

ST. ALDHELM'S VA CHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL
CHELYNCH PARK, DOULTING, SHEPTON MALLET, SOMERSET, BA4 4PL

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HEADTEACHER: Mrs P Cohen

ST. ALDHELM'S NEWS

October 26th 2018

Dear Parents

We have all enjoyed a wonderful first term – it has certainly been full of activity! This month has seen plenty of learning and fun including exploring the wonders of Autumn, National Poetry Day, class author studies and enquiry themes, and a Whole School Maths Problem Solving morning.

It has been great to see so many parents this week for our Harvest service, for parent consultation appointments and for this month's Celebration Assembly. Thank you to Y1 Nightingales and Y4 Finches in leading our Harvest; for focusing our minds on the seasonal harvest and our thankfulness for the produce we receive. We all wish to thank Joy Lees for her contribution as governor. She finishes this role but will remain a well-loved friend of the school and will work with us on church ethos projects.

I hope you found the consultation appointment with your child's class teacher informative and useful in communicating how they have settled this term, what is going well and where there may be areas to support and encourage further at home and school. Thank you to those who fed back positively on the effective new system in the hall, which certainly helped to keep to time.

We invite new, prospective parents to visit us next month on Thursday 15th November when we have our Open Day. Please spread the word to any friends, family or neighbours who are considering schools for next September.

I hope you all enjoy a wonderful half term break and have lots of family fun!

Kind regards

Mrs P Cohen
Headteacher

November 2018

Week 1:

- 05.11.18 Start of Term 2
- 06.11.18 Cross Country Race 2 at Collett Park, Shepton Mallet ~ **3.45pm** start
- 08.11.18 Christmas Card designs and order forms come home today

Week 2:

- 12.11.18 Deadline for Christmas Card orders
- 13.11.18 Friends of St Aldhelm's (PTA) Come to meet the PTA 2:30pm
- 15.11.18 St Aldhelm's Open Day 9:30-11:30am and 2-3pm

Week 4:

- 26.11.18 Flu Vaccination reminder – please return to school if you haven't already
- 29.11.18 Pop-Up Café with Governors in the Community Room
Celebration Assembly 2:45pm

Key Dates - December 2018:

- 11.12.18 Christmas Production Y1,2 & 3 Performance 5:30pm
- 12.12.18 Flu Vaccinations
Christmas Production Y1,2 & 3 Performance 2:30pm
- 13.12.18 Christmas Production Y1,2 & 3 Performance 5:30pm
- 14.12.18 Christmas Jumper Day
Christmas Fair 2:30pm
- 18.12.18 Christmas Service
YR Robins & Y5 Woodpeckers 9:30am ~ St Aldhelm's Church
- 18.12.18 School Christmas Lunch
- 19.12.18 Class Christmas Parties
- 20.12.18 Celebration Assembly
End of Term for children
- 21.12.18 INSET Day

January 2019

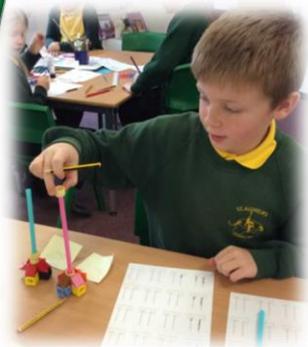
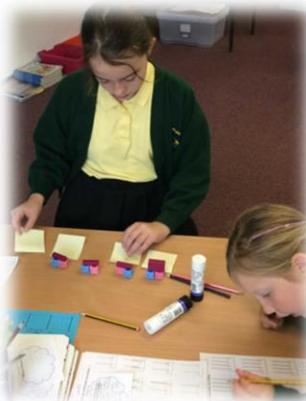
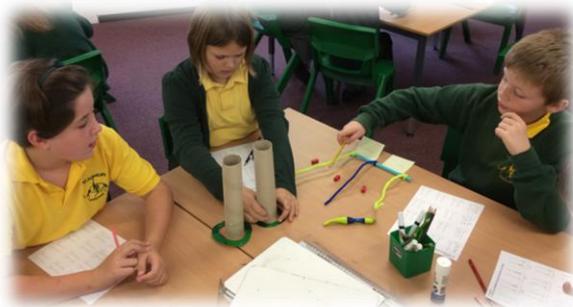
- 07.01.18 Term 3 Starts for staff and children

