

ST. ALDHELM'S NEWS

January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Well, here we are finally at the end of January. It has seemed like a particularly long month but everyone has made it! The shock at the start of the term of going into another national lockdown and closing school again was not what everyone wanted to hear. However, the way that everyone adapted so quickly and got their heads round to remote learning has been fantastic. Staff are working incredibly hard to plan and teach the curriculum at a distance; thinking up ways to make it fun and interesting as well as ensure children maintain engagement and continue to learn. We cannot say a big enough thank you to our parents for their understanding of the situation and their cooperation and efforts to support their child or children. You are making a difference and we know you are doing the best you can. Some days will be trickier than others; try to remain calm and realistic. Don't add unnecessary pressure to yourselves as it really won't help. We celebrate remote learning weekly on Tapestry and ClassDojo. Please see [pages 2-8](#) for this month's class **Celebration of Learning** highlights.

The first week in February is **Children's Mental Health Week**, a very important focus for our children, particularly at this time. We look forward to encouraging and promoting children with the theme '**Express Yourself**'. Expression of feelings can be shown in a variety of ways and we are asking children to show this is by **Dressing to Express** in our online sessions. We are also encouraging children to use different creative ways to express themselves; music, art, craft, dance, drama and movement are excellent ways to express personal emotions. Try something you already love or something new, to respond to how you are feeling. Be brave, be bold and express yourself ☺ More on [page 14](#)

This month also sees this year's **Safer Internet Day** on Tuesday 9th February. More details on [page 9-10](#). It is important that you monitor and check in with what your child is doing online regularly. You are responsible for their online safety as well as their physical and emotional safety.

Keep up the amazing learning. Keep safe and look after yourselves.

Kind regards
Mrs P Cohen
Headteacher

01.02.21 Children's Mental Health Week
09.02.21 Safer Internet Day
12.02.21 End of Term 3

13th – 21st February ~ Half Term Break
School closed for ALL children

Term 4

22.02.21 School open for Critical Workers and Vulnerable children
05.03.21 Science Week
01.04.21 End of Term 4

2nd – 18th April ~ Easter Holiday

Term 5

19.04.21 Back to school for children
28.05.21 End of Term 5

29th May – 6th June ~ Half Term Break

Term 6

07.06.21 Back to school for children
24.06.21 Athlete Visit and Assembly
25.06.21 INSET DAY
23.07.21 End of Term 6



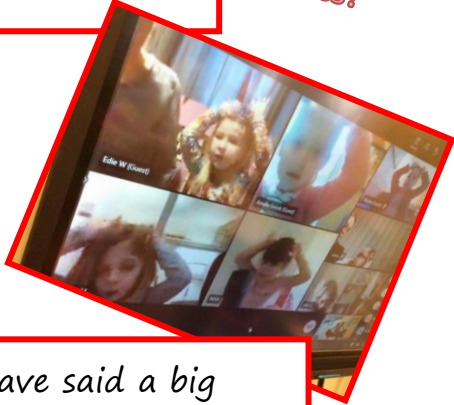
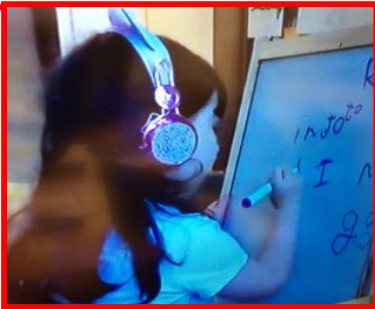


Reception Robins

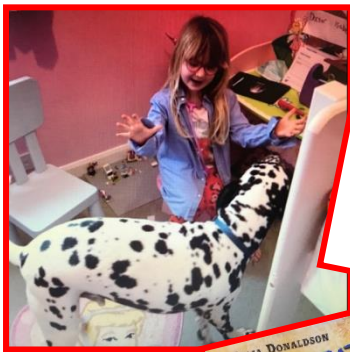


We have been so proud of how well our Reception Robins have adapted and participated in our online sessions!

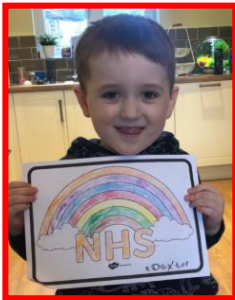
Having fun with Phonics!



