



SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER 2018

Executive Head Update

Dear families

Welcome back! I hope you had a wonderful summer break and are all feeling refreshed and ready for the new academic year! I know that we all are!

Welcome to our family

Throughout the course of the year, we look forward to working in continued partnership with you in order to ensure that your children are supported and challenged to achieve their very best and enabling us to deliver on our promise of 'Living live to the full.' I would like to take this opportunity to extend a special welcome to all of the children and families who have joined the Learning Academy Partnership and the West Alvington C of E Academy family. For those of you who are new to our school family, each month you will receive an Academy newsletter via email which contains news on events, the children's work and what is happening in the Learning Academy Partnership. A copy can also be found on the Academy website (<http://www.westalvingtonprimary.co.uk>). If you require a paper copy please inform the Academy office. In addition to the monthly update, each week, the class teacher will write a class newsletter which will also be emailed to you. This will keep you up to date with class based information, including attendance figures (we also upload class weekly newsletters to our website in case you have misplaced a copy).

Supersonic results - outstanding outcomes for our children!

What a successful year the Learning Academy Partnership had last year, and here at West Alvington we were a big part of that! We achieved great outcomes for our children across the school but special congratulations to our Y6 children who all met the expected standard for their age in both reading and maths! Over the course of last year the team here and the wider team across the Trust have been focused on building on the improved outcomes achieved in 2016-17 in order that all of our children would be given the best possible opportunities to achieve their full potential. Together we empower excellence and it is only by working in this way, across the Trust, that we can ensure that your child receives an outstanding experience. Children come first - in every conversation, decision and action that we take. We are incredibly proud of our children and this set of results and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the amazing teaching team here at West Alvington and across the Trust who go the extra mile daily to truly put children first.

What's new

Our work with the Spires College in PE is well underway already - Miss Steer is spending Wednesday with us working across our classes. This ensures our children have the highest quality PE provision with our teachers working alongside PE specialists.

We love feedback!

We all love getting positive feedback and value hearing when something has gone particularly well or you have valued a change that we have made or a new opportunity that your child enjoyed or maybe just that they have had a great day! We also recognise that there will, inevitably, be times when things could be improved upon - that is how we continuously improve and shape West Alvington moving forwards. We have lots of new parents and so I would just like to remind you of the various ways you can communicate with us: If you have any comments, questions, concerns or would just like to speak with someone, please make an appointment to see your child's teacher in the first instance. We want to work in partnership with you and strive to have very clear lines of communication for you to feedback. If you feel that it is a matter where you are unable to speak directly to the teacher please make an appointment with our Senior Teacher Mrs Crosley. Your next port of call would be our teaching and learning lead Mr Lewis-Cole and if you still wished to speak with someone that would be myself. We know that there may be times when you wish to speak to someone and we value your feedback using it to shape our systems and processes.

We are really looking forward to another amazing year here at West Alvington - and to sharing that journey with you,

With best wishes

Mrs S Rowe-Jones

Parent Partnership

Workshops for parents:

8th October 14.30 - 15.15

Reading Workshop for all years

In this session we will be exploring how to get your children engaged in reading and the types of reading you can be doing at home to support fluency and understanding.

9th October 14.30 - 15.15

Phonics Workshop for Years R to 3

In this session we will be exploring the academies approach to teaching phonics and will explore ways that you can continue to support your child at home with their phonetic knowledge.

Stay and share sessions:

16th October 9.00am - 9.30am (All years)

Reading Fluency Stay and Share

Families are warmly invited to come into the academy and read with their child, focusing on fluency.

30th October 9.15am - 9.45am (Years R to 2)

Phonics Stay and Share

Families are warmly invited into school to experience a phonic session and see how we put our approach to teaching phonics into action.

9th November 9.30am - 10.00 (After Praise assembly) (All years)

Parliament Stay and Share

Families are invited into the academy to take part in and explore what we have been upto in connection with 'Parliament Week'.

15th November 9.00am - 9.30am

Comprehension Stay and Share

Families are invited into the academy to read with their child and focus on ways comprehension (understanding) of the text and ways to help children to understand.

4th December Nursery, YR, Y1, Y2 9.30 - 11.30; Y3 and Y4 13.15 - 15.15

Forest School Stay and Share

Families are invited to join their children whilst they take part in their Forest School learning with Pete Moore from 'Forest and Beach'.

Keep an eye out for:

Class Acts of Worship coming in the new year
Christmas Craft

Reminder: Families are welcome to join us for our Praise Worship on Friday mornings at 9.05am, when we celebrate the achievements of the week.

