

West Alvington Academy Weekly Bulletin



Welcome to our weekly bulletin. Below you will find lots of useful information and lovely news from your child's classroom.

Dear Families,

Welcome back to all our Year 5 and 6 children! They had an amazing time on their residential trip to Dartmoor. We're sure they've come back with lots of exciting stories and unforgettable memories to share with the rest of our school family.

Our youngest children have been having a blast at forest school this week. They especially loved swinging in hammocks and exploring the great outdoors. It's wonderful to see them having so much fun and learning through play.

As always, we appreciate your support and involvement in your children's education. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us.

Thank you for being a part of our school community.

Warm regards,

Miss Coombe

Information for Year Six transition to KCC

As we prepare our Year 6 children for their exciting transition to Secondary School we wanted to provide you with some upcoming dates. KCC will be writing to you with further information. In addition to the dates below there will be an enhanced transition day for some children and a visit to our school by KCC staff for all children.

Wednesday 3rd July: Transition Day for West Alvington and Thurlestone (see letter from KCC)

Thursday 4th July: Induction evening for students, parents, and carers

Monday 5th to Friday 9th August: The Big Step Summer Programme

Thursday 5th September 2024: First day of Autumn Term for all students

Information for next week:

Monday - First Aid training for Hazel and Oak children

Tuesday - Forest School for Oak and Chestnut. Easter Church service @ WA Church 2.30pm start.

Wednesday - Hazel and Chestnut Trip to the theatre AM. Please dress in smart uniform and remember a home packed lunch if this is the option you selected. We will be eating as soon as we arrive back at school around 1pm.

Thursday - Last day of term - dress down day!

Juggling work and life can sometimes be challenging. Available support with the costs of childcare can make this easier. We want you to be aware of government support for your children attending our Nurseries or Wrap around Care Childcare Provision.

Family Learning

Autism and Us Parent Programme Online (Summer Term 2024)



Support for parents/carers of Devon primary children who are either on the autism assessment waiting list or who have received a diagnosis of autism. Our 'Autism & Us' programme delivered this academic year will once again be offered during the forthcoming summer term of the 2023-24 academic year.

Attending the 'Autism & Us' parent programme gives you an opportunity to develop your understanding of autism and look at practical solutions to managing and supporting your child's presenting needs, whilst also connecting with other parents/carers.

Full programme details and application process below:

Autism & Us programmes:

- 4 weekly 'live online' sessions (approx. 2hrs each) related to the following topic/themes:
- weekly 'live online' sessions (approx. 2hrs each) related to the following topic/themes:

No.	Topic	Programme 1	Programme 2
1	Autism overview	Tues 23 Apr 10am - 12pm	Thurs 13 Jun 4.30pm - 6.30pm
2	Sensory	Tues 30 Apr 10am - 12pm	Thurs 20 Jun 4.30pm - 6.30pm
3	Communication	Tues 7 May 10am - 12pm	Thurs 27 Jun 4.30pm - 6.30pm
4	Understanding and supporting behaviour	Tues 14 May 10am - 12pm	Thurs 4 Jul 4.30pm - 6.30pm

Apply direct by email to: educationlearnersupport@devon.gov.uk

Additionally we will also be offering the following very popular themed/topic based workshops, which lead on from the above programmes for themes/topics that may be a priority area for you against your child's presenting needs:

Topic	Date/Time
DIAS (Devon Information & Advice Service) + PCFD (Parent Carer Forum Devon)	Wed 22 May 10am - 12pm
Autism - Sensory processing + integration	Thurs 16 May 9.30am - 12:30pm
Autism and Girls	Wed 5 Jun 9.30am - 12pm
Autism - Demand avoidance + PDA	Thurs 13 Jun 10am - 12pm
Autism - Communication (Speaking children - support strategies)	Mon 1 Jul 10am - 12pm
Autism - Managing stress + anxiety	Wed 10 Jul 1pm - 3pm
Autism - Vulnerability + online safety	Wed 19 Jun 10am - 12pm
Autism - Communication (Non/Limited Speaking children - support strategies)	Thurs 27 Jun 10am - 12pm

Apply direct by email to: educationlearnersupport@devon.gov.uk

Parenting From The Heart

Parenting From The Heart programme - a short online programme with the international speaker and best-selling author, Jack Pransky.

Do you ever feel overwhelmed as a parent?

Do your feelings of stress and worry seem like a barrier to the loving relationship you wish for with your child?

Would you love to see the in-built mental health within your child, even when it seems to appear more like mental sickness?

This online programme consists of four x 90-minute online sessions.

All session start times:

6.30pm GMT / 1.30pm EDT / 10.30am PDT

Dates:

Thursday 13th June 2024

Thursday 20th June 2024

Thursday 27th June 2024

Wednesday 3rd July 2024

Let's explore the possibility of creating beautiful relationships with our children, even when things seem really bad or too late.

In this four part programme, Jack and I will respond directly to your questions or situations you are finding challenging.

All the sessions will be recorded and the recordings will be shared with you via email.

