



5<sup>th</sup> February 2016

## Newsletter 12

Dear Parents/Carers,



### Movie Night

Friends of Excalibur held a movie night for the children on the evening of Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. This was a lovely event and the children certainly enjoyed their goodie bag and the film. F.O.E raised £288.43. Thank you to everyone for your hard work.



### bCyberwise

*A message from Miss Street...*

As part of safer internet day 2016, Years 4, 5 and 6 are going to be participating in bCyberwise workshops on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February. These workshops are being run by Life Education and aim to help children learn how to be respectful and safe online. The learning outcomes relate directly to the key stage two computing curriculum and it is hoped that the workshops will not only be enjoyable, but will also promote positive cyber citizenship.



### Polling Day

We have now been notified that the school will be required for polling in May. For safeguarding reasons, it is not possible for us to keep the school open to pupils. **Therefore, school will be closed on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2016.**

Furthermore, we have also been told that should the Prime Minister call a referendum on Europe, the school may be required again. We would possibly not be informed about this until 2 weeks prior to the referendum.

Unfortunately, we have no control over this. Just to reassure you that as soon as we know anything, so will parents and carers.



### Football County Finals

We are very proud that Excalibur qualified to represent the local area partnership at the Cheshire football county finals last week. See below for a report:

*After being victorious in the Alsager School tournament, Excalibur football team participated in a competition held at Crewe Alex soccer centre. On that day, we played 3 matches; the first one we drew 1-1. The second match we lost 1-0. The third and final game we drew 1-1. After that, we went on to penalties because we had the same points as another team. Unfortunately we lost, but it was very close. Finally, we went back to the changing rooms and collected our bags and headed home. Overall it was a brilliant day!*

Charlie W – Sports Ambassador



### Y4 trip to Manchester Museum

As part of their Ancient Egyptian topic, Year 4 visited Manchester Museum where they got to study real sarcophagus. They returned to school buzzing:

*"My favourite part was when I got to see some real Egyptian artefacts." Louis*

*"What I liked best was seeing a real mummy." Izzy*

*"My favourite part was looking at the Egyptian things and using an ipad to take photos." Emily*

*"I enjoyed building the pyramid; we did it in 1:59 which got us on the leader board!" Eva*



### Safeguarding

We have noticed several parents/carers allowing children to walk down the drive at the end of the day. We know that this may seem



like the quickest route as the pedestrian path is busy, but please use the path, not the drive at the end of the day. Also, please ensure that younger children do not run ahead of you. Last week, we witnessed a near miss where a preschool child almost ran out into the road. Clearly, we want to help everyone to keep safe. We have spoken to the children about how to leave the school safely at the end of the day and would appreciate your support with this. Thank you.



### **Staff Development**

Mrs Rogers, Miss Robinson, Miss Street and Miss Taylor all received training in the teaching and learning of maths this week.

Mr Cotterill and I attended a half day briefing on an Ofsted 'Sharper, smarter self-evaluation' and returned to school reassured and pleased with the school improvement systems we have developed at Excalibur.

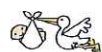
Mr Cotterill continues to chair the Alsager Community Trust maths leads' network and Mrs Tomkinson works with another group in the Alsager schools; leading developments for pupil premium.

Miss Hilditch attended an accounting in schools course.

Next week, I will be attending the annual Cheshire East Headteacher's residential conference.

### **And finally..**

Thank you to all the children who have completed their bullying prevention posters for school in their own time.



Mrs Rogers takes her maternity leave at the end of this half term, as baby is due 10<sup>th</sup> March. I know that you will join me in wishing her all the best. I am sure she will be back in to see us with her new little person before too long.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours Faithfully,  
Mrs Lise Houldsworth  
Head Teacher

## **Diary Dates**

This is a list of dates currently in the school diary. You can also use the school calendar on our website which is updated as dates are set.

05-02-16 Artist in residence – 50 <sup>th</sup> anniversary
05-02-16 Y5 vocal performance @ St Mary's
09-02-16 Safer Internet Day
09-02-16 Jon Mayhew author visit to Y5
09-02-16 Y6 visit to Imperial War Museum
10-02-16 Y4,5,6 Be cyberwise workshops – details to follow
10-02-16 Governors meeting – community 5.30pm
<b>12-02-16 School closes for half term</b>

<b>22-02-16 School opens</b>
24-02-16 AHS Hairspray performance – Y6 – details to follow
26-02-16 FOE children's discos – details to follow
02-03-16 Governors meeting – strategic leadership 5.30pm
02-03-16 FOE Mothers' day gift wrap (for 3 days) – details to follow
07-03-16 Assessment information briefing for parents – details to follow
14-03-16 Science week
16-03-16 Governors meeting – teaching and learning 5.30pm
17-03-16 Parent/Teacher meetings – details to follow 4-7pm
21-03-16 Parent/teacher meetings – details to follow 3.30-5.30pm
22-03-16 Y3 perform @ Victoria Hall – details to follow
23-03-16 Easter service @ St.Mary's – details to follow
23-03-16 Reception Barney Bear Festival @ Victoria Hall – details to follow
23-03-16 Full governors meeting 5pm
<b>24-03-16 School closes for Easter</b>

<b>11-04-16 School opens</b>
12-04-16 Y4 Standon Bowers – details to follow
14-04-16 Class photographs
<b>05-05-16 School closed for polling</b>
02-05-16 May Bank Holiday
09-05-16 Year 6 SATS week
23-05-16 Sports Week
25-05-16 Governors community meeting 5.30pm
<b>27-05-16 School closes</b>