Following our Superheroes project, Reception have said a big Thank you to our Real-Life Superheroes working in the NHS!



Even Dot the Hospital dog came to visit!

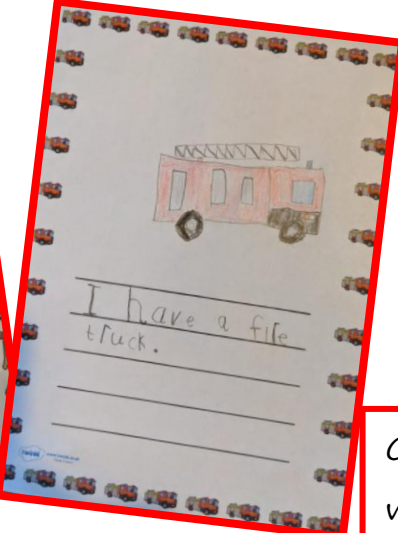


Reception have enjoyed finding out how germs spread and the importance of washing or hands with soap and water!

Superheroes - Fire Fighters!



Superheroes - Health Workers!



Combining a daily bike ride with a trip to the local Fire Station!



Super sentences about Firefighters!



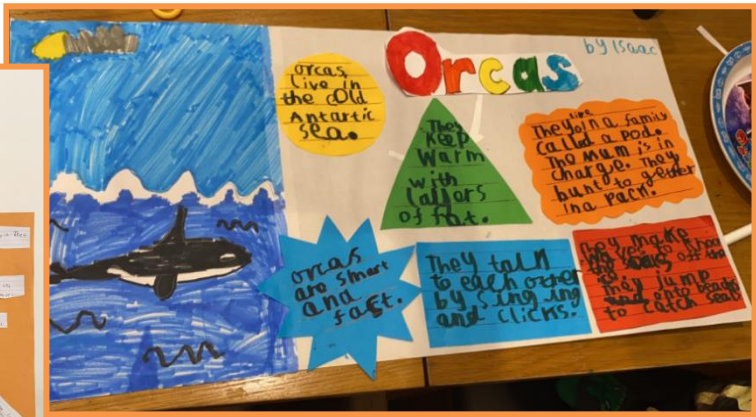
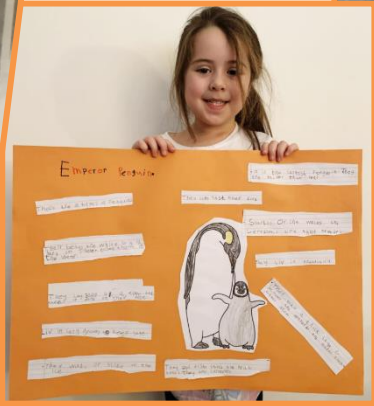
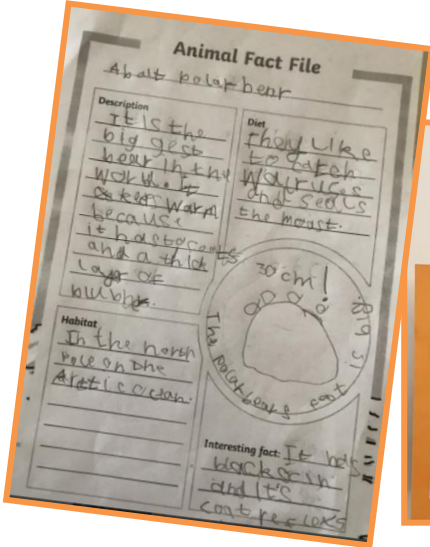
Year One Nightingales



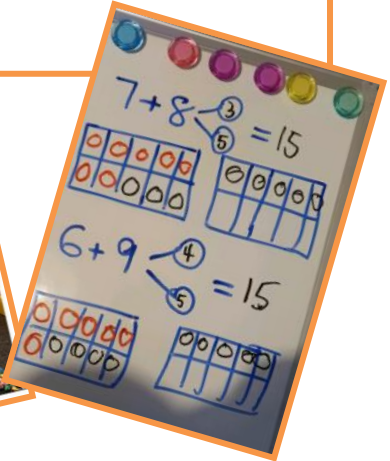
We all loved creating fire breathing dragons using different materials and joins. Some even went for an adventure to Collett Park!



