



ST. ALDHELM'S NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers

April & May 2021

It has been a busy Term 5, following the Easter break. Children have enjoyed new enquiry topics alongside their core learning and development of foundation subject skills and knowledge. There is always so much to celebrate and we particularly congratulate children on their learning behaviours, which have enabled them to progress, extend and challenge themselves this term. Read on for **Celebrating Learning** on [page 6-12](#).

It has been wonderful to see happy and healthy children and the ongoing use of our running track for movement breaks, fresh air and exercise has been such a bonus. Our continued focus on wellbeing has seen children being honest about feelings, developing coping and resilience strategies and displaying thoughtfulness. We know some children have had some difficulties, but we would expect that in a primary school, and especially given the wider circumstances of this year. However, children have shown such support, kindness and respect for themselves and each other, proving the value we place on mental health is vitally important. Next term, we take this a step further with our whole school move to a new Personal, Health, Social and Economic (PHSE) programme, Jigsaw. This programme will support the learning we already do in this area of the curriculum as well as providing an improved and appropriate resource for the statutory requirements in the Relationships and Sex Education Policy.

We did indeed manage to turn school red for the Royal British Legion and thank you for your support. See [page 2](#) for our Dress Red pictures.

Maths Problem Solving Day was very popular this year with a focus on logic problems. It was evident through the activities that children applied logical thinking, reasoning, understanding and creativity to solve the problems. Amazing minds and collaboration [page 3-4](#).

Our Year 6s have taken an initiative to support our whole school work to be as environmentally friendly as we can be. See [page 5](#) for more details.

We hope you all enjoy the bank holiday weekend and half term break. Enjoy getting out and about and seeing more of your friends and family you haven't managed to meet up with yet. Have fun – hopefully in the sun!

Kind regards
Mrs P Cohen
Headteacher

28.05.21 End of Term 5

**29th May – 6th June ~
Half Term Break**

Term 6

07.06.21	Back to school for children
08.06.21	World Ocean Day
09.06.21	KS2 Live Geography Lesson – Penguins & Polar Bears
22.06.21	New YR Visits - Session 1
24.06.21	Athlete Visit and Assembly
25.06.21	INSET DAY
29.06.21	New YR Visits - Session 2
01.07.21	New YR Visits - Session 3
02.07.21	PTA Summer Table Top Sale 3pm-5pm
06.07.21	SASP Rounders Day Yrs 5&6
06.07.21	New YR Visit - Teddy Bear Brunch
07.07.21	Whitstone Y6 Transition Day
13.07.21	Whitstone Y6 Transition Sports Day
13.07.21	Sports Day
14.07.21	KS2 Live Geography Lesson – A Life On Our Planet Refugee Week
15.07.21	Year 6 Residential
16.07.21	Year 6 Residential
19.07.21	Annual Reports Out
22.07.21	Year 6 Leavers Celebration
23.07.21	End of Term 6