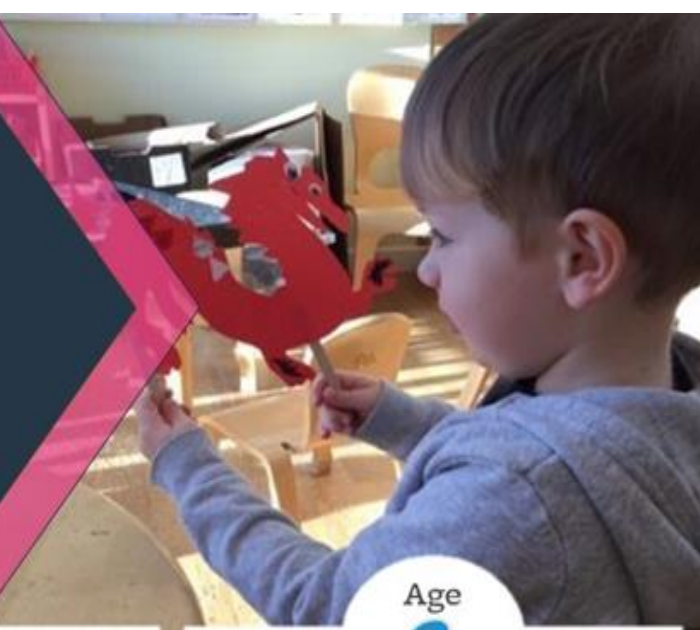
It is not advice giving or telling you what you're doing wrong... it's about celebrating what it is to be a parent/carer/guardian/grandparent/supporter of our younger people.

It's about seeing through our own feelings of fear, worry and anxiety to be able to see and hear our children from a different space.

Interested? Please use this link

<https://lu.ma/9w8hbjry>

OUR NURSERY FUNDING CHOICES



Age
3-4
years

Age
2
years

ALL PARENTS

15 HOURS	15 HOURS	15 HOURS	15 HOURS
Now	APR 2024	SEP 2024	SEP 2025

WORKING FAMILIES

30 HOURS	30 HOURS	30 HOURS	30 HOURS
Now	APR 2024	SEP 2024	SEP 2025

FAMILIES RECEIVING SOME ADDITIONAL FORMS OF GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

15 HOURS	15 HOURS	15 HOURS	15 HOURS
Now	APR 2024	SEP 2024	SEP 2025

WORKING FAMILIES

15 HOURS	15 HOURS	30 HOURS
APR 2024	SEP 2024	SEP 2025

Arrange your visit today, call: 01548 560494 or Email: thurlestone@lapsw.org for more information

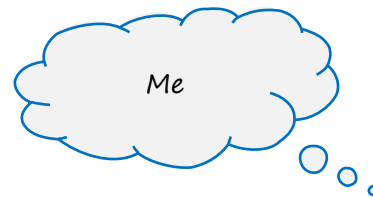
Chestnut Nursery

Miss Lees



WOW Words!

We will introduce and explore new and exciting words with the children. Some we have been using...



Tapestry Tuesdays!

It would be wonderful if you could all upload a photo from your adventures over the weekend for our Tapestry Tuesday! It doesn't need to be something extra special; it could just be a walk in the woods or even snuggling up for a family movie night.

We can't wait to see!

Hazel Class Years R-2

Miss Cose and Miss Elliott



This week in Hazel...

The children had a wonderful time at Forest school this week. We love taking our learning outdoors allowing us to explore and play. I think Roxy and Grace won the award for the muddiest! As historians, we explored the line of succession and spoke about the change brought in that replaced the idea that a younger son could displace an elder daughter. As geographers, we explored our capital city, thinking about human and physical features. As designers, the children created their final bridge design, taking note of the structural aspects of real-life bridges. As global citizens, we learnt about the Islamic festival of Eid.



Show and Tell: each child will be allocated a Wednesday to bring in something special to share (no toys please).

Next week: Ella-Mae

First week back after Easter: Albie

Miss Elliott and I wish you all a fantastic Easter break and will look forward to welcoming you back for Summer Term - where does the time go?!

Home Learning

Easter

Each child will come home with a personalised home learning pack.

Spellings - KS1 only

I will give these out on the first week back.

Reading

Please find all information of expectations in their reading record.

RWinc book bag book, reading record and library book due in: Thursday *New books: Friday*

Oxford Owl Quizzes

Each week your child will be set a quiz to complete which will correspond with what they have been learning at school!

Quiz completed by: Thursday *New Quiz: Friday*



Reception children:

It would be wonderful if you could all upload a photo from your adventures over the half term for our Tapestry Tuesday! It doesn't need to be something extra special; it could just be a walk in the woods or even snuggling up for a family movie night.

I can't wait to see!



Star of the Week

Louis

You WOWed us this week with your fantastic building of a bridge in design and technology. You really thought about the key structures and was able to evaluate your design effectively. We have an engineer in our hands! Well done Louis!

Attendance

Our attendance target is 98%



Last week's attendance was **98%**
Well done Everyone!

Oak Class Years 3-6



Mrs Hatch and Mrs Andrews

This week in Oak Class...