Year 1 showed all that they had learned about the cold places on earth in their polar animal fact files.



In Maths everyone (including parents) has worked so hard to pick up the new ways that we have been adding and subtracting. We have been trying to build mental skills and also finding creative ways to use manipulatives at home



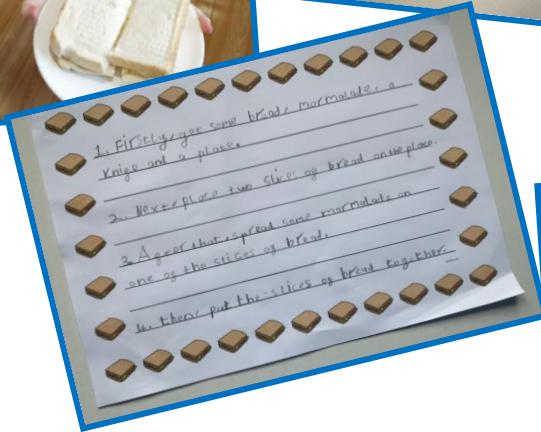
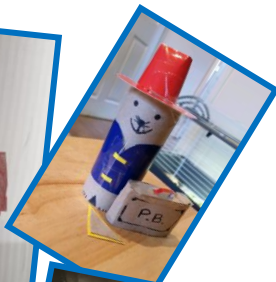


Year Two Magpies



Paddington

The children have started their new book *Paddington Bear* following on from their learning about different continents and oceans. They found out that Paddington travelled to London from Peru in South America and that he likes to eat marmalade sandwiches. The children wrote instructions for making a marmalade sandwich, which they then followed. They have also been busy making their own Paddington Bears!



2D Shapes

Year 2 have been busy learning about 2D shapes and their properties. Some children created shapes in the snow or using playdough.



Habitats

We have been so impressed with the children's knowledge about different continents and habitats. Some wonderful writing describing different habitats around the world and creating them!





Year Three Owls



What creative mathematicians we have in Year 3!
I have been SO impressed with the creativity in Year 3 to really bring their learning about arrays to life!

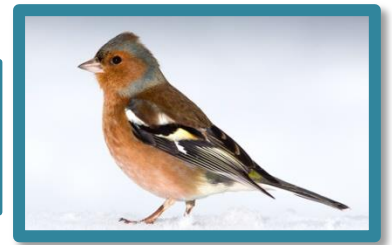


Who knew you could read in a fireplace, a kitchen sink, in a cupboard, on top of a log store or on a frozen trampoline! Year 3 were definitely up for the challenge to try the strangest place!

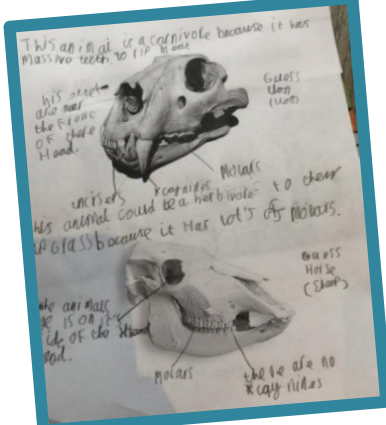


Wednesday wiggling has been going down a treat! Year 3 have been showing their great rhythm, timing and powerful Egyptian moves! It's great to see these improve every week.

Year Four Finches



Science - Teeth



How can we look after our teeth?

We used our knowledge to help us create bright and informative information posters.

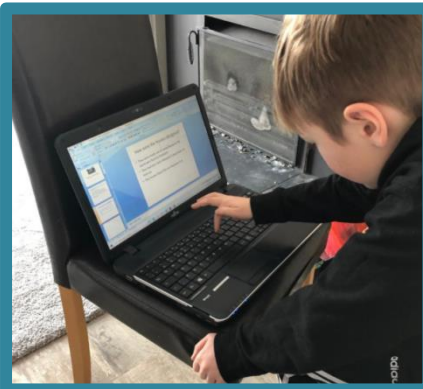
Whose teeth are these?

Year 4 had to apply their knowledge of teeth and different animals to solve the mystery of whose teeth are these...

