

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

September 28th

Dear Parents

It has been a brilliant start to this academic year. I feel so lucky to have started my role as headteacher of St. Aldhelm's. This is a wonderful school with so many positives to be shared and celebrated. The children are, and will always be, right at the centre of all plans, decisions and actions that we make and carry out. We need parents to feel and be part of their child's primary education journey with us. We will do our best to ensure you receive the right information and hope in return you will come and see us if you need to discuss your child's learning, behaviour or well-being.

This month has been special in welcoming our new reception children. It is great to see them settling in well and beginning to share their personalities, likes and interests. They have an extra special edition page in this newsletter – read on!

It will be hard for some parents to believe their 'little reception children' are now in Year 6 and as such, in the final year at St. Aldhelm's. They visited Whitstone yesterday – a taste of what's to come. Please note the secondary school admission deadline at the end of next month.

National Poetry Day is next Thursday; the theme is 'Change'. If you fancy, take the opportunity to share or write a poem with your child. It would be lovely to share these in class and possibly publish some in the next newsletter.

Thank you for your warm and kind welcome.
Kind regards

Mrs P Cohen
Headteacher

October 2018

Week 5:

- 02.10.18 Photographer Visit ~ Reception Robins & Whole School Photo
04.10.18 National Poetry Day 'Change'
Data Collection Sheets will be coming home with your child. It is vital that these are checked and updated if information has changed – particularly contact and medical details.

Week 6:

- 08.10.18 Reading Meeting for Parents of Reception Robins ~ 3:30-4pm
09.10.18 Cross Country Race 1 at Millfield Junior School ~ 4pm start
12.10.18 Friends of St Aldhelm's PTA School Disco 6-7:30pm Village Hall

Week 8:

- 23.10.18 Harvest Service 9:30am St. Aldhelm's Church ~ Led by Rev. Hunter-Dunn with Y1 Nightingales & Y4 Finches
24.10.18 Parent Consultation Evening 3:30-6:30pm
25.10.18 Individual School Photos for all children
Celebration Assembly ~ **2:30pm**
School Hall
Parent Consultation Evening 3:30-6pm
26.10.18 End of Term 1
27.10.18 Harvest Festival Supper
31.10.18 Secondary School Admission Application deadline

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

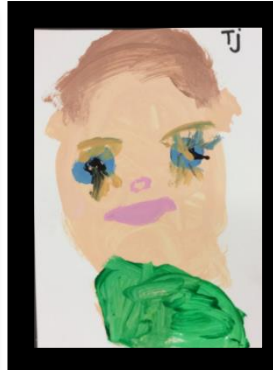
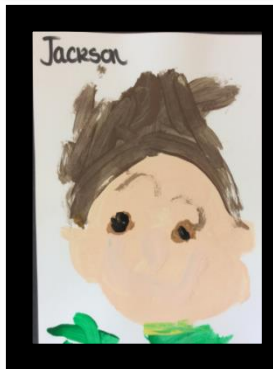


Reception Robins



It is wonderful to introduce the school community to our reception children who have started school this month. We have been impressed by the way the children have settled into a school routine.

They are showing many skills and talents, including some fantastic artwork. We are very proud of the paintings they have created to make this Robins Gallery. Watch out for more masterpieces!





Reception Robins



Our Muddy Musical March ~ Robin Class have enjoyed a muddy musical March this week. Marvellous music, excellent exercise and a great way to explore our school grounds.



We have been singing some well-known nursery rhymes and the children were excited to have a visit from Humpty Dumpty. The Kings men couldn't fix him but Robin class put him back together again!



What do I look like? Robin Class have been busy painting their own self-portraits. The children looked very carefully at the shape, size and colour of their faces and features. The children spoke beautifully about their portraits and enjoyed celebrating just how different and unique they all are.



Creating patterns



Sharing stories



Reception Phonics and Reading Meeting ~ Monday 8th October at 3.30pm.
Learning to read is one of the most important and exciting parts of the learning journey your child will take at school and home. We hold this meeting for parents to share information about the importance of reading, how you can support your child at home and how we teach phonics at St Aldhelm's. We hope you will be able to join us.



Year One Nightingales



Nightingales have been making healthy fruit kebab snacks in science as they learn about the importance of healthy food in the What Makes Me the Me I am? enquiry.



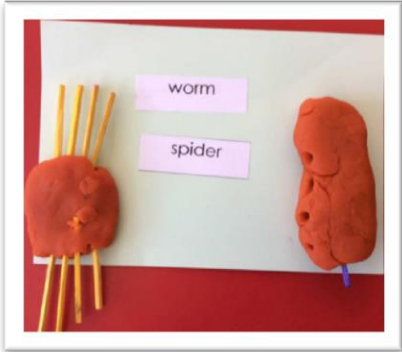
Rowan enjoyed mixing his own Marvellous Medicine on Roald Dahl day. We wrote a list of all the things we might put in a medicine for granny in the story 'George's Marvellous Medicine'



Enjoying the Wake up Shake up dance in the mornings!