**We all wish Miss Horgan
and her fiancé a very**

**Happy
Wedding
Day**

**in half term. We hope it
is a wonderful and
special day, especially
after the long wait!**





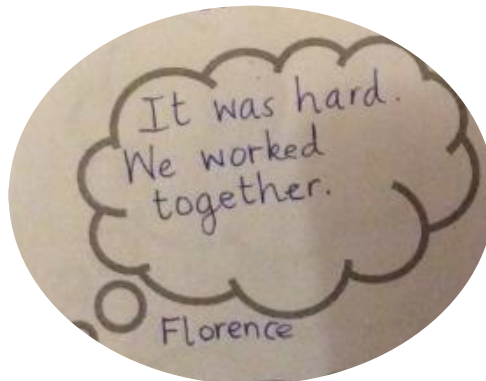
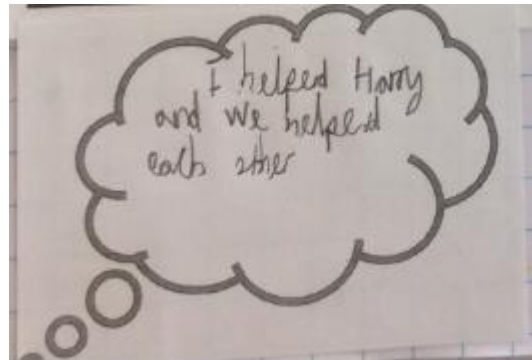
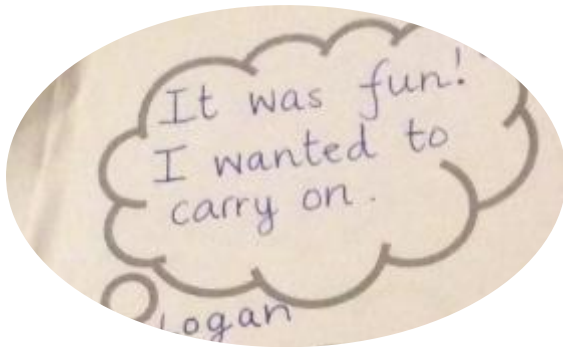
Dress Red Day



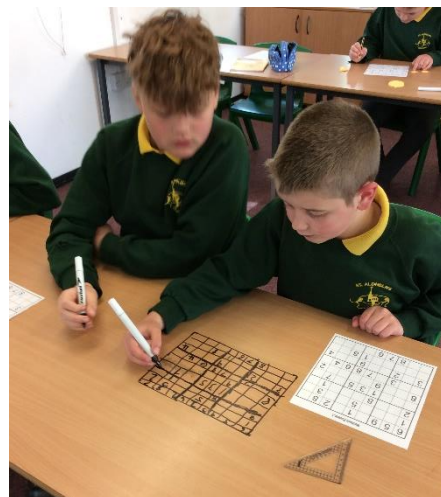
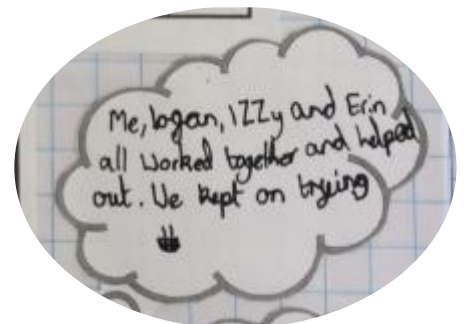
On Friday 14th May, the whole school dressed in red to celebrate the Royal British Legion 100 year anniversary, and we are pleased to announce that we raised £156.30!