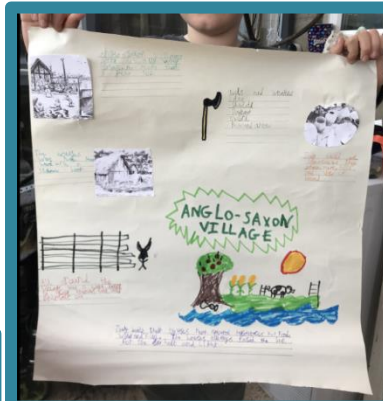
Which drink causes the most damage to our teeth?

We used egg shells to represent teeth and observed the damage caused to the shells by different drinks.

History – Anglo-Saxons



We researched all about Anglo-Saxons houses and villages and presented our information in different ways.

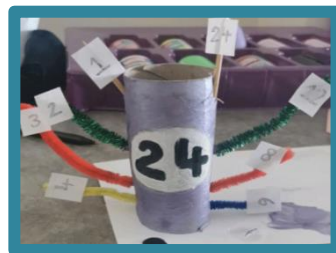
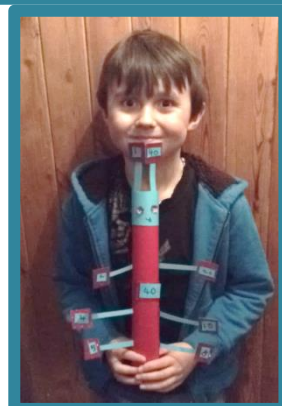


We got creative and made our own Anglo-Saxon houses. The children used a variety of different materials to make their

Maths – Multiplication



We have had a big focus on multiplication this month. We have been multiplying in lots of different ways and working hard on our times tables.



We combined our Maths and Art together to create factor bugs to help us understand factors and consolidate our learning.

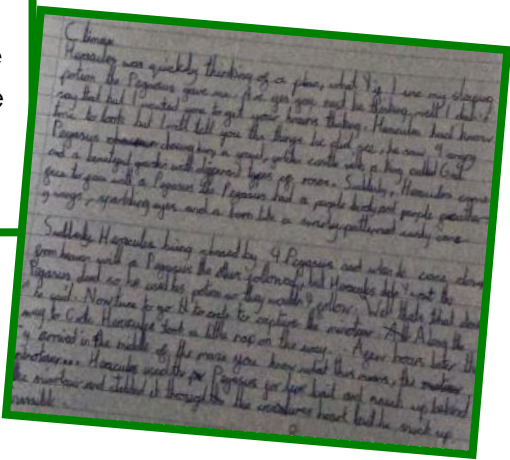
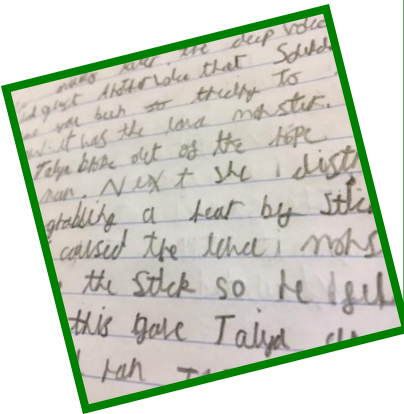


