



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

11th November 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you all had an enjoyable and restful half term break and that your children have made a good start to the first two weeks of our second half term. With the autumn weather truly setting in, we look forward to all of the exciting opportunities these next few weeks will bring.

At 11:00am this morning, children and staff across the school have taken part in the two minutes silence for Remembrance Day. On this important day for the nation, may we take this opportunity to remember the service and sacrifice of members of the Armed Forces community from Britain and the Commonwealth. We will remember them.

EYFS & KS1 Bonfire

On Monday 7th November, EYFS and KS1 took part in the annual bonfire on our school field. With the support of Mr. Pickin, children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 enjoyed Excalibur's very own bonfire, followed by some delicious chocolate apples.

Year 4 Potteries Museum Visit

On Friday 20th October, Year 4 took a trip to the Potteries Museum. The children learnt all about the Staffordshire Hoard and how it was discovered. In the afternoon, the children made their own Anglo-Saxon helmets. The children were fantastic throughout the day, engaging brilliantly with the activities and asking some super questions. Well done Year 4!

Royal British Legion Artwork

Over the last couple of weeks, some children in school have been working to create artwork to commemorate Remembrance Day for the Alsager branch of the Royal British Legion. These art pieces were displayed at Alsager Civic on Saturday 5th November along with work from other schools.

As well as the exhibition, we have put additional artwork on display at Alsager Railway Station. As you may be aware, we have an ongoing partnership with the station volunteers through their Adopt-a-Shelter scheme. On Monday of this week, some wonderful artwork was placed in one of three display cabinets. Please take a

look at the artwork if you are travelling via train any time soon.

No Outsiders

This week at Excalibur, we have launched our exciting new initiative: No Outsiders. We aim, through the No Outsiders curriculum, to support the teaching of respect and accepting difference and diversity in our school. The initiative has its foundation in the Equality Act 2010 and supports other work we do in school to prepare children for life in modern Britain, including the understanding of British Values. The principles of No Outsiders are deeply embedded in our own school values. By embracing these, we intend for our school to be a safe place for all, where no child or member of our community will be treated as an outsider.

Should you wish to learn more about No Outsiders, there is more information on our website:

<http://www.excalibur.cheshire.sch.uk/page/no-outsiders/131003>

There will also be an information meeting for parents on Monday 21st November at 3:30pm.

Damian Harvey Author Visit

On Thursday 10th November, the whole school was treated to an exciting visit from Damian Harvey, a children's author responsible for over 130 books! The day started with an assembly, during which Damian told a story, complete with actions and sound effects, and told the children about his career as an author.

For the rest of the day, class sessions took place with every year group, giving the children even more opportunity to be inspired.

At the end of the day, Damian sold some books on the playground. If you didn't get the chance to buy books, these can be ordered from Damian's website (<http://www.damianharvey.com>) or on Amazon. Similarly, Damian can be contacted directly to request a signed copy of his books. Contact details for Damian are on the following link:

<http://www.damianharvey.com/contact.htm>.

Outdoor Play Provision with Marshalls

As you will be aware, our school grounds underwent some significant improvements over the summer holiday and the October half term break. We have had a variety of exciting new play items installed, including crawling tunnels and tyre platforms.

All of these pieces have enabled the children's play to be considerably more exciting, in turn providing them with opportunities to work collaboratively and challenge themselves.

This great work would not have been possible without the concrete items and aggregate which was donated by Marshalls. Louise Furness, Chief People & ESG Officer at Marshalls was integral in making this link possible and

we would like to thank both Louise and Marshalls as a whole for the donations, including the transportation and delivery of the items to Excalibur.

Louise visited Excalibur on Thursday 10th November and she was thoroughly impressed with the way in which the children were making such great use of the equipment. It was a pleasure to welcome her to school.

Message from Friends of Excalibur

We would like to thank all who came along and supported the bake sale after school on Friday. We had some fabulous homemade cakes which made it difficult to choose a winner but we would like to congratulate Jessica in Y6 and Elijah in Y2 for their excellent work. In total we raised £130.00.

Children in Need

It's that time of year again when we raise important funds for all the great work Children in Need-supported charities do. So, on Friday 18th November, we are inviting the children to wear their Pudsey accessories - or just something spotty! We will be accepting all donations through Parent Mail.

Let's hope we can raise much needed funds to help children through these tricky times. Thanks for your support!

Year 5 & 6 Netball Tournament

Over the last two weeks, a squad of Year 5 & 6 children have been participating in the Alsager Community Trust netball tournament. During the two sessions, the children competed in four matches. Throughout the tournament, the team showed grit and determination and worked brilliantly together. Well done to the whole team and many thanks to Miss Forrester and Miss Hilditch for leading the team.

Treetops – Upcoming New Booking System

From January, Treetops will be moving over to a new self-booking system.

The new system will be run via SCOPAY, which can be accessed online or by downloading the app.

SCOPAY is a cashless, pre-booking system which allows parents to easily prepay and book their children into the sessions they require.

We hope to be up and running by the 12th of December, making it available for parents to start booking children in for any January sessions.

There will be further information in the next few weeks, If you have any queries, please contact the Treetops manager via email - office@excalibur.cheshire.sch.uk

Parental Workshops

There are a variety of workshops to support parents provided through the local authority and Visyon. To see the full list, and access the details in order to take part, please visit the following link on our webpage:

<http://www.excalibur.cheshire.sch.uk/page/local-authority-parent-workshops/130698>.

Support with the Cost of Living

With the current financial situation effecting families across the country, Cheshire East Council offer a variety of support, including a Cost of Living Crisis Team. For more information, please click on the following link: <https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/livewell/education-employment-and-money/money-matters/cost-of-living.aspx>.

Safeguarding

Mrs Jones - Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs Rogers - Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Miss McArdle - Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs Hilditch - Safeguarding Ambassador
Noah - Safeguarding Ambassador
Imogen - Safeguarding Ambassador
Ewan - Safeguarding Ambassador
Ava - Safeguarding Ambassador

If you have any safeguarding concerns or need safeguarding advice, please contact the school or, alternatively, our website has links to useful phone numbers:

<http://www.excalibur.cheshire.sch.uk/page/supportservices/6049>

Diary Dates

Date	Event
11.11.22	Nasal spray flu vaccine
28.11.22	Year 4 class assembly (9:00am)
15.11.22	Year 3 Silk Museum visit
16.11.22	Year 6 Robinwood residential
-	
18.11.22	
16.11.22	Reception parent lunch
17.11.22	Gripping Yarns anti-bullying workshop
22.11.22	Reception and Year 1 theatre visit
24.11.22	Year 2 class assembly (9:00am)
09.12.22	Year 6 pantomime theatre trip
16.12.22	KS2 Christmas Concert at St. Mary's Church (AM – exact times TBC)
21.12.22	Christmas Lunch

If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate in contacting us.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Jones
Head Teacher

Mr Hancock
Assistant Headteacher