Maths at St. Aldhelm's

At St. Aldhelm's all children take part in carefully planned maths activities every day in class, to develop their skills and knowledge of fluency, reasoning and problem solving in maths. However, on Wednesday 17th October, the whole school enjoyed a one-off Maths Problem Solving Morning where every child faced a similar problem to explore and investigate. They worked independently and collaboratively, drawing on a wide variety of resources and methods. They recorded their findings in creative and imaginative ways demonstrating their mathematical thinking and understanding. We were impressed by the participation, determination and application that went on. Thank you Mrs Phillips, our school Maths Subject Lead, for planning and co-ordinating this event.



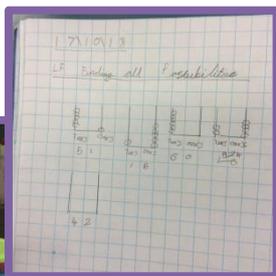
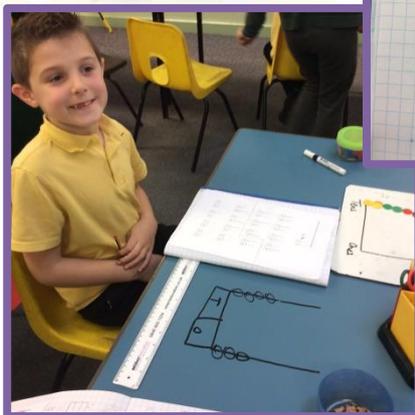
In Woodpeckers, Mrs Newman was really impressed with how Year 5 first selected resources that would help them and even constructed resources to work through their problem. The children used thought clouds to capture their thinking at different stages. Will inspired others to construct an abacus. Jack created a theory about a rule and went on to investigate this. He was able to create a rule and prove it. Sophie asked for further resources that she thought of to support her with the challenge.



Look out for Woodpeckers in yesterday's Shepton Mallet Journal!



Year 3 Owls found ways to record the different possibilities on an abacus drawing.

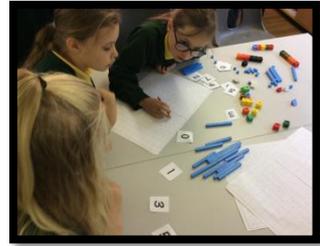
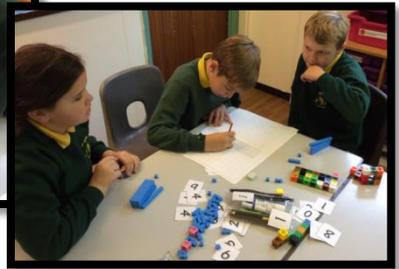
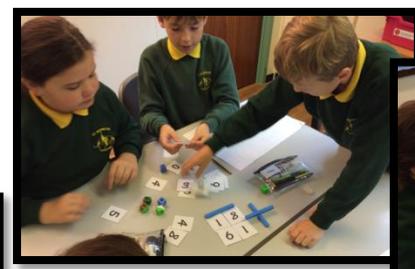




Reception Robins Fred the Farmer has harvested some red and green apples. He needs to box up the apples, in rows of 3, to send to Robin Café. The Farmer has been asked to put the apples into the boxes in as many different ways as he can. How many different ways can you pack the boxes to help Farmer Fred?



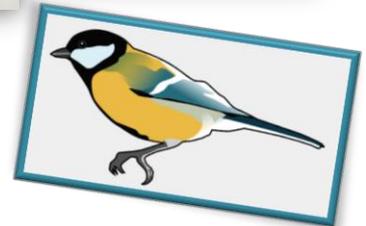
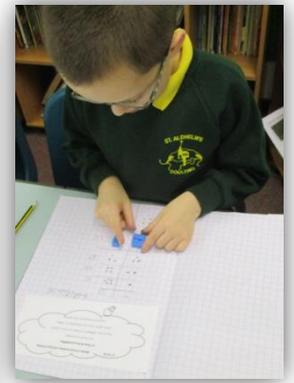
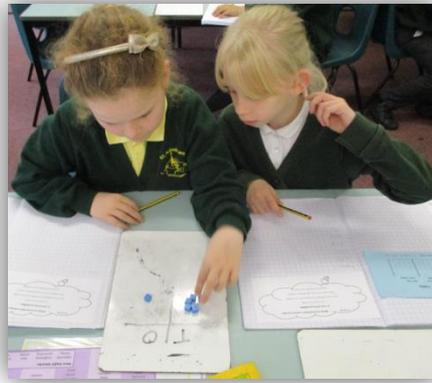
Blackbirds worked collaboratively and with increasing levels of systematical thinking and recording. Due to the nature of the numbers they were using the conclusion reached was that there were many more possibilities than they were first anticipating.