Year Five Woodpeckers



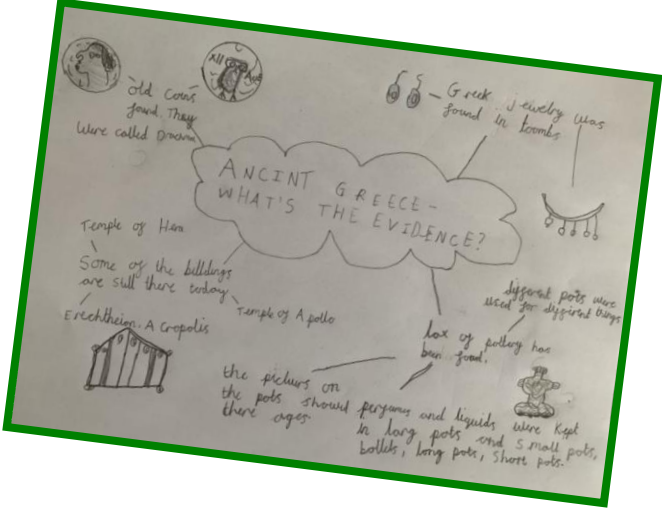
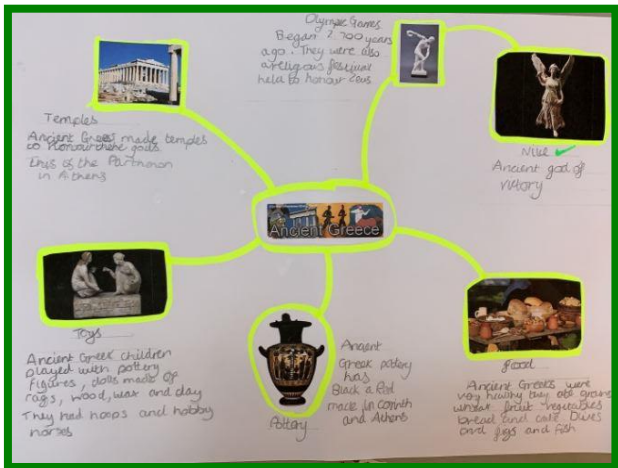
All the children have been extremely diligent in completing their mental tasks each day, and over the last 3 weeks of remote learning, there has been a marked improvement in their overall scores.

The writing of Greek Legends has been an over-arching theme through January, and each story section has been written with more detail and understanding as we have gone through. I look forward to the time we can share our Legends together. **(Fabio - story plan, Corey - writing, Taiya - Writing)**



1. What is the time? 11.47am	18. $0.7 - 0.3 =$ 0.4
2. What is the number after 999? 900	19. If the date now is 31 March, what was the date a fortnight ago? 17th March
3. $2 \times 2 = 2$ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> true <input type="checkbox"/> false	20. $0.6 + 0.3 =$ 0.9
4. $9000 \div 300 + 60 \div 2 =$ 9362	21. Name this shape: Pentagon
5. $7 \times 8 =$ 56	22. Round 789 to the nearest hundred. 800
6. 2.1 km = 2100 m	23. What is the name of this triangle? Equilateral
7. Write the numeral one thousand and one. 1001	24. How many kg of potatoes would you have if you paid £4.50 per 5 kg and you spent £45.00? 10kg
8. $3 \times 9 = 9 \times 3$ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> true <input type="checkbox"/> false	25. What is the place value of 4 in 2.47? 4 tenths
9. Share £10.00 among 4 teachers. 2.50 each	14. What is the name of this triangle? Isosceles
10. $12 \times 4 =$ 48	15. $3 \times 3 = 3$ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> true <input type="checkbox"/> false
11. $0.7, 0.8, 0.6$ 1.0	16. $320 \div 50 =$ 270
12. $73 \div 10 =$ 7 r 3	17. How many sides has a rhombus? 4

In History the research and detail in which the children have looked at Ancient Greece, Greek Gods and Archaeological evidence has been very thorough. The presentation of their findings has been especially creative; from mind maps, detailed annotated illustrations to videos. **(Thomas- mind map with highlighter, Alfie - Mind map pencil)**



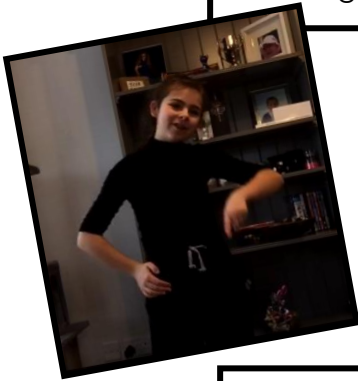


Year Six Blackbirds



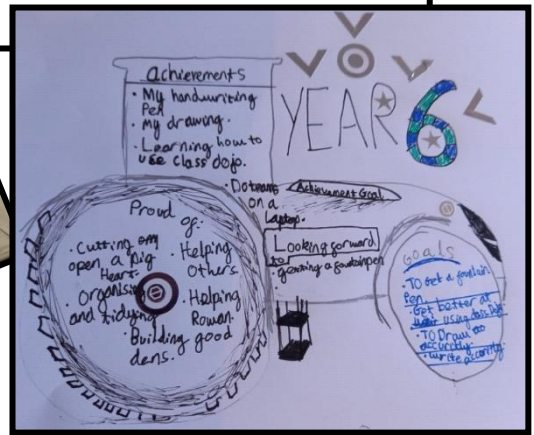
PE Instructional Videos

Year 6 showed hidden talents this month during PE with their instructional videos. They all took one of their circuit training activities and created a video teaching others how to carry it out successfully. They were amazing!!!



