



24th May 2016

Newsletter 18

Dear Parents/Carers,

This half term has literally flown! Everyone has been very busy and learning hard. This week, we are enjoying the varied opportunities that Sports Week has to offer. Thank you to all those coaches and clubs who give their time and resources to support us during this week. Also, a huge thank you to Mrs Tomkinson and Miss Robinson who have jointly planned the events.



Fun Quizes

I would like to start by saying how proud we are of all our children and their fantastic attitudes to learning, but I must give a special congratulations to Y6 who have completed their statutory assessments this month – they conducted themselves admirably; showing determination, resilience and a real 'can do' attitude. Whatever the outcome, we are very, very proud of each individual pupil. Well done!

Y2 have also completed their 'booklets' during the last two weeks, enjoying smaller working groups whilst doing this and again showing fantastic attitudes. We work very hard to make these 'booklets' an everyday part of learning for our younger pupils. I think this is managed fairly well at Excalibur as when I recently chatted to Y6 they didn't believe me when I told them they had completed SATs once before in Y2!

Sorry...Correction

We realise that an incorrect date was typed into the sports week letter sent last week. Sports day will be held (weather dependent) at the end of **this** week, Friday 27th May. Apologies for any confusion.



Class Assemblies

Well done to Y5 and Y3 who shared their learning through their class assemblies for family and friends. Both assemblies were strong exemplars of how the curriculum is shaped at Excalibur and the children were clearly proud of all they have achieved. Thank you to those of you who joined us.

Sporting Update...

Active as ever, it has been a busy sports calendar for years 3 and 4. We took part in the Y3 and 4 swimming gala at Alsager pool where we were crowned overall winners. Year 3 and 4 also braved torrential conditions to take part in an Alsager football tournament and we were placed third overall. Good work!



Special visitors

Reception and Year 4 both enjoyed a visit from Mrs Cadman last week who very kindly brought in a selection of animals to support the children's learning; another great, engaging way to bring learning to life. Here is what some of our children thought:

"I stroked the snake. It felt very scaly." Martha

"I liked the stick insect. It tickled my arm when it crawled up it." Molly

"I learnt that there are lots of different habitats. There are lots of species still undiscovered." Callum



Y1 Blue Planet

Staying with the animal theme, Y1 enjoyed a fabulous day at the Blue Planet Aquarium last week to enhance their Under the Sea topic. The children were brilliant and here's what they thought:

"I liked going through the tunnel seeing all the fishes and sea creatures in the big tank." Jake

"I liked feeling the starfish. It felt rough." Ellie

Staffing Update

Our Schools Direct associate teacher Mr Stanway has completed his placement with Y2 and Miss Birch has returned to complete her final placement with Y4. Both have secured permanent positions in local schools for September and we wish them both well in their future roles.

Miss Birchenough finishes with us at the end of this half term. She is leaving to complete work with children with additional needs and has secured a place on Schools Direct for September 2016. I would like to thank Miss Birchenough for all her hard work. She assures me that she will still be popping in to support us whenever she can.



Y6 Taika Drumming

Year 6 enjoyed an afternoon of drumming at Alsager High school last week. They enjoyed designing their own (very noisy) performance!

Flying Scotsman

We are aware that The Flying Scotsman is due to steam into Crewe at 2pm on 15th June, passing through Alsager on the way. Should any parents wish to take their child to see this memorable event, you may collect your child from school at 1.30pm for the afternoon after registration has been completed.

Smartscreen technology..

We are in the process of introducing smartscreen technology throughout the school. Four classes already have their 'Activ Inspire' screens fitted and by September, all classrooms will be fitted with this latest technology which removes the need for projectors and is 'bang up-to-date'. This will assist the teachers in continuing to deliver engaging, meaningful learning experiences for our pupils.



Whatever the weather..

Please could you ensure that your child comes to school prepared for the weather? This means always having a lightweight shower proof coat with them in school or sunhat and sun cream applied before school if the sun decides to shine. Also, a reminder

that all pupils are encouraged to bring a clean, full water bottle to school each day. The children can refill bottles at set intervals during the day. Thank you.

And finally..

Thank you for your continued support.

Remember, we finish for half term this Friday and school re-opens on **Tuesday 7th May.**

Yours Faithfully,
Mrs Lise Houldsworth
Head Teacher

Diary Dates

This is a list of dates currently in the school diary.

23-05-16 Sports Week
23-05-16 PDSA IN to Reception class
25-05-16 Governors community meeting 5.30pm
27-05-16 Sports Day KS1 9.30am/KS2 1.45pm
27-05-16 School closes

07-06-16 School opens
07-06-16 Key Stage 1 Maths information workshop for parents 5pm @ Excalibur – details to follow
08-06-16 Reception to Stockley Farm – details to follow
08-06-16 Y4 Alsager Maths Day @ Pikemere – details to follow
11-06-16 Alsager Carnival
13-06-16 Phonics screening week Y1
15-06-16 Reception class assembly
15/16/17-06-16 FOE Father's Day gift wrap at lunchtimes – details to follow
15-06-16 New intake - parents meeting 6pm
17-06-16 Y2 class assembly 9.15am
21-06-16 Guitar concert (Mr Tideswell) 2.30pm
22-06-16 Governors meeting – strategic leadership 5.30pm
23-06-16 School closed for EU referendum
24-06-16 Road Safety Y6 with the fire service
24-06-16 Judaism with Jeremy IN Y5 – details to follow
28-06-16 Alsager town sports at Highfields school 5pm (Y2-Y6)
01-07-16 FOE Summer Fair 5-7pm
05-07-16 Y6 production 2pm
07-07-16 Y2 trip to New Brighton – details to follow
06-07-16 Governors meeting teaching and learning 5.30pm
07-07-16 Y6 production 6pm
08-07-16 End of Year Reports come home
12-07-16 Y6 family garden party 4.30-6pm
13-07-16 Full Governors meeting 5pm
14-07-16 Y4/5 Bikeability – details to follow
15-07-16 Y4/5 Bikeability – details to follow
19-07-16 Y6 leavers assembly 9.15am
19-07-16 School closes for Summer

06-09-16 School opens
21-10-16 School closes