Chestnut Class



The children in Chestnut Nursery have settled in really well to the new Nursery classroom. We have enjoyed exploring all the new toys and the outside area too. We have been learning about ourselves... what we look like, what is healthy to eat and self care. We have had fun learning about harvest and talking about our favourite fruit and vegetables.

Hazel Class

Hazel Class have had a fantastic start to the term and very quickly settled into the routines of their new class. Our 'This is Me' topic theme this term is proving very popular and we have been learning all about sentences by speaking as well as writing them with capital finger spaces and full stops! Reception children have been improving their fine motor skills, ready for their writing.

Already our 'Beautiful Work' self portraits have shown an improvement - we look forward to sharing them with you later in the term.

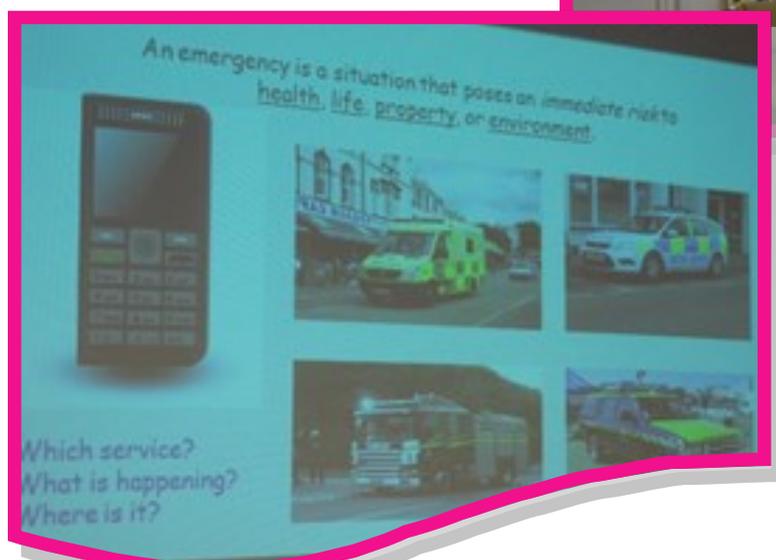


Oak Class

On Tuesday 25th September, the Devon Fire and Rescue Service who talked to the children about fire safety, emergency services and hoax calls visited the children. It was a great opportunity for the children to learn the importance of fire safety and the steps they should take in an emergency.

After the fire safety assembly, I learnt you need to check if a door is hot before opening it by using your hand.

Konnie. "Yesterday, I learnt how to make a fire plan to make sure everyone escapes the truth!"



RE and Values

'God Loves a Cheerful Giver' Corinthians 2:9,7
This term we have been exploring the value of Generosity; the children have looked at biblical stories and role play scenarios based on the value of generosity. The purpose of our focus on Christian values is to consider how we take these values into our community and into the way we treat others.

Working in our family groups, we have been explored 'Generosity' through the lens of treating others respectfully; giving to others and giving cheerfully; and giving our own time. This focus on generosity has supported us in developing our family of learners and how we can show the Christian value



Worship



GENEROSITY



'God loves a cheerful giver.'

2 Corinthians 9.7

QUOTES & QUESTIONS

Real generosity is doing something nice for someone who will never find out. *(Frank A Clark)*

Have you ever been generous without telling anyone?

'If you can't feed a hundred people, then just feed one.' *(Mother Teresa)*

Remember one small way you have shown generosity to one person. (You don't always have to do big things for lots of people.)

A community flourishes when people plant trees under which they will never sit. *(A Greek proverb)*

Use what talent you possess; the woods would be very silent if no birds sang except those who sang best. *(Henry Van Dyke)*

When has your generosity served to help future generations?

Have you ever been put off doing what you are able to do because someone might be able to do it better?

This term in Worship we have been focusing on the theme of Generosity. As an academy we have explored what it means to be 'generous' and to show generosity to ourselves and others. 'Giving generously' has been considered from the perspective of ourselves, that of others and our impact on the wider community by showing this Christian Value. An aspect of our reflection has been on 'caring for God's creation' through our generous actions and behaviours.

'The Lord God placed the man in the garden of Eden to tend and look after it' Genesis 2.15.

Sport Excellence - Miss Steer

The children are all enjoying our new PE lessons with Miss Steer from Spires College. Already this term they have learnt so many new skills including teamwork and some fantastic listening and following instruction in Hazel class!

The children have been learning about netball and basketball with Miss Steer. The children have thoroughly enjoyed having Miss Steer come and teach them a range of new skills and how to effectively work as a team! The children have practised a range of passes including shoulder, chest and bounce pass.