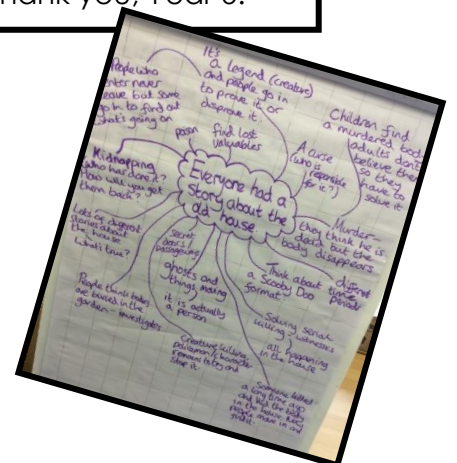
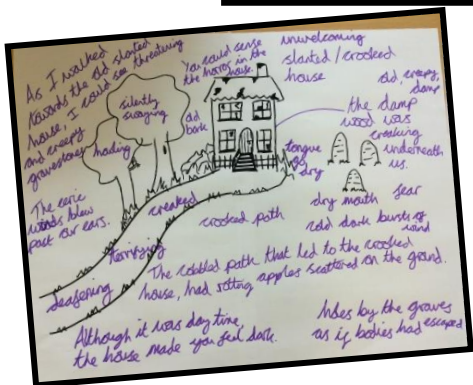
PSHE and Mental Health

We have been blown away by the effort, thought and reflection Year 6 have shown in their tasks, but particularly in our PSHE work. Their work on sharing what makes them happy, their achievements and goals and their graffiti wall of inspiration have been exceptional.



Our Group Sessions

It has been a pleasure teaching Year 6. Their engagement and enthusiasm in our group sessions on Microsoft Teams has been brilliant. Thank you, Year 6.





We are supporting
Safer Internet Day 2021!



Safer Internet Day 2021 | Tuesday 9 February

saferinternetday.org.uk



Our #SaferInternetDay Top Tips

Check with your child

Regularly check in with your child about their online life and how what they see makes them feel



Our #SaferInternetDay Top Tips

Talk it through

If you see something misleading, upsetting or worrying online then speak to a trusted adult



St Aldhelm's Primary School are celebrating #SaferInternetDay on Tuesday 9th February!

Find out how you can also get involved at

www.saferinternetday.org.uk

Our #SaferInternetDay Top Tips

Stay safe online

Check with an adult if you are ever unsure about what to share or who you are chatting to online



Our #SaferInternetDay Top Tips

Take positive action

By working together, we can make the internet a better, more respectful and more trustworthy place!



#AnInternetWeTrust

Our #SaferInternetDay Top Tips

Ask for help

Let your child know that the best way to address any problem they have online is to tell a trusted adult



Our #SaferInternetDay Top Tips

Question the source

Consider where your online information has come from and if you know the person sharing it



#SaferInternetDay

Our #SaferInternetDay Top Tips

Fact or fiction

Opinions you see online are just that, you don't have to follow them and your opinion is just as important



Our #SaferInternetDay Top Tips

Too good to be true?

Understanding the motive behind the things you see online can help you to decide what to trust



Safeguarding our Children

Next week is Safer Internet Day, where all classes will be thinking about their online activity, how they behave online and the benefits and awareness they need to know about to be safe online. This will be included in our remote learning activities.



National Safer Internet Day is on Tuesday 9th February. This year's focus is 'An internet we trust: exploring reliability in the online world'. It is a good time to remember our role as adults, supporting children to be safe online. Spend time to talk to your child about what they are up to online. Feel confident to ask questions and establish rules in your home. You may find the following websites helpful in keeping yourself up to date, making yourself aware of new software, apps and games and in answering questions you may have.



<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2021>

Look for this button on the website page as well as other useful information:

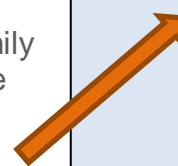


<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers>



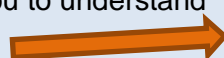
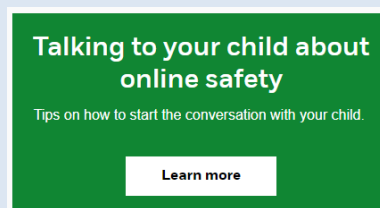
Looking for advice on where to begin?