Year 1 Nightingales enjoyed using spaghetti and Cheerios to make an abacus. They worked in partners to see how they could arrange them in tens and ones.



Finches explored the problem, investigated and found lots of possibilities. They used reflection bubbles to share their thinking and reasoning.



Magpies showed terrific concentration and perseverance in solving the problem. They really considered, explained and reasoned how they knew they had found all the possibilities. Mrs Philips shared individual children's recordings on the whole class whiteboard and they worked out what each other had done.



We encourage lots of maths activities at home to support number, reasoning and problem solving knowledge and skills. Board games, card games and games online are a fun way to learn and help your child.

Whilst we promote the internet as a fantastic resource, we would like to remind you that your child's internet use at home is parents' responsibility. Please monitor your child online and ensure they are being SMART.

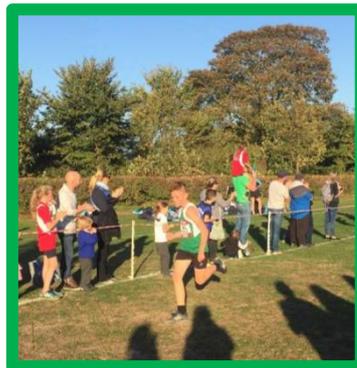


A big well done to all the children who received certificates in October's Celebration Assembly for success and achievement in their learning!



FIRST CROSS COUNTRY RACE AT MILLFIELD ON OCTOBER 9TH

All the children tried their very best and should be really proud of themselves and their achievements. We had great results across the board with children placing highly in both the lower and upper school races which all contributes to our overall team points. Thank you to all the parents and grandparents for all their help and support, to Miss Horgan for supporting the children at the event and to the team that run our Cross Country Club.



St. Aldhelm's Harvest Festival
Thank you to Nightingales and Finches
who led our Harvest Festival this year



Medical News Flash

We would like to inform all parents that we have children who attend St. Aldhelm's with allergies to certain foods. For this reason, we ask that no nuts or shellfish are included in any snack or lunchbox. We appreciate your co-operation in supporting us to manage risks and keep all children safe.

St. Aldhelm's Community News



Friends of St. Aldhelm's Parent Teacher Association



Thank you to everyone who supported the Wizards and Witches Disco. This was a great success with terrific turnout and lots of fun for the children. We raised a grand total of £279.46 - thank you. We appreciate the contributions you make as they let us support the school in providing opportunities, resources and experiences for the children. Monies from this event will fund exciting treats for all children this Christmas. There have been requests for another disco – watch this space later in the academic year.

Due to unforeseen circumstances the PTA AGM was cancelled. Each year the Committee is reformed according to PTA Commission rules. This means that Post-holders need to be elected annually by the members of the PTA. This is usually done at an AGM in order that 'quorum' is reached - this is another rule whereby a minimum of 10% of the members are present to sign off the committee. Due to the current extingency we need to temporarily form the PTA committee so that the work that they do in the background can carry on. This will last until they can be formally elected at the Meet and Greet at 2.30pm on November 13th. Children will bring home letters on Friday 26th October – please read, sign and return the slip to school. Thank you!

The PTA will be organising the publishing and ordering of Christmas Cards that the children design at school, straight after half term. There will need to be a quick turnaround to make sure you get these in time for Christmas. Children will be bringing their designs home on Thursday 8th November and orders need to be returned to your child's teacher by **Monday 12th November**.