Whole School Problem Solving Day

Logic Problems – Sudoku and Magic Squares

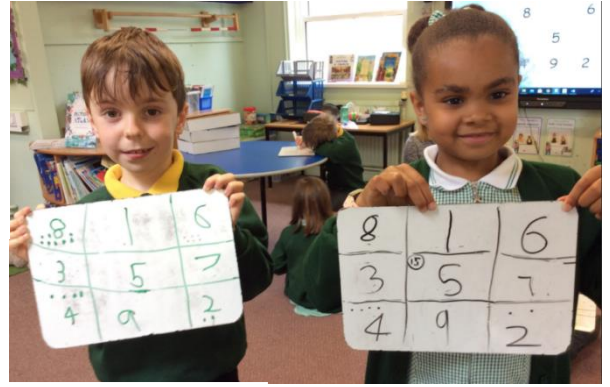


Collaboration



Focusing on
one number
first
helps -

So cross out all the
numbers that don't fit -
Sienna



Reflection

Work through each clue at a time -
Thomas

We decided
to use sticky
squares for
easier ways
to change the
boxes



I kept
trying and
trying.
Archie

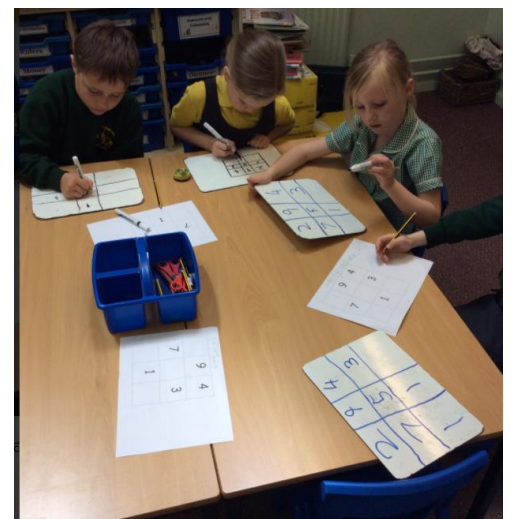
TOP TIP
TRY TRY
a gen



I got stuck
on the big
one - I kept
going.
Hector

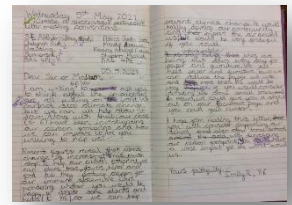
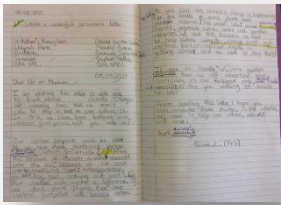


Resilience



The Power of Persuasion

Year 6 have been working on one of our school values; service. They have taken an interest in improving the school grounds so that it can become more environmentally friendly.

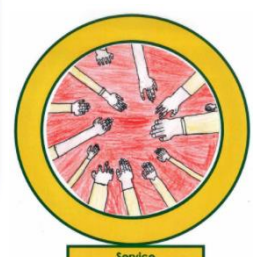


One of the ways Year 6 have achieved this is by creating persuasive letters to local companies asking for their support. Year 6 have been overwhelmed by the support and generosity of both Tesco and Dobbies in Shepton Mallet. Both companies have contacted the children sharing how impressed they were with their letters and have donated a wide range of plants.

Although Year 6 will not reap the benefits of the food they produce, they are proud to have set this up for the rest of the children in school. They have shown a great example of service.



Service



Service



Reception Robins



Developing our Sensory Garden



Digging and Planting

As part of our Gardening project, the children have been developing our sensory garden and raised beds. The children have been learning about how plants grow.

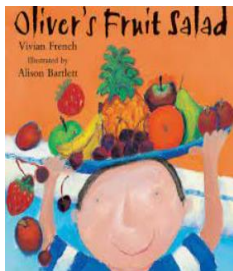
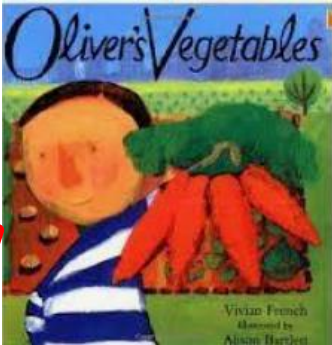


Watering



Oliver's Vegetables

We have been enjoying our learning based on the story Oliver's Vegetables. We have been writing about what Oliver sees on each day of the week. We have been planting and tasting yummy vegetables too!

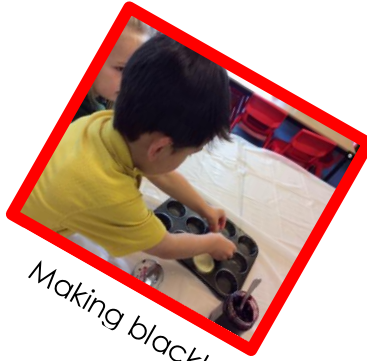


Oliver's Fruit Salad

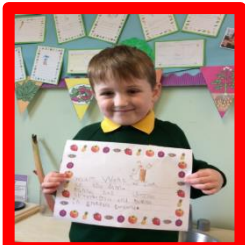
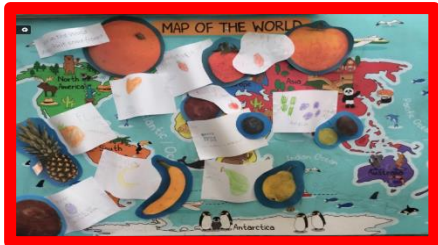
We then read the story Oliver's Fruit Salad. We have been learning about different fruit and where they come from.



