

ST. ALOYSIUS' CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER 04/10/19

Autumn Term ~ Edition 2

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OCTOBER 2019

Wednesday 9th Oak Class - Birmingham Airport Visit
10.15am - OCMS Guitar Assembly
Flu Vaccinations - **SEE INFORMATION BELOW**
Friday 11th Canonisation of Cardinal Newman
Saturday 12th Year 6 Residential - Kilvrough Manor
Monday 14th **ST. ALOYSIUS GREAT BRITISH BAKE OFF**
Monday 21st Years 1 & 2 - Blue Watch Fire Crew Visit
Thursday 24th 2.00pm - Harvest Assembly w/ Jane Benyon (CEF)

NOVEMBER 2019

Monday 4th **INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED**
Tuesday 5th **8.35am - Second Half Autumn Term Starts**
Friday 8th **ST. ALOYSIUS SPOOKY DISCO**
Tuesday 12th Oak Class - Dorchester Abbey Visit
Wednesday 13th FGB Meeting
Friday 15th **ST ALOYSIUS WINTER BALL @ ST. EDWARDS (tickets on sale from the School Office ~ £25.00 p/person)**
w/beginning 18th Parental Consultations

FROM OUR HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents & Carers, Following the re-decoration in the summer we installed some new noticeboards in the corridor next to the school office. One of these has information about our Catholic Curriculum and another has lots of information about our Governing Body. This includes minutes of recent meetings. Please do take the time to look at these. If nothing else, they give a good insight into all the work that goes on behind the scenes to keep the school running. Our Governors are volunteers who do an amazing job supporting the school. Finally, I would ask that you remember in your prayers Fr. Jerome Bertram one of the Fathers of the Oratory. Fr. Jerome is seriously ill and currently being cared for in the JR hospital. I hope you all enjoy the weekend.
Tom Walker - Headteacher.

NO NUTS - AT ALL!

We have children with severe nut allergies who must not come in to contact with nuts in any shape or form, the result could be an emergency 999 call and admission to hospital. Some parents are bringing in nuts as snacks for their children, particularly in Early Years and Acorn Nursery. Please do not send your children to school with any food items containing nuts.

Flu Vaccinations

So far less than half our parents have completed the online consent form for their child to either receive or decline the flu vaccination which will be carried out by The School Health Team for Reception to Year 6 pupils in school on Friday 11th October 2019. The process requires parents to use an electronic link to access a secure web-based Consent Form which can be completed on a desktop computer, laptop, smart phone or iPad. Please see the attached letter which provides the information and the electronic links required to complete the form. The form will "close" next Monday (7th October) before the immunisation session to ensure all triaging and any contact required with parents is completed prior to the immunisation session. Parents can contact the health team directly if you have any questions and details are clearly provided on the attached letter.

October Half Term Entertainment

Please find attached flyers for the following October half term activities; Oxford Active ~ Active Clubs at Oxford High and St. Ebbs School Holiday Tech Club.

AND FINALLY - HAVE YOU REMEMBERED?

- To make the final payment for Kilvrough?
- To complete and return the permission slip for Ash Class Birmingham Airport visit?
- To complete and return the permission slip for Oak Class Dorchester Abbey visit?
- To pay School Dinner Money - £2.40 per day. Prepayment termly in advance. Balance enquiries and statements please email admin.3842@st-aloysius.oxon.sch.uk
- To pay Swimming Contribution - Year 5 (Bay Class) only?
- Correct Swimming Kit and PE Kit (all labelled)?

THIS TERM'S HOUSE POINT TOTALS

Ashmolean 59 Bodleian 56 Radcliffe 89 Sheldonian 77

SPRING Term House Point Cup Winners ~ BODLEIAN

THIS TERM'S VIRTUES

This term we are trying hard to be Grateful and Generous.

AUTUMN PRAYER

We see signs of summer's passing in golden leaves, shortening days, misty mornings and autumn glow. We sense its passing in rain that dampens, winds that chill and Harvest's bounty placed on show. Creator God, who brings forth both green shoot and hoar frost, sunrise and sunset, we bring our thanks for seeds that have grown, harvests gathered, storehouses filled and mouths fed. And, as your good earth rests through winter's cold embrace, we look forward to its re-awakening when kissed by Spring's first touch. *Amen.*

OUR CODE OF CONDUCT

Every day we walk in God's way by:
Being **READY** to get on
Being **RESPONSIBLE** for ourselves and everyone
Being **RESPECTFUL** in what we do and say...
Together we follow the St. Aloysius' Way.