Year 1 Nightingales have also made a great start to building on their maths knowledge from last year. They have enjoyed singing songs to help them learn their number facts. Last week they worked on some problem solving to answer the question 'How many legs are there altogether?' based on the animals from a story they shared together.



	8	spider
	6	beetle
	14	woodlouse
	6	grasshopper
	1	



Year Two Magpies



Year 2 Magpies have been challenging themselves to share their 'What Makes Me The Me I Am?' balloons and 'Special People' writing with Year 6. They were buzzing afterwards with excitement and pride.

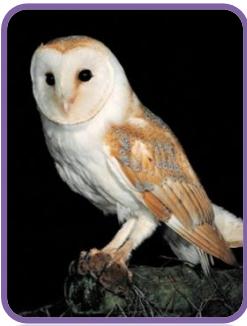
Mrs Barton delivered a mysterious case to the classroom. It was addressed to Year 2 but she did not know who it had come from. We looked inside and used the clues to think about who it belonged to.



Ask your child what they thought. Who did they think it belonged to? Why did they think that?



Year 2 have been enjoying their PE sessions, both indoors and outdoors. They have spent time practising their ball skills; particularly stopping and starting, rolling around the body and controlling when moving.



Year Three Owls



Year 3 Owls have been helping each other with kindness.

We have been enjoying our learning about Plants in Science. This week we have planned and set up an investigation to see how well plants grow in different conditions. How well will my plant grow ...?



... without water?

... without heat?

... without light?





Year Four Finches



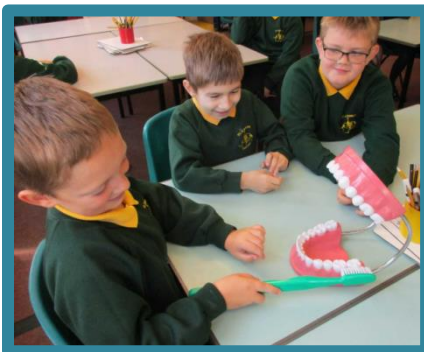
As part of our author study, Y4 have been reading *The Iron Man*. We used different shades and textures to create a collage of the Iron Man complete with bright, orange eyes.



To help our understanding of place value, children worked in groups of 5 to represent 4 digit numbers in different ways. Children took on different roles including, making the number with concrete apparatus, drawing the number pictorially, writing it in digits and writing it in words.



Y4 and Y1 got together to share some of their learning which has been going on during the first two weeks. Y4 particularly enjoyed reading some of their work to Y1 about what makes me, the me I am



We had a visit from a local dentist as part of our Science work on teeth and digestion. We learnt all about how important our teeth are, how to care for our teeth and what damages our teeth. The highlight for most was being able to brush a set of giant teeth with a giant tooth brush. The children listened well and asked thoughtful questions. Thank you to the volunteers who came in to talk to us.



Year 4s have made an enthusiastic and positive start to their brass music lessons on Wednesdays. We are grateful to the Friends of St Aldhelm's PTA for supporting this opportunity for us this year. All children have been assigned instruments and are starting to make some great sounds. Keep up the good work!



Year Five Woodpeckers



Maths Problem Solving in Year 5

We worked in groups to solve a number problem. We needed to work systematically to find all the possibilities. We all took on different roles and selected resources we felt would be the most useful. Lots decided to use number cards and others used Dienes.



What Makes Me the Me I Am?

Our work on this mini-project led to a class share. We paired up with Year 3 and shared all of our work that explained and showed what makes us who we are. We shared artwork, pieces of writing, photos, our proud clouds and presentations. We were able to find out lots of new things about each other.



Year Six Blackbirds



Year 6 enjoyed their sharing session with Year 2 last week. They showed their 'What Makes Me The Me I Am?' work and read them their autobiographies.



Year 6 are developing their focus during learning and demonstrating and applying this during sessions. There have been some excellent break-throughs in realising what they can do at this level if they put their minds to it. We look forward to seeing the children work towards and reach their individual potential as we move through this year. Fantastic start Year 6!

A big well done to all the children who received certificates for attendance during the whole of the last academic year and for the summer term!



Congratulations to each child that has received a certificate from their class teacher this month. It was wonderful to share these with so many parents at our first celebration assembly yesterday.



Well done to Year 6 too – apologies for lack of photo. There'll be one in next month's newsletter 😊



St. Aldhelm's Community News

St Aldhelm's Church News

Harvest Festival Family Service

Thank you to the families that supported this event on Sunday.



Messy Church

Sunday 7th October from 4pm – 6pm at the church

This is a hands-on event for parents, carers and children of all ages.

