 School closes

26-02-18 School opens
<b>28-02-18 Y6 perform The Hot Mikado AHS matinee &amp; evening. Y5 watch matinee.</b>
01-03-18 Class photos – Academy IN
<b>01-03-18 World Book Day</b>
<b>02-03-18 Book Fair starts</b>
6/7/8-03-18 FOE Mother's Day gift wrap – details to follow
08-03-18 Fire Service IN to Y5
12-03-18 Last week of clubs
14-03-18 Governors – Standards & Curriculum 5pm
16-03-18 Mid-Year report card home
<b>16-03-18 Reception class assembly 9.15am</b>
19-03-18 FOE non uniform day – bring an easter egg – details to follow
<b>20-03-18 Y4 &amp; Y6 parent/teacher consultations</b>
22/23-03-18 Y4 Standon Bowers
22-03-18 Parent/teacher consultations 4-7pm (not Y4 & Y6)
<b>22-03-18 Y5 brass sharing – details to follow</b>
<b>23-03-18 Y1 class assembly 9.15am</b>
<b>24-03-18 FOE Family Easter expedition 12pm – 3pm</b>
27-03-18 Parent/teacher consultations 3.30-6pm
<b>27-03-18 Y5 to Wesley Place – details to follow</b>
28-03-18 Full governors 5pm
<b>28-03-18 Y2 to Staircase House – details to follow</b>
<b>29-03-18 Easter assembly 9.15am – juniors – details to follow</b>
29-03-18 School Closes

16-04-18 School Opens
07-05-18 Bank holiday
14-05-18 Y6 SATS week
18-05-18 FOE school disco – details to follow
21-05-18 Sports Week
23-05-18 Governors – Resources & Personnel 5pm
25-05-18 School Closes