SPREAD THE WORD ...
ACORN NURSERY CLASS
(For 3+ Year Olds)
PLACES AVAILABLE NOW

ST. ALOYSIUS BREAKFAST & AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Breakfast Club - there is no need to book, just turn up! From 7.45am the cost is £4.00 and from 8.00am the cost is £3.50.

After School Club - please remember to book your After School Club sessions **online** via the Schoolgateway app. **No bookings after 2.30pm.** Dates are available for the whole of this academic year.

If you would like any further information about either Breakfast or After School Club, please speak to Jo or Chris in the school office.



**PLEASE DO NOT
CYCLE IN THE
CAR PARKS AND
PLAYGROUNDS**



**WE ARE A
MOBILE FREE
ZONE**



ST. ALOYSIUS WINTER BALL
7.30PM ~ FRIDAY 15TH NOVEMBER
ST. EDWARDS SCHOOL

Tickets £25.00 (includes welcome drink, dinner, dancing & entertainment) available from school office.

Parents, welcome to:

Schoolgateway

The easy way to pay online
for dinners and other items.

Download the app. Android and iPhone
or visit: www.schoolgateway.com



Activate your account today!



School Motto

Be ambitious for the higher gifts.

143 Woodstock Road, Oxford OX2 7PH
Tel: 01865 311056

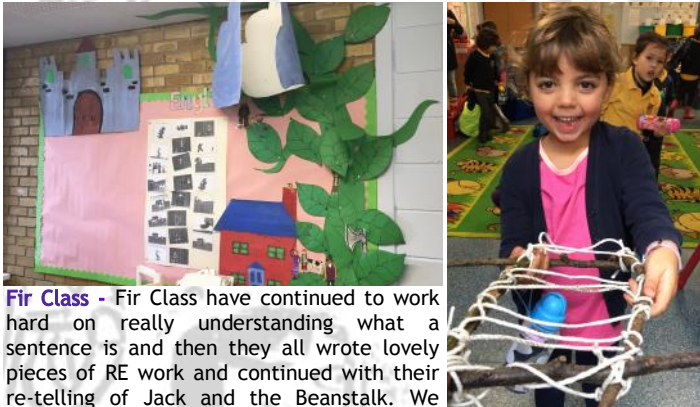
E-mail: admin.3842@st-aloysius.oxon.sch.uk
Website: www.staloysius.net

ST. ALOYSIUS' CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

PAGE 2 OF 2

CLASS REVIEWS

Oak Class - As part of our History topic, the children in Oak Class have been finding out about the expansion of the Roman Empire, the invasion of Britain in 43AD by Emperor Claudius and the impact this had on the Celts and Britons. Our papier-mâché roman helmets are progressing well and we are now at the point where we will be attaching cheek guards and head and neck guards and then decorating them. In Science, we are continuing with humans and other animals looking at skeletons. We have learned about vertebrates and invertebrates and are now finding out about endoskeletons, exoskeletons and hydrostatic skeletons discussing the advantages and disadvantages of each skeleton. In English, we have been focussing on grammar and spellings. We have been learning about indefinite articles - a and an - and the rules linked to them ('a' before a noun beginning with a consonant - unless it has a silent letter at the beginning e.g. an hour - and 'an' before a noun beginning with a vowel unless the vowel has a 'eu' sound e.g. a uniform, a euro.) In spelling we have learned about words ending in 'el' and 'al'. Here are some of our questions from our How? Why? board. If you can give a child friendly answer, please write it on a piece of paper and pin it on the board in the class. Why is the sky often red in the morning or at night? Why do we cry when we are upset? Why don't we ever run out of rain? How does toothpaste help clean our teeth?



Fir Class - Fir Class have continued to work hard on really understanding what a sentence is and then they all wrote lovely pieces of RE work and continued with their re-telling of Jack and the Beanstalk. We have been very lucky in our class to have had two of our five fantastic music lessons (funded by last year's Music Evening) where the children have learnt new songs and last week made a tune using the Boomwhackers which they really enjoyed. Last week's outdoor learning took place on Port Meadow where we looked at the river and threw sticks off the bridge to see which way the water was flowing. The children saw fish, ducks and Canada geese. In Maths, Fir Class have been comparing numbers and working with the symbols for greater than, less than and equal to as well as doing lots of counting forwards and backwards with a 100. Linked to our story Aria made a wonderful harp during outdoor learning (see above).

Tigger Class - We can't believe the Tiggers have been here for four weeks already! They have all settled in to life at school well. We have had a busy couple of weeks with lots more learning through play-counting, painting, mark making, problem solving and much more. We have started PE and the children are all becoming independent at getting changed into their PE kit. They have had fun playing different games in PE to get us moving. We also started phonics sessions last week and have already learned some new sounds. This week we will be looking at growing up and how we change as we get older.

