



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

26th November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a busy couple of weeks it has been! Classrooms have been a hive of activity. There have even been Christmas songs echoing through the building!

OPAL

As you will be aware, we are working to develop our outdoor play provision at lunchtimes. With this in mind, next Wednesday afternoon we are collecting a variety of "stuff" to add to our outdoor environment, including tyres. Please take a look at the OPAL letter which was sent out earlier this week to see how you could help us further develop our outdoor play.

Anti-Bullying Week

Last week, children in each year group raised awareness of anti-bullying through wearing odd socks and focussing on anti-bullying week, which began with an assembly led by Mrs. Jones. Throughout the week, classes then completed some further learning on an aspect of anti-bullying, with year groups focussing on a particular aspect and discussing a range of different scenarios.

Pants are Private with Children in Need

On Friday 12th November, each class learnt about the importance of privacy through the NSPCC Pants are Private campaign. Children in KS1 learnt about the importance of understanding that their body belongs to them and that they should tell someone they trust if something makes them feel upset or worried. Our KS2 children produced Pants are Private posters which are now being displayed to support KS1 children.

Year 5 & 6 Tag Rugby Champions

On Thursday 18th November, a squad of Year 5 & 6 children competed in the Alsager Community Trust Year 5 & 6 tag rugby tournament. Playing against the four other Alsager primary schools, our team worked exceptionally well, displaying unity and resilience throughout. They listened and acted upon the advice given, both by Mrs. Thompson and by each other.

As a result of this, they won every single game they played and only conceded a small number of tries during the whole tournament. Well done to Jake, Ethan, Ellie S, Ellie J, Leah, Tom, Grace, Noah and Maisie and a special thanks to Mrs. Thompson for managing the team.

Children in Need

On Friday 19th November, we celebrated Children in Need by having a bad hair day and bringing in spare change. Many thanks to all parents and children for their kind donations – we were inundated with coins and easily filled in our Pudsey outline in the hall.

Alsager Library

Our children have been busy over the last couple of weeks making their visits to Alsager Library. During their visits, they have learnt about how to use the library, listened to a story and browsed the shelves. The children have also had the opportunity to get books out using their very own library cards. They even learnt how to use the special machine to book them out!

Year 3 will be going next Tuesday, at which point every class in our school will have visited our local treasure trove of books.

FOE Stall at Alsager Christmas Light Switch-On

The Friends of Excalibur team ran a tombola at the Alsager Christmas Light Switch-On yesterday to raise funds for our school. Thanks to everyone who helped. If you are interested in supporting FOE in any capacity, please email contact@excalibur.cheshire.sch.uk, and we will pass on your contact details.

Excalibur Library – Update

Many thanks to everyone who has donated to our library so far. All donations really do enrich the reading experiences of our children. If you do wish to donate any books, please bring them into school and hand to your class teacher or speak to either Mrs. Hilditch, Miss Ridler or Mrs. King.

We are also excited to announce that our Excalibur Library has branched out to include two containers outside on our playground. These are filled with books for our children to read at breaks and lunchtimes. Many thanks to our Year 6 librarians for stocking the shelves during lunchtime yesterday.

Do feel free to take a look at our outdoor book collection as you drop off and pick up your children.

Remember, to find out what is new to our Excalibur Library, check out our Facebook or Twitter pages or the following page on our school website:

<http://www.excalibur.cheshire.sch.uk/page/whats-new-in-our-excalibur-library/112100>.

Year 6 Train Trip to Longport

On Wednesday, our Year 6s took the opportunity of a complimentary train journey to Longport to complete a host of geography field trip activities.

During the trip, they visited Westport Lake to carry out a nature survey. They observed a huge variety of birds, including moorhens, geese and mallard ducks. Then, they took a walk into the more built-up areas of Longport to complete a traffic survey and a building usage survey. On the return to school, they wrote up their findings and discussed what their surveys had shown them.

Many thanks to Claire and Alexa from the East Midlands Railway Network, without whom our trip to Longport would not have been possible.

Year 3 & 4 Tag Rugby Event

A squad of Year 3s and 4s participated in the Year 3 & 4 tag rugby event, which was held at Alsager School Astro-turf. The team performed wonderfully, developing their skills as each game progressed. Well done to Emma, Ethan, Oscar, Joel, Blake, Jack S and Freddie. You all represented Excalibur with resilience, sportsmanship and unity. Well done.

Stickman Theatre Trip for EYFS and Year 1

Our EYFS and Year 1 children were excited to go on the coach to the Crewe Lyceum Theatre, where they watched Stickman. The performance was fantastic and Mrs. Rogers even had to throw Stickman's rubber ring back on stage! All children demonstrated superb behaviour and represented Excalibur beautifully.

Partnership with Alsager Railway Station

As a school, we are supporting the work of Alsager Railway Station's team of volunteers by helping develop the waiting room area. On Monday 22nd November, a group of children visited the station with Mrs. Bundy and Mr. Reid. During the visit, they put some of our school's fantastic artwork on display and planted flowers in two purpose-built planters.

Now officially known as Station Adopters, this group will be continuing their work at the station over the next couple of weeks. Keep an eye out for their hard work the next time you use our local station.

Emotional Health and Wellbeing

It is really important that we look after our mental health and emotional wellbeing. If you have any worries, concerns or just want to get in touch, school can be contacted at any time of day through our email:

contact@excalibur.cheshire.sch.uk

We also have a section on our website under which has lots of links to useful websites that can support mental health and wellbeing.

<http://www.excalibur.cheshire.sch.uk/page/emotional-health-and-wellbeing/67105>

Mrs Jones
Head Teacher

Mr Hancock
Assistant Headteacher