If you would like to come or would like more details, please phone by Friday 5th October

Joy Lees 01749 880260

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.

Harvest Supper

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

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

If any children are interested in taking part in the entertainment, please contact

Joy Lees 01749 880260 or Mary Newman 01749 880219



Our Doultling Village Neighbours



We are lucky to be a school situated in beautiful, rural countryside and to have so many of our families living locally.

We really appreciate the improvement in co-operation in the village hall car park; the majority of parents have commented on it being safer. Our neighbours would really appreciate your respect and consideration when driving through the village and into the school approach. Care needs to be taken when pulling into the one-way drive from Chelynch Road. Drivers do need to stop and look left before pulling into the drive as it is not possible to see around the corner. This applies during arrival and collection times of the school day but also for breakfast club and after school times, both before and after school. A request made from grandparents who are called on to help with school routine, is that they would like to be informed about school routines and expectations – please do pass on information so they know what to do. Improvement so far is good but we can still do better, especially not double parking, but we now need to extend our consideration to the village roads too. Thank you for making the effort to work together. I'm sure we can continue to make a difference and be respectful of others in our school community.

Friends of St. Aldhelm's Parent Teacher Association



As a parent, carer or guardian of a child at St Aldhelm's, you are automatically part of The Friends of St Aldhelm's Parent Teachers Association (PTA). The PTA actively works to raise money throughout the year for extra equipment and fund activities for further learning opportunities for your child.

Any parent can be involved and volunteer their time to come to meetings, events and fundraisers throughout the year. You too can be a part of this, even if it is to spare half an hour to come to a meeting, serve teas and coffees at a Christmas performance or to help at the school disco. Any assistance is greatly appreciated.

We are a charitable organisation which has a core group of parents nominated into posts to ensure legal requirements are met. Each year an Annual General Meeting (AGM) is held to elect parents into post, to review the previous year's activities and to share how money raised has been spent.

The AGM is to be held in the school hall on Thursday 25th October 2018 at 2:15pm, prior to the Celebration Assembly.

It is really important for parents to come along so we have enough members present to formally appoint post holders onto the new committee.

Anyone wishing to find out more information or to stand for the posts of Chairperson, Secretary or Treasurer should please contact Teraza Connock, existing Chairperson.

Date for your diary:-

- **Witches and Wizards Disco** Friday 12th October from 6 – 7:30pm in the school hall. For children who attend St Aldhelm's only.
- **PTA Annual General Meeting** Thursday 25th October at 2:15pm in the school hall.
- **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

Two days a week – term-time only

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



Doultong Social Group Present:

Doultong film Night 'The Greatest Showman' (PG)

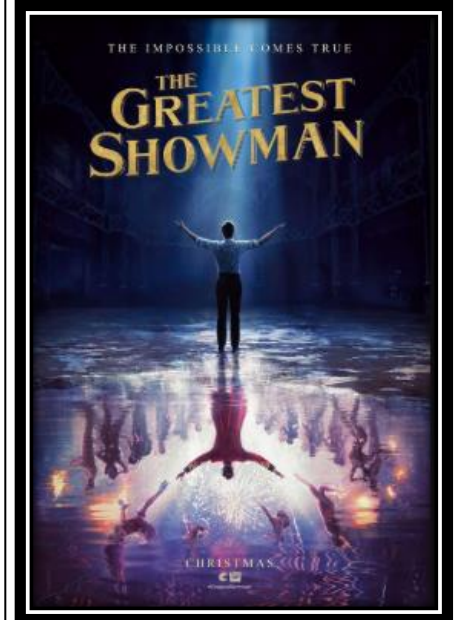
Doultong Village Hall - Saturday 29th September

Doors open 7pm. Film starts at 7.30 pm

licensed Bar for drinks and snacks. Bring a cushion.

Tickets are £5 in advance or £6 on the door and are available from Jan 01749 880731. Nova 01749 880288.

Mary 01749 880219 or Matt 07580 721970.



Hello from a wind-swept Carymoor!

We are very excited to announce that we have funding from Somerset Skills and learning to provide a FREE day of family learning for up to 12 families during October half term! Please find attached a poster with all of the details.

Family Learning Day: Cosy Creatures! Tuesday 30th October 10am- 2.30pm

Join us at Carymoor for a day of Autumnal outdoor fun to discover which British wild animals hibernate, why they do this and how we can help them! Help solve the mystery of the missing hedgehog, forage for autumnal fruits, make a leaf creature, build a den and lots more! For more information and to book a place visit our

website: <https://www.carymoor.org.uk/events-and-courses/family-learning-day-cosy-creatures>

e-mail education@carymoor.org.uk or call 01963 351350.

Have a wonderful Autumn and we hope to see you at Carymoor soon,

Best wishes,

Beth

Beth Coleman

Education Officer

Carymoor Environmental Trust