Willow Class - Willow Class have started their persuasive letters to Mr. Cadbury to encourage him to create and make their chocolate bar design. They have focused on the layout of a letter as well as the key features that are needed in this style of writing (modal verbs, adverbial phrases, emotions, flattery, rhetorical questions). In Maths, we have just finished our work on long division and we are now moving on to factors (highest common factor), multiples (lowest common multiple) and prime numbers (prime factors). We have played a few games surrounding this and they managed to come up with some excellent mathematical rules to make the games harder. In Science, we looked at Carl Linnaeus, his system for classifying animals and how this is used all over the world to find the Latin name for them. Lastly, in RE, we

looked at different styles of writing in the bible (parables, psalms, prophecies, proverbs, etc.). They had to choose one of their own and compose an important message about being a follower of Christ today.

Ash Class - We have been extremely impressed with Ash Class during their first few swimming lessons. The children have already begun to demonstrate great confidence moving around in the water and improving their strokes. In Science, we have learnt about the electrical dangers found around the home. They have also enjoyed constructing and testing simple electrical circuits to light a bulb, make a buzzer sound and a motor spin. In Maths, we have been finding 1,000 more or less and comparing 4-digit numbers whilst encouraging children's use of key mathematical vocabulary in their explanations. In English, the enthusiasm and imaginative ideas towards creating our own island settings and character profiles for Hiccup inspired some wonderful writing. Equally, we have been overwhelmed by some fantastic time machines and homework projects during the past few weeks.

Bay Class - The last couple of weeks in Bay Class have been spent fully submerged in the story of Perseus and Medusa. The children have written some incredible versions of the myth, produced terrifying masks of Medusa (on display outside the classroom) and a few children were even inspired to write and perform an imaginative play based on the story! We have also enjoyed RE, writing poems based on the gifts that God gives us and thinking about all that we are grateful for. The children have moved on from place value in Maths and begun to study addition and subtraction. Finally, in music the children are embracing the new resources we have in school and are learning about formal written notation through various games and activities.

Acorn Class - Acorn Class have continued to settle in well and we have begun to think about the changes of the seasons and the delights of Autumn! We have been out exploring the school grounds looking for signs of Autumn and enjoying the last of the warm sunshine! Inside the children have been listening to Autumn stories such as Leaf Man and we are hoping to create our very own Leaf Man with some leaf prints and rubbings. We are also working on some colourful hedgehogs to adorn the ceiling and we continue to concentrate on our PSED areas through stories and play. We are looking at numbers and shapes more closely with visits to Ten Town to meet King One and Tommy Two and a Shape of the Week with the children trying to spot as many squares as they can to add some more marbles into the treat jar. Keep up the good work Acorns.

Fig Class - A busy couple of weeks in Fig Class, we have been focusing on our class book A Bear Called Paddington, reading descriptions of Paddington Bear, writing our own and creating our own bear who was found at a train station. Using our knowledge of exciting story openings we have also written our own stories based on Michael Bond's books. In Maths, we have been looking at inverse operations and then using this knowledge to inverse calculations, using this skill to check our answers to calculations. We have also been revisiting number bonds to 10 and 20 and applying this knowledge to more complex problems. In Science, we have been learning about the basic needs for survival as we were stranded on a desert island. Children were very excited about writing messages in a bottle. Fig Class have also been enthusiastically investigating which exercises make our hearts pump harder, by recording how many beats per minute after each exercise. In RE, we have been looking at the Old Testament stories, talking about what God asked different people to do and how we can answer God's call in our own lives. We have also enjoyed writing Thank You prayers to link in with our terms virtues of grateful and generous. In topic, we have been focussing on Geography, naming the seven continents and five oceans. We have planned our own journeys and talked about continents, and in some instances, countries that we would fly over and oceans that we might cross. Feel free to ask us about some of the facts we know about these continents and oceans.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2019/20

Monday 4th November	INSET Day - School Closed
Thursday 12th November	Acorn/Tigger/Fir Class - Nativity
Friday 13th December	St. Aloysius Christmas Fair
Wednesday 18th December	Beauty and The Beast, Oxford Playhouse
Monday 6th January	INSET Day - School Closed
Tuesday 10th March	Scholastic Book Fair
Friday 1st May	Science Day



School Motto

Be ambitious for the higher gifts.

143 Woodstock Road, Oxford OX2 7PH
Tel: 01865 311056

E-mail: admin.3842@st-aloysius.oxon.sch.uk
Website: www.staloysius.net