



Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your ongoing support of our school. We are so delighted to all be back in school as I am sure you are too. Your children have settled beautifully back into school and this newsletter is a chance for each class to celebrate a few highlights from the past couple of weeks since we have all been back, where we belong, together in school. Your children are brilliant, I am always so proud to be their Head teacher- they fully embrace school and love being back. I am as ever delighted by their beautiful behaviour and attitude to school and the school is buzzing once again!

### Classes Shining Brightly:

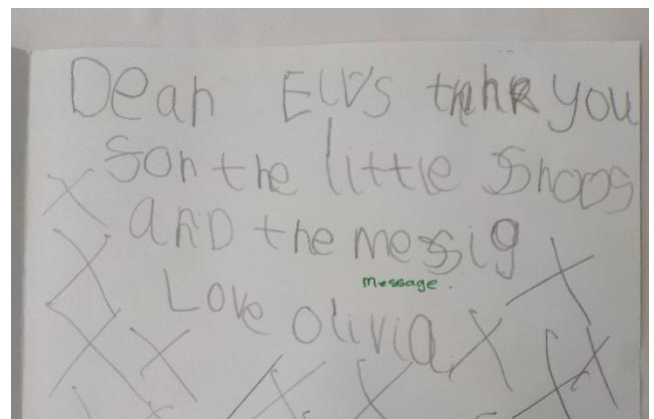
#### **Class R**

Wow, what a busy few weeks Class R have had. We have all loved being back in our classroom and garden, learning and playing together again.

We had great fun investigating and experimenting during science week, we particularly enjoyed making and playing with gloop...some more than others.



We have loved listening to a variety of traditional tales including 'The Elves and the Shoemaker'. The Elves even visited our classroom on several occasions and we sent messages and left gifts for them. They were quite mischievous though: one morning we arrived in school and to our surprise found many shoes stuck to the ceilings and walls!



We are now learning all about springtime

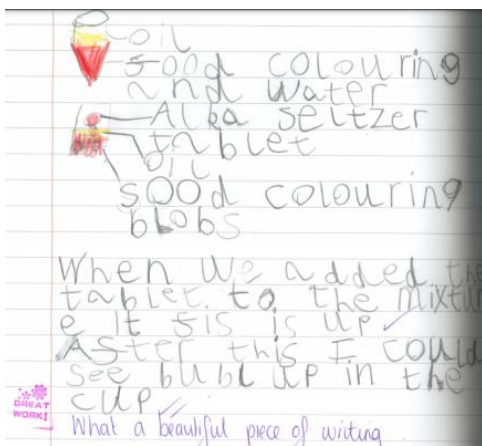
and feel very lucky to have had a visit from two little lambs. Thank you to Rhys and his family, we loved meeting the lambs and learning all about them.



## Class 1



In class 1 we have been looking at the 'Moon Landing', we have had so much fun exploring space and finding out about Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin. We looked at the Eagle landing and particularly enjoyed finding out about what they did on the moon. This has linked nicely with our book 'Bob, a life of the man on the moon'. We continued with the space theme in art with our very own cardboard printing templates that we made. To mark science week we had so much fun making Lava lamps. We also had a special visit from some new born lambs thanks to Scarlett's mum. She brought them in and talked to us about how they look after them. We loved how soft they were and found their little noises quite funny!



## Class 2

Class 2 have made a fantastic return to school. They have become geometry experts and have impressed us with their use of mathematical vocabulary to describe 2D and 3D shapes. We have been learning all about the first moon landing and the children have written impressive fact files about Neil Armstrong and another about the moon. We've all learned new facts. Keep a look out at the class 2 webpage as some examples of their work will be uploaded shortly.



In the final week of term, the children had the challenge to build a moving space buggy! They produced designs which they then had to construct using a range of materials. We will be testing them on the last day of term to see whose vehicle will travel the furthest down a ramp!



## Class 3

The children in Class 3 have all managed very well being back in school together after so long. It's great to see everyone again!

Since returning to school on 8th March, we have been learning about Statistics

in Maths and have started reading *The Legend of Podkin One-Ear* in English. We've used a lot of our afternoon time learning about solids, liquids and gases in Science, including experiencing the unique texture of Oobleck and carrying out experiments to change materials. We even linked our Science to Forest School by making charcoal in the campfire!



In French we have started to learn about 'Les Animaux'. The children have been learning the new vocabulary brilliantly and with great enthusiasm.

## Class 4

Throughout this term, Class 4 have been working exceptionally hard. In Maths, we have been learning all things fractions before moving onto decimals. In English, we have been writing information texts and adventure stories based on *The Legend of Podkin One-Ear* by Kieran Larwood.



In Science, we have been learning about sound. We went on a sound hunt around the school to see how many different sounds we could hear! We have been learning about how sound travels. We made our own phones out of plastic cups to investigate!

Finally, the Cup of Kindness trophy this term was won by Jenson. It was an extremely close call with many of the children demonstrating acts of kindness and being particularly caring and respectful to others.





## Class 5

Class 5 returned to school and immediately travelled off to Ancient Greece, where we have been fully immersing ourselves in the history, culture and myths of the time. We have been enthralled by the Greek myths and have identified lots of themes that we have also recognised in the stories of Harry Potter, The Lord of the Rings and even modern soap operas! We also debated whether we would rather be Athenians or Spartans and designed and made our own Greek monsters from clay.