It is so lovely to be back together as a class again this week after Year 5 & 6's epic adventures at Heatree Residential. What an incredible bunch of children we have at West Alvington. They showed our values of kindness and friendship together with their new friends from our sister schools and had such an enormous sense of fun and adventure - literally nothing phased them! Abseiling from a 30ft climbing tower, scrambling through tunnels and freezing Dartmoor rivers, raft building and even trekking 13km through blizzards! Miss Elliot and I are so proud of you Year 5 & 6! Year 3 & 4 couldn't wait to watch the slideshow from our trip (230 pictures!) - I know they are feeling inspired and looking forward to their turn next year! A big Well Done and Thank you to Year 3 & 4 for the amazing poetry recital you had been practising while we were away - what a treat to come back to!

As scientists, for science week, the children carried out three experiments 'Get set Jellies, Disappearing Dinos and How to make a pendulum'. They loved the experiments (it took a whole day to complete all three!) As geographers this week, the children learnt about the life cycle of a volcano; active, erupting, dormant and extinct, they considered climate change and erosion to explain how this could affect its features. As writers, we concluded our sentence stacking lessons and are now busy drafting our diary entries ready to share with you at the end of term! As designers, we have been researching the best outer casing for our torches and chose suitable materials which will be hardwearing and long lasting. As mathematicians, we enjoyed learning all about statistics this week. Year 3 & 4 have been using pictograms to represent information while Year 5 & 6 have been getting to grips with line graphs. What a busy term it's been - we hope you all enjoy the Easter Break!



Best Wishes

Mrs Hatch and Mrs Andrews

Home Learning

Home learning consists of reading, spellings, Maths and curriculum themed projects.

Reading

Reading is key to everything your child will do in school. At West Alvington, we want our children to be confident readers with a love of books. Your support with reading is essential. Children are expected to read at least four times a week with a parent. Please record the name of the book your child has read and the pages they have read.

Home Learning

This week, I have asked the children to complete a **Reading Identity** to give them an understanding of both who they are as a reader and why they read. This will also act to inform our choices as we continue to add books to our growing library. I have also sent home an optional science activity for fun!

Spellings

Each week I will be setting the children spellings for them to learn. We are trialling a new mixed age spelling scheme in Oak Class for which the children each have their own folders. They will be practising these in school until they are confident with the new format.



Star of the week

Year 5 & 6! 2024 Heatree SUPERSTARS!

Attendance

Our attendance target is 98%



Last week's attendance was **98%**

Well done Everyone!

Dates for your Diary

- 25.3.24 - First Aid training for the children
- 26.3.24 - Easter Service in Church all welcome @ 2.30pm
- 27.3.24 - EYFS & KS1 Trip to the Theatre - Three Little Pigs
- 28.3.24 - Last day of Spring term
- 29.3.24 - 15.4.24 Easter Holidays
- 16.4.24 - First day of Summer Term
- 30.4.24 - Whole School Class Photos
- 02.5.24 - Oak Trip to The Box Plymouth
- 06.5.24 - Bank holiday
- w/c 13.05.24 - Year 6 SATS week
- 24.5.24 - Last day of Spring Term
- 04.6.24 - First day of Summer Term
- 05.6.24 - 03.7.24 - Year 4 Sailing Salcombe Dinghy Club (weekly x 5 weeks)
- w/c 10.6.24 - Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Week
- 19.6.24 - Hazel and Chestnut Trip
- 19.6.24 - Oak London Trip to Parliament (TBC)
- 24.6.24-25.6.24 - Year 4 Residential
- 03.7.24 - Year 6 Transition Day KCC
- 04.7.24 - Induction evening for students, parents, and carers
- 05.7.24 - 09.8.24 - The Big Step Summer Programme
- 17.7.24 - Whole School Trip

Forest School Dates

- Wednesday 24th April - Oak and Chestnut
- Wednesday 8th May - Hazel and Chestnut
- Wednesday 22nd May - Oak and Chestnut
- Wednesday 12th June - Oak and Chestnut
- Wednesday 26th June - Hazel and Chestnut
- Wednesday 10th July - Hazel and Chestnut

Dress accordingly and Chestnut please arrive promptly by 9am.

And lastly don't forget about the Easter holiday camp run by sporty stars over at Thurlestone, I'll pop the poster below. We have also been asked to share some information about sailing lessons through Salcombe dinghy sailing who kindly provide our summer sailing program, pop them an email if this would interest you.



SportyStars

**EASTER
HOLS**
2nd - 12th April

**MULTI ACTIVITY
HOLIDAY CAMP
KINGSBRIDGE**

THURLESTONE PRIMARY SCHOOL

BOOK ONLINE: SPORTYSTARS.CO.UK

SCAN TO BOOK:



AGES 5 - 12
8:15AM - 5:15PM
£35 PER DAY
10% OFF WEEK

RYA OnBoard Sailing Lessons for local children aged 8-15 years, restarts at the end of March.

Half day Sailing lessons on weekends. Excellent opportunity for beginners. All under instruction and small group numbers. Safe, structured and a fun environment.

March to September (not including July or August). It's inexpensive too.

There's currently space on Saturday and Sunday mornings (afternoons are full).

Please email info@thewindproject.co.uk to register your interest.