



# Audlem St. James' C of E Primary School

## 'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16



25 October 2024

### Our School

I just thought I would share with you my thoughts for this week. It is the final week of half term which has flown by and I know that the children and staff are ready for the half-term break to be able to recharge their batteries. The children have been amazing over this half term. This has been evident in the work that they have been producing throughout English, Maths and the foundation subjects.

I hope that you all have a wonderful time over half term and are able to make memories with your loved ones. Just a reminder that school reopens on **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November** as **Monday is an INSET day**.

### Thought of the Week

You should ALWAYS believe in yourself and remember the words below as this will ensure you can do anything you set your heart on.



### Prayer of the Week

In these times more than ever it's important that we keep our faith and stay happy.





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### Praise Book Children this week

**Mrs Burgess and Mrs Kemp's class:** Darcie Brindley

**Mrs Proctor's class:** Theia Evans

**Mrs Richardson and Mrs Smith's class:** Cian Murphy

**Miss Morris' class:** James Pritchard

**Mrs Bird's class:** Joe Bennion

**Mr Trude's class:** Millie Fellows

**Mr Blenkiron's Class:** Maisie Baker

### 5 Rs Children this week

*(resilience, reflectiveness, responsibility, resourcefulness & readiness to learn)*

**Resilience:** Zoe Tighe and Freddy Perry

**Resourcefulness:** Anya Miah

**Readiness to Learn:** Fredrik Hodson, Nancy Vernon, Willow Bonell and John Reynolds

### School

All the children have enjoyed the different work that they have been learning throughout the week and the classrooms have been buzzing with activity. Here is an overview of what has been happening in every class.

**Amethyst class:** Over the last few weeks in Amethyst Class, we have been reading 'The Three Little Pigs,' by Mara Alperin. We have added sound buttons to words, described the wolf and made 'Watch Out Wolf' posters. In maths we have explored how numbers can be made of 1's and from this investigated the composition of Numberblocks 1,2,3,4 and 5. We then moved on to comparing the number of objects in 2 sets by matching them 1:1. We have also enjoyed going on an autumnal colour walk outside with our Year 6 buddies, visiting church for the Harvest service and had fun making different types of houses and homes in the construction area.

**Sapphire class:** This half term we have enjoyed reading the story of 'The Giant Arctic Jellyfish' in our writing lessons. The children have enjoyed reading the story and writing fact files, character descriptions, job descriptions and lots more. All the children have also been writing their own ending to the story and have enjoyed exploring their own ideas about what could have happened! In Maths we have brought our Place Value to 10 unit of work to end- in which we counted forwards, backwards, found one more and one less, wrote numbers as words and numerals and used greater than, less than and equal to symbols to compare numbers. In our new unit Addition and Subtraction, we have started to use part whole models to find the different ways to make numbers up to 10. The children particularly enjoyed drawing giant part whole models on the playground with chalk and using leaves to represent their numbers. As well as this the children have been practising their throwing and catching skills in PE, they have been map-drawing in Geography, learning about schools from the past and finding out about the Victorian hero Grace Darling, and singing in Music.

**Pearl class:** Pearl class have writing their own version of 'Troll Swap' using their own characters. We have been working on recognising where numbers go on a number line 0-100 as well as counting forwards and backwards. We have been comparing numbers using greater than, less than and equal to. We have also been ordering objects and numbers and practising counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. In Science we completed a materials investigation linked to The Three Little Pigs and an absorbency investigation where we made predictions and drew conclusions from our results. We have researched more facts about The Great Fire of London and looked at famous landmarks. We have looked at the UK, naming the countries and capital cities. In PE we have been





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playing team games with a focus on throwing, catching and agility. We have been coding using the iPads and in RE we learned about the story of The Lost Sheep and asked questions to deepen our understanding of the parable.

**Amber class:** Year three have been working with addition and subtraction in maths. We have looked a lot at mental strategies for efficient addition and subtraction of ones and tens so far. We have used partitioning and number lines. In English, the children have been working on using subheadings for their seals information reports. They have also practiced using paragraphs and a variety of prepositions for time, place and cause. They have produced some beautiful diary entries about surfing with the seal. We have continued to improve our work with recorders and now the children know the B, A, G and C notes. They can play both Hot Cross Buns and Cold Cross Buns. The children have worked on their ball control during football sessions and their swimming has been improving during their weekly lessons. We have looked at Historical sources in History to find out about Stone Age People. The class have experimented with classifying rocks by their hardness, durability, reaction to acid and permeability in Science. All the children have loved designing and making their pneumatic toys in DT. A variety of wonderful animal toys have been made! We have developed shading skills in Art and the children have made large scale, close of drawings of flowers. In RE we have been comparing Islam, Christianity and Judaism. The children have spotted similarities and differences.

**Emerald class:** In Emerald Class, the children have now finished their DT project to build their own torches. They have learned how to construct an electrical circuit, make their own switches and then put everything together in their handmade housing. They worked brilliantly! The children have also learned three notes on their clarinets and are busy practising 'Hot Cross Buns' before we learn some more musical notation. In History, we have had a great trip to Quarry Bank Mill and learned how Victorian children were used as workers within the cotton industry. They got to experience how loud the machines were and all the different chores which the children would have been expected to do as 'apprentices'. Emptying the chamber pots and making beds was not something they enjoyed!