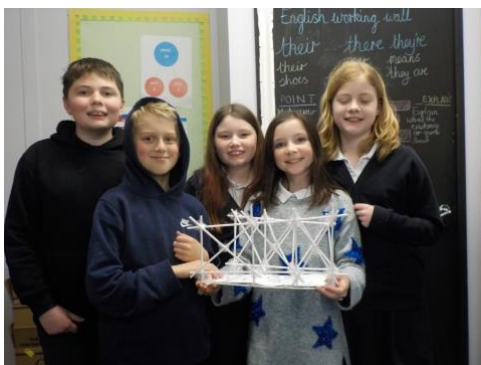
The Greek theme has extended into our reading as well, as peer recommendation has meant that lots of us are now devouring Percy Jackson stories.

As part of National Science Week, we looked at stereotypes in science but we also made a working pump which represented our heart. We then did an experiment to discover the effect of exercise on our heart rate which involved lots of running very fast on the spot and then a very welcome rest afterwards as we measured the speed at which our heart rate returned to normal.

## Class 6

Year 6 has hit the ground running since coming back to school. We have launched our Ancient Greek topic reading the adventures of Odysseus and we are enjoying it so much! We have been amazed at the impact that the Ancient Greek world still has on us to this day from the way in which buildings are designed to the words we use.

As well as this, we have been doing lots of practical activities for example exploring how trusses support bridges. We also loved Science week where we looked at how different liquids had different densities and used changing temperatures to squeeze a complete egg in its shell inside a bottle.





All the events I have booked and planned in the calendar and below are to give us hope and will all be completely risk assessed and COVID risk assessed. A huge amount of work goes into making these events happen without COVID 19 risk assessments and procedures which double our workload, but we are still reaching and doing our very best to provide these opportunities for our children and families. It goes without saying though that if we have any concerns or guidance changes there may be a need to postpone/ cancel or change events. In the event of change, your understanding, support and flexibility will be appreciated.

**Residentials-** I've booked them and more details to follow for parents of Years 4-6 when I have them. I will also offer the usual parent meeting but on zoom to inform parents- it is just great to plan ahead. All 3 are outdoor camping and forest school based. Year 4 local one night in AK, Year 5 Forest of Dean camp 2 nights and outdoor adventure and Year 6 Forest of Dean camp 3 nights and outdoor adventure.

### **Heroes and Heroines- it is back! A CHANCE TO BE TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE OUR SCHOOL AND CHILDREN SHINING IN SPECIAL AK STYLE**

- Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May 9.15am on zoom
- Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July outdoors (bring picnic rug) 2.30pm to end this academic year together.

### **End of day new pick up procedures start Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April at 3.15pm**

We finally have a clear procedure for collection which enables swift collection at the end of the day from school to avoid congestion in the road outside school. I have sent this information in a separate parent mail and the system will start on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April at 3.15pm. Thanks you for your support with this. I can't tell you how much thought and assessment has gone into planning and risk assessing this new procedure and I really will require your support and patience with this, especially on the first afternoon. We will assess what we do and review it and I know together we can make it work really well, as we always do. Thank you for following the guidance in my parent mail.

### **Breakfast Club**

Please book your children in using ParentPay so we are compliant with our COVID risk assessment and ensure adequate staffing. We cannot accept children on the day who are not booked in. Thank you

**Easter COVID 19 reporting procedures:** Additionally, you will have received a parent mail to remind you about reporting COVID 19 after school ends and an important letter from Wiltshire reminding us all of the rules for Easter to keep everyone safe and reduce chances of COVID 19 or of the need to isolate and miss school.

**Thank you-** for all the wonderful books you have been donating to the school library and bookshelves- they are really appreciated! Keep sending them in if you have a clear out- we are always in need of good quality books.

We wish you all a lovely peaceful Easter, may the sun shine on us all! Whatever the weather, we are all in need of a rest to restore over the next two weeks so we are bouncing with energy for your children again and I hope you all get some time to rest and re-coup too. We have a wonderful term 5 and 6 ahead to look forward to. Thanks for your continued support of our school.

With my warmest wishes and a big virtual TEAM AK hug,

*S.L.Saville*

Mrs Saville

Head Teacher



All the dates for the year are on the calendar on the school website on [www.akps.org.uk](http://www.akps.org.uk) to help you plan ahead.

Date	Event
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> May 9.15am	Heroes and Heroines on zoom- merits from the classes- come and join us if you can to shine together
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	End of Term 5
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	TD day staff training day school closed to pupils.
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Term 6 starts at 8.45am
8 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup> June	Global Awareness Week in class bubbles
28 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports week- children in PE kit all week please
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> -Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 5 residential to Viney Hill outdoor camp and forests school
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Sports morning - 7 carousel sport activities for each class – parents and carers (2 per family max) invited to join outdoors 9.15-12pm No picnic lunch. The event ends at 12pm.
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Year 4 camp over AK residential 5.30pm until 9am on Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup> July.
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> July 1.45pm	Year 6 parents/carers in Year 6 church leavers service
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July TBC	Year 6 residential to Viney Hill outdoor camp and forests school
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 11am-12	Year 6 leavers assembly to parents/ carers outdoors 11-12 Parents have lunch off premises (to get energy for rounder match against Year 6) 1.30pm Year 6 v parents rounders match
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2.30pm	Heroes and Heroines outdoor celebration- a chance for us to celebrate our school and pupils together and end the school year on a high. End of term
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	TD day staff training day school closed to pupils.