Fruit Sudoku



Making blackberry pies



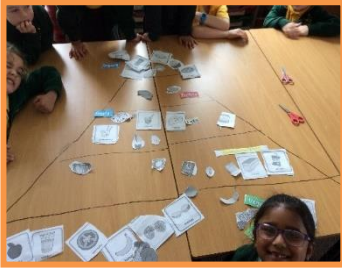


Year One Nightingales



We have been exploring the wonderful book 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Picnic' as part of our enquiry question into 'How can we make the tastiest healthy picnic?' There have been lots of reading skills in use with superb inference.

We created collaborative food pyramids, learning that we need a healthy and varied diet.



As well as tasting lots of existing picnic foods, ready to design and make our own.

Year 1 are getting so much more confident in using Chromebooks. They can log in successfully and have started to use Google Classroom. We have been creating animations, first thaumatropes and flip-books.



In maths, we have been so resilient with multiplication!



Our progress with cricket has been remarkable. Everyone has really enjoyed learning new skills, including some fantastic accurate overarm bowling!





Year Two Magpies



In Maths we have been very busy learning our Times Tables.
We have been ordering multiples, finding them on a hundred square and writing them accurately!



Maths



RE

In RE we have been thinking about our Church values



Collaboration



We have been trying really hard to work collaboratively and sometimes with children we might not work or play with regularly! I have been so impressed with children's efforts this term!





Year Three Owls



Year 3 have been exploring Stone Age art. We have transformed our working space into caves to create some cave paintings of prehistoric beasts. We have also been creating our own natural paints to create handprint paintings like those discovered from the Stone Age!



Year 3 have been **loving** their rounders PE sessions recently. Over the past few weeks, there has been fantastic progress with children becoming more confident with the rules of the game, developing throwing and catching skills and striking some strong hits!



Year 3 have enjoyed using 'How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth' for their English work. We've created stories in the same style, non-chronological reports about Woolly Mammoths and even created adverts to try and sell our own mammoth or sabre tooth tiger bathroom products, including shampoo and toothpaste!



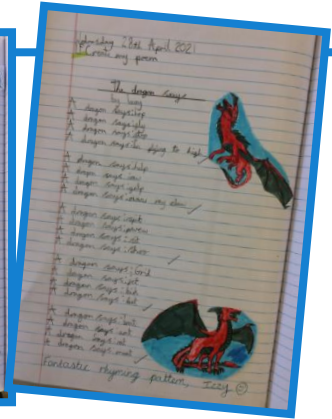
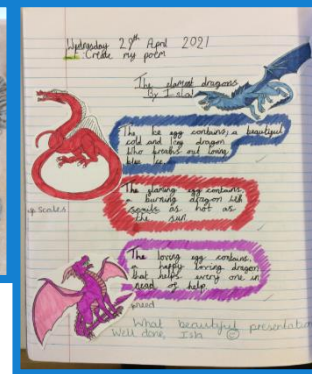


Year Four Finches



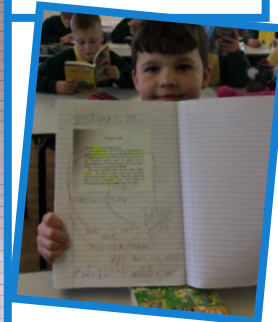
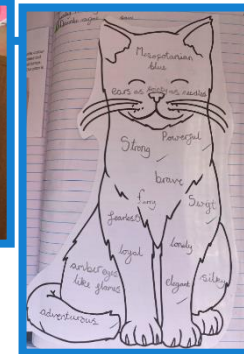
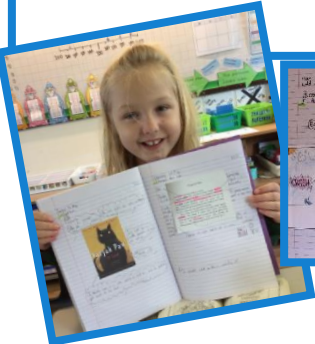
Watch out! There's DRAGONS about.....