**Ruby class:** This term has been full of exciting activities and fantastic progress across all subjects! In English, the children have been writing their own short stories, imagining Harry Potter's journey from the Dursleys to his first glimpse of Hogwarts. Their creativity has truly shone through in these magical tales. Quidditch has also been a big hit, with the children showing impressive skills and enthusiasm for the game. In Maths, we've focused on addition and subtraction, starting with mental methods before moving on to written strategies. Our Art lessons have been filled with creativity as the children explored mixed-media techniques to create stunning portraits. PE has been equally rewarding, with noticeable improvement in both football and rugby skills. Finally, in Music, many children have demonstrated a natural talent, making superb progress as they develop their musical abilities. All in all, it has been a wonderful term of learning and growth!

**Diamond class:** This October, as well as continuing to be inspired by our stimulus text 'Star of Fear, Star of Hope', we have also taken a walk down the spooky side and learned about Shakespeare's famous tragedy 'Macbeth'. The children created their own witches' brews filled with disgusting rhyming ingredients. In maths, we have been focusing on the four operations, learning how to use various methods of multiplication and division to help us calculate (including formal methods, partitioning, using factor pairs and long division) as well as the order of the operations when it comes to questions requiring BIDMAS.

In history, we have recently learned about St. Maximilian Kolbe, who took it upon himself to publish newspapers against the Nazis in occupied Poland, to hide over two-thousand Jewish people and to ultimately sacrifice himself for another prisoner after he was arrested and sent to the Auschwitz concentration camp.





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Year 6 have been writing articles about his courageous advocacy.

Speaking of articles, in science the children have been designing their own animals and creating information texts using PurpleMash to explain how they are suited to their environments in terms of their appearance, diets and defence mechanisms.

In RE, we have continued to learn about Hinduism. After designing our own murtis, we wrote monologues from the perspective of someone who had been reincarnated as an unfortunate animal, explaining the irony of their new forms compared with their human life and what they planned to do to work their way back up the hierarchy and eventually achieve moksha (oneness with God/Brahman).

In Art, we have looked at the art of Paula Rego and developed stories around her piece 'The Dance' and most recently we have replicated some of the techniques of Frank Bowling to create collaborative works of abstract art formed by pastel circles/arcs, poured paint, glued found-objects and shaved chalk...

Everyone!  
You are all amazing shining stars.



#### **Cold Weather**

There has been a real chill in the air over recent days and we have had to remind a number of children about the importance of wearing coats and jumpers to keep them warm outside. Please ensure your child/ren have jumpers and coats with them each day so they can enjoy outdoor break times whilst remaining warm.

#### **Attendance this week**

Whole school weekly attendance is 95.98% which is lower than our aim of 97% but we have had some unauthorised holiday absence and a sickness bug in school this week. In EYFS/KS1, Amethyst class has had the highest attendance and In KS2, Ruby class has had the highest attendance. Congratulations to both classes.

#### **Remembrance Service – 10 November**

Rev Alison Fulford has written to invite parents/carers and the school community to the Remembrance Sunday Service at St James Church on Sunday 10th November, starting at 10.30am. We are all most welcome to attend.

#### **Friends of Audlem School – Lottery and Christmas Fair**

Everyone has been very generous with their donations to our Christmas Fair Tombola Stall as part of today's non-uniform day. We appreciate your help with this – thank you.

1) **School Lottery:** Support our school lottery today and help boost Friends of Audlem School funds which directly benefits our children. **See the attached leaflet for more information and how to sign up.**







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2) **06/12/2024 - CHRISTMAS FAIR – 5.00-6.30pm** - There will be traditional fair stalls, craft and a treasure hunt to keep children entertained and a selection of festive food and drink for all to enjoy. The Christmas raffle will be drawn at approximately 6pm. All funds raised will directly benefit our children.

### **Safety at the Beginning and End of the School Day**

I would like to remind all parents and carers that we must be considerate to our neighbours around school when dropping off and picking up as cars are still being parked in front of driveways. All children must be supervised once collected from school staff at the end of the school day and before being dropped off each morning. Children are NOT allowed onto the school field, trim trails or climbing frames before or after school. Thank you for your support in ensuring these safety guidelines are adhered to.

### **Reminder - Reception and High School places for September 2025**

The application process for children who are due to start school for the first time and those who are due to transfer to secondary school in September 2025, started this week. Please apply online at [www.cheshireeast.gov.uk](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk) or alternatively you can request an application form by contacting the Local Authority on 0300 123 5012.

Closing dates:-

31 October 2024 for Secondary admissions

15 January 2025 for Primary admissions

If you have friends who are interested in places at our school, could you please make sure they have our telephone number, to register their interest with us or **invite them to our final Open Morning on Friday 8 November 2024 from 9.30 to 11.00am.**

### **Brine Leas School - Updated Admission Policy**

Since the majority of our children transfer to Brine Leas each September, we have been asked to send out the following information to parents. The draft 2026-2027 admission policy for Brine Leas School is now on the [admissions page of the school website](#). Comments on this proposed change can be sent to [admissions@brineleas.co.uk](mailto:admissions@brineleas.co.uk) The consultation will run until 3.00pm on Wednesday 20th November.

### **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