The Parent and Carer Toolkit is a collection of three resources designed to help you talk to your child about their online life, manage boundaries around family internet use and point you in the direction of where to get further help and support.



<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

It can be hard to know how to talk to your child about online safety. From setting up parental controls to advice on sexting, online games and video apps, we can help you to understand the risks and keep your child safe.



All adults at school, in our communities and at home, have a duty and responsibility to safeguard our children. This means we ensure their safety and well-being at all times. Don't forget the important part **you** play in keeping your child safe online at home. Visit the sites for information, advice and resources but most importantly talk to your child, understand what they are doing and support them to be safe online.

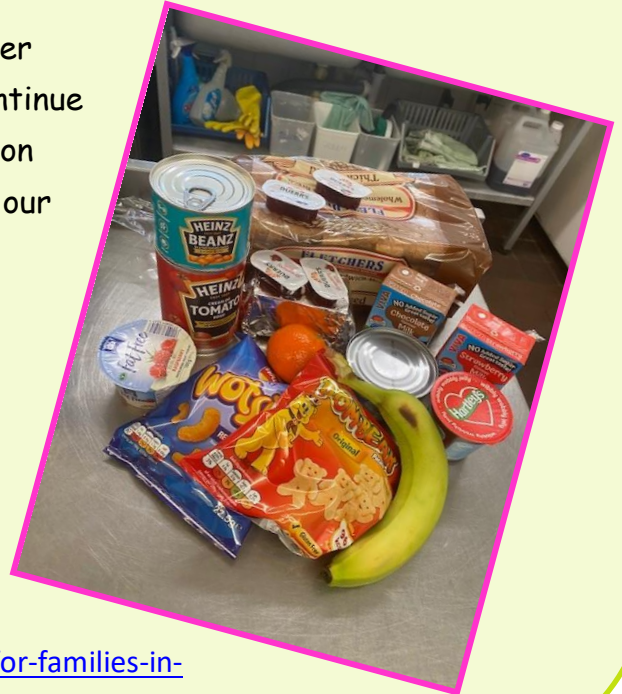
Free School Meals - Food Boxes

You may have seen much talk on the news about the food boxes provided for those who are eligible for free school meals. We are very proud that our boxes are easily meeting the standard required and have appreciated the positive feedback from parents.

We are grateful to our office staff who are ordering and creating the boxes - thank you!

Whilst the government have now restarted the voucher system, our food boxes are ensuring that children continue to receive balanced and healthy lunch content. Based on the feedback from parents we will continue to supply our boxes. If you are eligible and have any comments you wish to share with us, please call the school office.

Don't forget that if your circumstances change and you think your child may become eligible for Free School Meals, visit the Somerset County Council website and complete the application form (see below link).



<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/coronavirus/food-support-for-families-in-somerset/>



Do you work in a
STEM career?

British
Science
Week
2021
5-14 March

Are you a STEM employee and willing to share your story about what you do in your day-to-day work?

Can you help us to highlight the broad range of jobs and careers available?

We hope to celebrate diversity and challenge stereotypes.

Not all scientists wear lab coats...
Scientists are all around us!



Please email Miss Horgan
thorgan@educ.somerset.gov.uk
If you would like to be involved and share your story virtually with the children.



A message from our School Governors

Each month, we look forward to introducing you to two of our school governors; to share a little bit about us, who we are and what we do.



I am a parent of a child in year 4 and have a granddaughter in year 3. My role within the Governing Body is a Foundation Governor, specifically responsible for Worship and Collective Worship. I am a member of the Messy Church team which links the school with St Aldhelm's Church. I am still learning all about the roles and responsibilities of what being a Governor's commitment to the school is. I have recently been elected to be on the PCC council for St Aldhelm's Church. I can also be found rallying support for the friends of St Aldhelm's PTA.

I have a background of childcare, Fostering children with challenging behaviour in which I gained an NVQ level 3 for 0-18 year old. I am also a champion / counsellor for a national support group for dysfunctional families who struggle with all sorts of children / young adults' behaviour.

