



21<sup>st</sup> January 2022

We have had a busy third week back in school with the usual hustle and bustle of children getting excited about their work and showing how this is paying off with the outstanding work that I have seen throughout the week. I always feel very privileged to have the opportunity to spend time with children and discuss the work that they have completed. I know that this is why we teach; to have those nuggets where children realise that they can do something and make them believe in themselves.

As a school we have been developing our new website over the last 6 months and I can finally say that this is almost ready to be launched to parents and local community as well as the wider world. We do hope that the website incorporates everything that our school community needs and more. We will inform you as soon as it is "live" and in the weeks following we would appreciate your feedback on what you think, both the good and bad.



### Gritting at School

A reminder that on days when gritting is required, we ask that children in Pearl class (Year 2) and Sapphire classes enter school via their usual classroom doors (there will be a gritted path to both of these classroom doors. EYFS (Amethyst class) children should also be accompanied to their usual classroom but the gritted path from Heathfield Drive to the school building and along the side of the building to EYFS must be followed. Please do not cut across the rest of the playground as this will not be gritted.

Our Site Maintenance Officer, Mr Jones, will grit identified pathways on icy days and parents and children must only use these routes for their own safety. There will be a gritted path from the main gate to the main entrance but this is for vehicle access only. Pedestrians must use the gritted footpath along the side of the car park and, for safety, access this through the small gate NOT the car park gate. There will also be a gritted pathway around the perimeter of the main building up to the Highfield Drive entrance. Please note the Heathfield Road playground entrance gate will remain locked on these occasions.

As you know, we make every effort to keep the school open during snow and ice weather conditions but sometimes I have to make the decision to close the school for the safety of your children. In the event of a school closure local radio stations will be contacted and we will also aim to put a message on our school website and onto the message board on our school phone system. A text message will also be sent out to all parents on our Parentmail database. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you in advance for your support and understanding during the remaining winter months.

### **This week's Praise Book children are:**



- Mrs Maughan and Mrs Burgess' Class** - John Broomhall
- Mrs Kemp and Mrs Hayward's Class** - Jaxon Colley
- Mrs Richardson and Miss Ratcliffe's Class** - Oliver Scott
- Mr Davies' Class** - Arabella Hughes
- Miss Morris's Class** - Tallulah Woods
- Mr Blenkiron's Class** - Bess Simon
- Mrs Bird's Class** - Tabitha Brampton

5Rs

**Responsibility:** Katy Entwisle  
**Readiness to Learn:** Grace Farmer, Caleb Vacara



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**Resourcefulness:** Harry Morgan, Matty Jones, Joshua Hassall

**Reflectiveness:** Max Bunseedhun

### School

**Amethyst Class:** We finished reading *Naughty Bus* by Jan Oke. We made a story map of the journey the bus took, drew other places that the bus could travel to and retold the story in simple sentences. In maths, we partitioned (split) numbers into smaller parts, eg, 5 can be partitioned into  $3+2/1+4$  and worked out hidden numbers in a number sentence, for example,  $2+?=5$ . We also enjoyed another Cosmic Yoga session, listening to a story about Frank the frog.

**Sapphire Class:** In English this week the children have been planning the beginning of their own stories based on our pathways book *Lost and Found*. In maths the children have been learning how to subtract by crossing out. They have also been learning how to include the subtraction symbol in their number sentences. In science the children have been showing off their 'sticky knowledge about animal groups. In design and technology, the children have been designing pets for us to look after in our classroom.

**Pearl Class:** The children in Pearl Class have explored coding. They have created lines of code using Blockly. They have written and tested algorithms and then debugged to correct any mistakes. They have read the *Dragon Machine* by Helen Ward and then written letters to Mr Perry to ask him to rid Pearl Class of the mischievous dragons who have been taking over the classroom. Pastels were used to create images of the mysterious dragons. In Maths, the children have developed strategies to add and subtract two digit numbers and ones. In Science we continued to learn about mammals, amphibians, insects, birds, fish and reptiles and we developed our knowledge of life cycles for different species. We researched offspring which look very different from their parent and learnt that 'metamorphosis' is when offspring go through big changes as they develop into adults. In Music this week we developed our knowledge of recognising and playing different pitches and found the pulse and rhythm for different songs. We used this knowledge to create our own short pieces of music using different instruments and scored this music on paper.

**Amber Class:** Amber have been very busy this week arguing! We have been talking about formal arguments and how we can debate different points of view and then written these using inverted commas. In Maths we have been using various strategies to multiply and then using these strategies to reason our answers. We have looked at where in the world we can find rainforests, we have looked at the work of Monet and started to replicate his impressionist style to paint landscapes and in RE we have been looking at the importance of the 10 commandments.

**Emerald Class:** This week Emerald class have looked at an example of a diary entry and made a plan for writing Leon's diary. In Maths they have worked on multiplying 3 numbers together, they have investigated efficient methods of multiplication and done a lot of times table practice sessions. We looked at pilgrimages in RE, switches in Science, came up with final shield designs in DT and had 2 singfest rehearsals this week!

**Ruby Class:** In maths this week, Ruby Class have been learning about Prime numbers. What makes them prime, why 1 isn't a prime, what is special about the number 2 and even joined in a rap to remember some facts about prime numbers. In English, we have been writing poems based on *Beowulf* using vocabulary we have magpied from *Arthur and the Golden Rope*. We have been including expanded noun phrases, similes, and pairs of verbs and have been self-editing these using thesauruses. In history, we have been looking at where the Anglo-Saxons originally came from, where each tribe tended to settle in Britain, the reasons they left their homeland and the factors that attracted them to Britain. In science, we have been looking at the stages of development that a foetus goes through before it is born - comparing its size to different vegetables, seeing what changes every four weeks and discussing some common myths and facts about babies during gestation. In PE, we have been continuing hockey, with a focus on shooting this week. Our spelling focus this week has been words ending in -cious, and in guided reading, we have continued to infer information within *Odd & The Frost Giants* (Odd has just made friends with three mysterious animals).

**Diamond Class:** In Year 6 this week, we have been looking in Science at how to draw scientific diagrams of electrical circuits. We have also begun our new geography topic on Mexico. The children have been using atlases to locate countries in North America and have been analysing statistics to draw conclusions. We had great fun using Google Earth to 'visit' Mexico city and the beaches! WE have also been visited by PCSO Nick to talk to us about online safety and hope for a great live online workshop about 'Being smart on phones'.

You are all amazing and Shining Stars!



**Audlem St. James C.E. Primary School**

*'Let your light shine'*

*Matthew 5:16*



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Prayers to Share this week - We pray for Kindness in our school, community and the wider world.



**Finally**

It is important that our newsletter and all other forms of communication we send out to parents and carers, give you a clear and detailed picture of our work in school, so that you are kept up to date with events in school and our community. If you have any ideas, comments or suggestions about the content of newsletters please get in touch with me.

*A.Perry*