Year 4 have loved the theme dragons to inspire their creative writing. We brought dragons into the classroom with a very cool AR (augmented reality) app. We also made our own colourful dragon eyes out of clay. The children produced some fantastic dragon inspired poetry and performed these confidently to the class. Great work, Year 4!



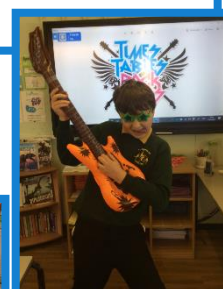
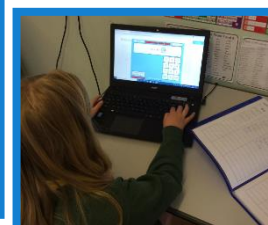
Varjak Paw

This half term we have been enjoying reading Varjak Paw by SF Said. Children have shown great reading skills by making excellent predictions, drawing inferences about the characters and summarising the story well. All this reading inspired us to create our own exciting tales of 'Varjak's Adventures'.



Times Table Rockstars

The children in Year 4 have shown such dedication and commitment to learning their times tables. We have used lots of different methods to help get those tricky multiplication facts to stick. The children are becoming so fluent and can confidently answer questions within 6 seconds. Keep up the amazing effort - I am so proud of you!!!





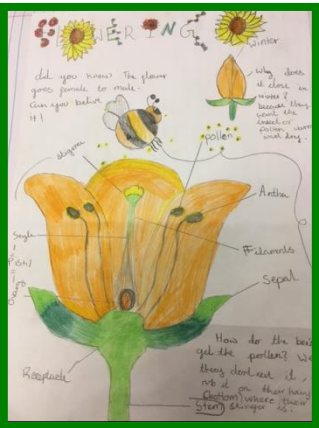
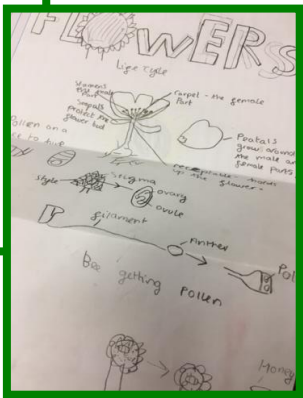
Year Five Woodpeckers



We have been using the Chrome books to research some of our humanities topics. Researching historical facts about Viking Warriors and weaponry to link to Danelaw and investigating animal movement for our Design & Technology CAM toy.



In Science, we have been learning about the life cycles of flowering plants, which we then linked with our Art. We started with observational pencil drawings of lilies, which then developed in to using colour with chalk pastels.



Our mathematical 3D shapes now adorn the walls of our classroom as we learnt about shapes and recalled properties of shapes. We constructed 3D shapes from nets.





Year Six Blackbirds



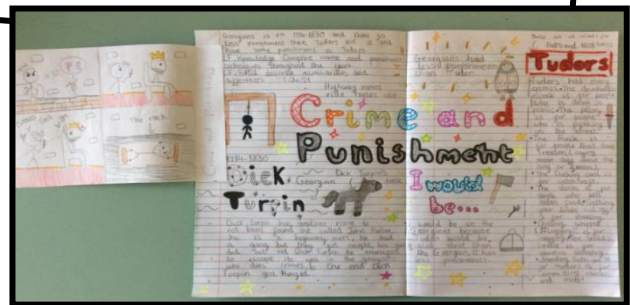
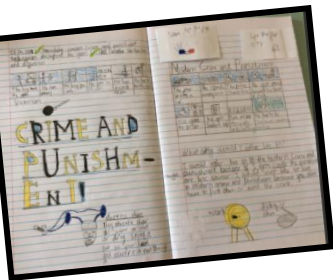
PE – Outdoor Adventurous Activities

A highlight this term has been the amazing collaboration that Year 6 have shown in PE. They have developed the skills they worked on during their Year 5 residential; showing great trust, communication and problem solving skills. The children have applied this at break times, where they have constructed obstacle courses and see-saws to use together.