Date for your diary:-

- **Funky Hair Day** Friday 9th November. Funk up your hair – donate £1 to PTA funds
- **PTA Meet and Greet** Tuesday 13th November at 2:30pm. Come and have a cuppa and biscuit with the 2018/19 PTA.



Job Opportunity

Job Vacancy at St.Aldhelm's

School Midday Supervisory Assistant

Five days a week – term-time only

Monday - Friday

Please see Mrs Barton or the school office if you are interested.



St. Aldhelm's Governors

Governor news:

After nearly 40 years of loving and dedicated service to our school, Joy Lees' final term of office as a governor came to an end last month. Some of you will remember her from your own days as pupils at the school and I hope you will share those memories if you happen to see Joy around school or in the village. At our celebration assembly on Thursday the children said a heartfelt thank you to Joy for all she has done for so many children over the years. I'm delighted to tell you that Joy will still be involved with the school in future but in a different role, as she continues to be a great example of how to live out our core school values by developing links between school, church and village.

Revd Jonathan has also had to stand down as ex-officio governor. (Ex-officio just means that his role as vicar entitles him to be a governor of the school.) We are fortunate to have Patricia Hillier to act in this capacity with Jonathan's approval. Patricia has already started working with us; she will have a particular responsibility for Collective Worship, RE and church school ethos. Alison Mann has also joined this term as a Foundation Governor – she will be taking over as link governor for SEN+D.

You may remember that after comments in the parents' questionnaire, governors set up a working party to look at communications. This term a group of governors and Mrs Cohen started work on the challenge of researching what's needed by the school and what parents want from the school in terms of improving communication. We've already identified that the school website needs a new fresh approach with better information for all but this will not be a 'quick fix' and will need research and consultation if we are to achieve the best that is possible for everyone. All this will take time. As part of the consultation process, we'd like to survey parents for their opinions on the methods and frequency of communication from the school. We're asking for input from parents and carers, so please look out for the survey next term and share your thoughts.

Unseen progress is being made on the outdoor classroom in terms of design and building and we hope you will see something tangible in the Spring term.

The format of news and information from school is under review as part of our wider commitment to make communication as effective and user-friendly as possible so there is no separate Governor Newsletter this term. Watch this space!

You can contact me on staldhelmschair@educ.somerset.gov.uk but do stop and talk if you see any of us around school or in the playground.

Sue Bloomfield, Chair of Governors



St Aldhelm's Church News

Harvest Supper

Saturday 27th October at Douling Village Hall ~ Meal begins at 7:30pm

Adults £8 ~ Children £4 ~ Family Ticket £20

Look forward to St Aldhelm's children who will be providing entertainment

For any queries please contact Joy Lees 01749 880260 or Mary Newman 01749 880219

Messy Church

Sunday 4th November 4 – 6 pm at St. Aldhelm's Church

This is an event for parents, carers and children of all ages.

All children must be accompanied by a parent or carer.

A contribution for the pot would be much appreciated but is in no way obligatory.

If you would like to come or would like more details, please contact Joy Lees

by Friday 2nd November on 01749 880260

Support needed for Collett Park Project



Want new play equipment in Collett Park? Vote for our project in the Aviva Community Fund. This will take just 5 minutes of your time!

The Aviva Community Fund could give us £25k towards our goal of raising £200k to renew the play equipment in Collett Park. We need at least 10,000 votes to be in with a chance... everyone gets 10 votes so this should be easily achievable!

Voting closes on 20 November.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!

Please:

1. Click here on the link below
2. Register your details
3. You have 10 votes to cast; please cast them for Collett Park!

<https://community-fund.aviva.co.uk/voting/project/view/4-1795>

Many thanks!



CRANMORE REMEMBERS

COFFEE MORNING

Sat. 3rd Nov. at 10.30am

In Cranmore Memorial Hall

In aid of Help for Heroes

**To commemorate 100th Anniversary
of the end of World War 1**

Displays of Memorabilia & raffle

Please join us!

**Proud to be part of
The Force for Good**





Thank You Joy!

Children, staff, governors and parents celebrated the phenomenal contribution Joy Lees has made as a school governor through words, song and art during Celebration Assembly yesterday.