Staff Focus

Mr Lewis-Cole

Teaching and Learning Lead



Hello! For those that I have not had the privilege of meeting yet, my name is Mr Lewis-Cole. Whilst I have worked in the Learning Academy Partnership for a few years now, I joined the South Hams Hub this September as 'Teaching and Learning Lead'. As part of this role, I have the opportunity to work in each of our unique academies here. I have worked in education for 10 years now and have been fortunate to work in 4 very different primary schools in Plymouth and Torquay. As a senior leader for the last 7 years, I have experienced leadership across the primary phase and have worked with children of all ages. A particular passion of mine (apart from walking and my gorgeous 2 year old 'puppy', George) is creating a curriculum that meets the needs of all children which is both exciting and challenging. As a Primary Mastery in Mathematics Specialist, I have supported a range of schools in developing a rich and diverse curriculum which holds investigation and thinking at its very heart.

I am very much looking forward to working across our academies and hope to meet you all soon.

Mrs Crosley—Senior Teacher and Hazel Class Teacher

Miss Cusack—Oak Class Teacher

Mrs Luckhurst—Part time Teacher

Mrs Hasel—HLTA

Miss Prowse—Level 3 Educator, Chestnut Class supervisor

Mrs Gritton—Level 3 trainee, Chestnut TA

Mrs Andrews—TA

Miss Elliott—TA

Mrs O'Dwyer—Administrator

Mrs Staddon—MTA

Ms Maunder—MTA

Ms Rundle—Cleaning staff

Friends Of West Alvington School

FRIENDS OF WEST ALVINGTON SCHOOL

Have you got time to spare to join our friendly team of Friends?

The Friends Of West Alvington School help to pay for all sorts of exciting things that might not happen without their support. They have helped fund coaches for school trips, paid for Forest School sessions, scooters for the Early Years children and outside furniture to name a few. This year the big project they are helping the school with is a fantastic new library. We are all very excited about redesigning this area and would love to know your ideas.

The Friends need new members, so come along to a very friendly and informal chat on Wednesday 3rd October at 9—9.30 am to offer your help, advice and time. Your children will really benefit from your contribution.



End of term party

The children had a great time at the end of term party and really enjoyed the children's entertainer.

Bags to school

FOWAS are again organising a Bags2school collection which has been very popular in the past. A good excuse to have a sort out. The bags will be sent home with your child soon and the collection date is Wednesday 10th October

Swimarathon

We will be taking part in the Rotary Swimarathon again this year. This is a great chance to raise some money for the charity chosen by the Rotary but the school will also get 50% of the money raised. There will be a team sponsor form in the academy reception area so please sign up and sponsor our team of swimmers. Thank you

OFFICE NEWS

We are pleased to announce that Premier Sports will be offering after school clubs at West Alvington C of E Academy next term. Keep an eye out for information about this that will be with you shortly.



More information can be found at:

Cumulative Attendance

Chestnut Class: 94%

Hazel Class: 92%

Oak Class: 96%

DATES FOR THE DIARY

2 Oct—Forest School Nursery—Y4

3 Oct—AONB visit to the woods

8 Oct—AONB performance workshop

8 Oct—Reading Workshop for all parents 2.30—3.15

9 Oct—Phonics Workshop for YR—Y3 parents 2.30—3.15

10 Oct—Bags2School collection

12 Oct Swimarathon 6pm—7pm

16 Oct—Forest School Nursery—mY4

18th Oct—Oak class trip to Morwellham Quay

18 Oct—Last day of term

19 Oct—Non-pupil day

22—26 Oct—HALF TERM

29 Oct—back to school for second half of Autumn term

OFFICE NEWS

Term dates	First Day of Term	Last Day of Term
Autumn Term 1st Half	03/09/2018	18/10/2018
Autumn Term 2nd Half	29/10/2018	21/12/2018
Spring Term 1st Half	07/01/2019	15/02/2019
Spring Term 2nd Half	25/02/2019	05/04/2019
Summer Term 1st Half	23/04/2019	24/05/2019
Summer Term 2nd Half	04/06/2019	19/07/2019

The Head of Academy may **not** grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are ***exceptional circumstances***.

All requests for a child to be absent from school during term time must be made in writing at least a half term in advance of the proposed absence by completing the absence request form obtainable from the Academy office.

Please call into the Academy Office if you would like to discuss your child's attendance or any aspect of absences.

Well done everyone.

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At the end of Y2 60% (3 of 5) of children achieved the expected standard in reading and writing, and 80% (4 of 5) in maths!



West Alvington C of E Academy

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