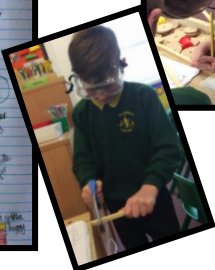
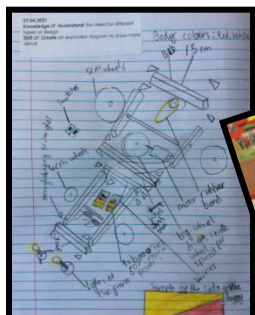
History – Crime and Punishment

In Year 6, the children have been comparing the crimes and punishments of different time periods in British history. We have been so impressed with how they have used their research, role play activities and practical tasks to independently create share their knowledge. Their creative nature shone through with their accurate and reflective double-page spreads and board games created.



DT – Vehicles with electronic components

Our current Design Technology project involving making buggies that have electrical components, has been a highlight for all in Year 6. The children have shown great resilience, as well as very impressive exploded view designs. They have shown great accuracy in applying their Maths skills, as well as using a range of tools. We can't wait to see the finished products.



A message from our School Governors



I am a recently appointed Foundation Governor, having until very recently lived in Dean, just down the road from Doultling. I moved to Shepton Mallet in April, so not that far away still, and I retain a very strong interest in education within all phases but particularly in the Primary Phase, as that is where I spent most of my career.

I began life as a secondary PE and Science teacher way back, but found my niche in Middle and later Primary schools as a Head teacher and then as an Adviser for Leadership in Primary schools. This was initially in Berkshire where I also operated as an OFSTED Inspector, and later in BANES where I operated as a School

Improvement Partner (SIP) after moving back to the West Country in 2004.

I am linked at St Aldhelm's with the Literacy Leader, and will be taking an interest in all aspects of reading and writing in the school, as children's skills in these are so important for access to the wider curriculum and learning on offer.

I "retired" from LA work in 2009 but have continued to work with schools across the West Country since then, trading as INSPIR.ED, simply because I love the work! I was born and bred in Dorset so feel I am almost "home" here. As I try and move to a more retired way of life, I remain passionate about young people and learning, but for myself, my main interest lies in photography- a very expensive hobby, but one that has kept me sane through lockdown.

Jenny Short

Foundation Governor

Friends of St Aldhelm's PTA SUMMER TABLE TOP



Friday 2nd July 3pm-5pm

at St Aldhelm's Primary School, Doultling

£10 per table

Hotdogs, Ice-cream & Cakes

available

We are keeping our fingers and toes crossed for good weather on Friday 2nd July, where we can hold our Table Top Sale on the school field. Full details will be confirmed shortly and shared with you on how to book your table.

Music Lessons

Instrumental lessons have begun again with our external music teachers and it is wonderful to see children pick up from where they finished earlier this year, with some taking exams in the near future. If your child is interested in starting to learn a musical instrument and would like lessons, please call the school office or contact the music teachers directly by email:



Helen Brock – violin – helenbrock_hb@yahoo.co.uk

James Davidson – guitar – jwfdavidson@yahoo.co.uk

Becky Whiting – piano and flute – bexnmoo@hotmail.com



Friends of
St. Aldhelm's
PTA



We are really lucky to have a very supportive and committed PTA. Even during these difficult times where they have been unable to organise and hold the Easter Bingo Night, they continue to work hard for the benefit of the children at the school. Mufti Day was initiated by the PTA and donations will be very much appreciated for resources at school for the children.



May Draw for the 100 Club:

First Prize £20 Ticket No. 23

Second Prize £10 Ticket No. 21

Third Prize £5 Ticket No. 15

