

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back!

I do hope you all had an enjoyable and relaxing Easter holidays. I am looking forward to a term full of new learning experiences for your children. This term is a busy one with the end of Key Stage 1 assessments taking place. These will be take place alongside normal learning within the classroom in order to minimise disruption to the children's routine. The tests are administered in an informal, relaxed manner with the children being at the centre of the process. If you do have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

This term, our topic is Happy Birthday Excalibur! We will be taking on a History and Geography focus by looking at the history of the school as well as exploring the local area, comparing the Alsager of 2015 to the Alsager of the past. The topic will be explored throughout the curriculum with opportunities arising within English, D and T, Art and Science.

P.E. sessions will continue to take place on Wednesdays and Thursdays. The children will need their P.E. kit; consisting of shorts, t-shirt and suitable footwear. It is recommended that P.E. kits are left in school during the week as we may go out on other days and I have found it is easier for the children when they are in school for the whole week. I will endeavour to send P.E. kits home each Friday. Due to Health and Safety requirements, children with earrings are unable to participate in P.E. sessions therefore it would be very much appreciated if children could come to school without their earrings on P.E days, or alternatively, children may cover their earrings with micropore tape or small plasters prior to their P.E. session.

Guided reading sessions will continue to take place on Tuesdays and Fridays with planners being taken in as usual on Tuesdays and Thursdays (the latter for the Friday group). It is always lovely to hear about what the children have been reading at home so please feel free to record such information in the planner. Guided reading homework will be set on Fridays to be returned on the following Wednesday with the previous week's reading book. This term there may be occasions where the Guided Reading homework is a comprehension activity to complement the children's learning in school. A My Maths homework activity will be posted online on Fridays and will be due the following Wednesday.

As always, if you do have any questions or worries that you would like to discuss with me please do drop in either before or after school, and if necessary, we will arrange a time when it will be convenient to talk things through.

Finally, as you are aware our topic this term is focusing on Excalibur Primary School and Alsager past and present. Also, as part of their learning this term, the children will be writing questions to ask in an interview style role play to find out more about their school and local area. If you or any family member have lived in Alsager for many years and would be able to share your or their own memories of Alsager in the past, so we can learn how it has changed, please do let me know and I can try and arrange an opportunity for you to visit the class and share your memories. Furthermore, if you or any family member has attended the school in the past and would be willing to come in and share what the school was like and your own memories/experiences of the school then please do let me know.

I hope to make this term a fun and successful one with lots of different learning opportunities!

Yours sincerely

Miss C Street



Happy Birthday Excalibur!



Literacy: We will explore a mixture of fiction and non-fiction writing. For our fiction based learning, we will be looking at the story of Dogger by Shirley Hughes and for our non-fiction writing, we will be writing riddles based upon animals we have researched in Science lessons.

Maths: The children will continue to secure their mental methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division and look at applying these to a variety of different questions and scenarios. We will also be looking at capacity, symmetry, directions and turns.

Science: The focus for this term will be Living Things and their Habitats.

R.E.: The focus for this term will be Hinduism followed by looking at Joseph after half term.

P.E.: The children will be focusing on Games.

History: The focus for this term will be the history of Excalibur Primary School and the local area.

Geography: Children will explore their local area using aerial photographs and maps to identify patterns in landscape. The children will also be creating their own maps using symbols to create a key.

Art: We will be looking at self-portraits this term by exploring artists' self portraits before creating their own for our class gallery.

DT: There will be a focus on textiles and the children will make their own puppets.

Computing: Computing will link very closely with Science this term and the children will be using what they have learnt in Science to create their own animal databases and Top Trump cards. The computers will also be used to research different animals to help inform their database.
Music: This term the focus will be exploring timbre, tempo and dynamics.