In my spare time I like to do knitting, cooking and gardening but most of all I love to spend time with all my family.

Christine Pulsford

Foundation Governor

I have recently started my second term as a Foundation Governor at St Aldhelm's, a role that has proved to be tremendously rewarding and engaging, particularly to witness the school continuously improve and rise to every challenge.



As a Director of a Bristol based e-commerce agency, my main roles on the Governing Board are serving as Vice Chairman and chairing the Finance Committee. It's a challenging subject and one in which the school handles with excellence, and I hope that the committee's input helps to continue the performance in this area.

I have two boys in Year 1 that have recently turned 6 along with a 3-year old daughter (going on 13!) who will be joining the school soon. Having strong ties to the school helps to strengthen my commitment and involvement within the school, and I simply couldn't wish for a better environment for them to learn and develop.

Besides this, I enjoy being out and about (although that's difficult for the time being), DIY and all things technological.

Chris Capon-Leyton

Foundation Governor

St. Aldhelm's Community News



Speeding in Doultling

The school has received a letter from Doultling Parish Council which shares that complaints have been made to the Parish Council around the speed of vehicles coming into and out of Chelynch Road and Chelynch Park. We do remind anyone coming to the school to remember they have a duty to drive appropriately and considerately.



Parents and Visitors must ensure they uphold a duty of care and take responsibility for their driving and parking as required by the Highway Code.

We continue to work together with our village community and we wish that our continued efforts ensure the driving in the village and the approach to our school and the car park are safe for everybody.



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 usual events, they continue to work hard for the benefit of the children at the school.



This month's 100 Club draw:

First Prize £20 Rachel Manship

Second Prize £10 Becky Leyton

Third Prize £5 Gary Oatley



If you haven't signed up and wish to take part in the next draw in March, it's not too late.

Contact the school office.

If you want to become involved with the PTA, please contact a member of the committee. Please see the website for the PTA page which provides details of who's who.



As we are all part of a community, we can all help and support Children's Mental Health. We can also be aware of our own mental health and other adults around us.

The theme of this year's Children's Mental Health Week is Express Yourself.

Expressing yourself is about finding ways to share feelings, thoughts, or ideas, through creativity. It is about finding a way to show who you are, and how you see the world, that can help you feel good about yourself.

As parents, carers and members of a community, you play an important role in your child's mental health. Visit the website and you will be able to see the free resources available.

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/parents-and-carers/>

 <p>A message from our Royal Patron</p> <p>Watch our Royal Patron HRH The Duchess of Cambridge's video message to mark the start of the Children's Mental Health Week.</p> <p>READ MORE</p>	 <p>Free virtual assembly</p> <p>Watch our virtual assembly with BAFTA Kids and Oak National Academy, featuring pupils and some famous faces.</p> <p>WATCH NOW</p>	 <p>"I EXPRESS MYSELF THROUGH..." VIRTUAL SESSIONS</p> <p>I express myself through...</p> <p>A series of free virtual sessions led by experts and familiar faces across acting, art, content creation, dance and writing.</p> <p>LEARN MORE</p>	 <p>Top Tips</p> <p>Helpful tips for you, and your children, to help them express themselves. Why not share with other parents too?</p> <p>DOWNLOAD</p>	 <p>Draw Your Feelings</p> <p>Try this simple Draw Your Feelings activity with your children. Created by Place2Be's Art Room team.</p> <p>WATCH VIDEO</p>	 <p>Squiggle Game</p> <p>Have a go at this 1 minute Squiggle game with your children. Created by Place2Be's Art Room team.</p> <p>WATCH VIDEO</p>
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Please also visit the Mental Health and Wellbeing page on our school website for further useful resources. Click on the picture or link to visit now:

<https://www.staldhelms.co.uk/page/?title=MENTAL+HEALTH+AND+WELLBEING&pid=139>



St. Aldhelm's Church

Thank you!

Staff at St Aldhelm's School would like to say a big thank you to St Aldhelm's PCC for the wonderful hamper of goodies this month. We were all touched by your thoughtfulness and kindness. Thank you for the array of staffroom necessities as well as the luxury items. We have all thoroughly enjoyed everything and really appreciated your very kind gesture.

