



**25<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

**Audlem St James CE Primary School**

This week marks the second-year anniversary of the start of the pandemic and its impact on our schools. What an extremely challenging twelve months it has been for us all; incredible to think last March that we would still be working under many restrictions, with pupils learning from home, pupils in school in bubbles and a whole raft of risk assessments and measures in place to keep everyone safe.

The seasons have now changed and we are officially in Spring where I hope new life can grow and we can keep on growing as a community. The children are still growing in their appetite for knowledge and this has been evident in the way all classes have been learning. I have been very fortunate to see an abundance of lessons ranging from Art about Ancient Greece, looking at poetry within English, to why we have seasons in Science. The children always amaze me by what they ask and how they take that knowledge and deliver questions which make not just the other children in the class think about the bigger picture but the adults as well.

**Thought of the Week**

New beginnings are always possible.



**Praise Book Children**

This week's Praise Book children are:

- Mrs Maughan and Mrs Burgess' Class - Erin Wynne**
- Mrs Kemp and Mrs Hayward's Class - Lochlan Entwistle**
- Mrs Richardson and Miss Ratcliffe's Class - Daniel Wynne**
- Mr Davies' Class - Jake Quigley**
- Miss Morris's Class - Isla Lambie**
- Mr Blenkiron's Class - Eleanor Wood**

You are all amazing Shining Stars!





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### The 5 'R's

As a school we are concentrating on the 5 'R's - **resilience, reflectiveness, responsibility, resourcefulness and readiness to learn**. These are the children who have shown such qualities this week:

**Resilience:** Tilly Baxter

**Reflectiveness:** Grace Farmer, Nessa Furber

**Responsibility:** Archie Wright

**Readiness to Learn:** Ariana Tudor, Maddie Wood and Betsy Hockenhull-Campbell

### Comic Relief - Amount Raised

We thought you would appreciate a breakdown of the very generous giving to Comic Relief last Friday.

- Sale of red noses: £185
- Donations for wearing red: £215
- Y6 cake stall sales: £122
- **TOTAL: £522**

This is an amazing response and we are very grateful. A marvellous number of donated cakes arrived in the Y6 classroom. The photos below show a fraction of the display and also show Y6 children selling the cakes outside in the sunshine.



### School

**Amethyst Class** We finished reading 'The Pirates are Coming' by John Condon and also read 'Commotion in the Ocean,' by Giles Andreae. We made 'Welcome Home' banners, wrote letters and researched sea creatures. In maths, we partitioned the numbers within 7, e.g. seeing that 7 can be made of 5 and 2. We also investigated missing parts. We played '7 or not 7?' with 2 different coloured cubes and played 'Bunny Ears,' showing a number of fingers that sum to 7. We also enjoyed practising singing songs for our Easter Service and played football in PE.

**Sapphire Class** This week, Sapphire class have been checking with Mr Bonell to see which eggs are almost ready to hatch. They have been working hard learning the songs for the Easter service next week. In maths the children have been applying their knowledge of greater than and less than to compare numbers. In English the children have been learning about nouns and adjectives through our task about sabre tooth tigers.

**Pearl Class:** In Year 2 this week we thoroughly enjoyed racing our fire engines! We have worked extremely hard designing and creating the moving vehicles, independently deciding and building a moving vehicle with either a fixed axle or a rotating axle. We also enjoyed writing instructions on how to make a moving vehicle with either a fixed axle or a rotating axle. It was so much fun and everyone successfully made a fire engine which could move! In Mathematics this week we have started to learn about Multiplication and we explored equal and unequal groups. In the Mastering Number sessions, we have explored near-doubles and how this can support with solving problems. In Science this week we researched what humans need to stay healthy, including healthy eating, exercise and hygiene and we then investigated the effect of exercise on our heart rate. In RE this week we put ourselves in the shoes of Abraham and considered our response if God spoke to us and asked us to do something. In Computing, we used a search engine to research inventors and their inventions.

**Amber Class:** In Amber class this week we have been converting, adding and subtracting measurements in maths and started on perimeters. In English, we have written a poem about a sea creature of choice, looked at adverbs of time and place and written information about what whales eat. In Science, we have looked at skeletons. We worked as a group to make our own skeleton and named human bones. In geography, we have written an explanation of the water cycle and explained why it is important to animals and plants that live in the rainforest.



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**Emerald Class** This week we have been looking at equivalent fractions in maths this week and also at fractions greater than one. In English we have practised handwriting and writing a letter from Tranio's parents to Livia and Tranio. The children performed their songs at the singfest concert and were absolutely outstanding! We looked at the lasting impact of the Roman Invasion into Britain in History and the class built their lego wedo2 froglet models in Computing. We will start coding the robots to move next week!

**Ruby Class** This week in maths, Ruby Class have been focusing on division using both the place chart method and the 'bus stop' method, ensuring their fluency with these methods was spot on before moving onto problems with remainders and reasoning problems - as well as eventually turning their remainders into decimals. In English, we have been continuing with *The Darkest Dark*; ordering events in the story and finding suitable adverbials of time, place and manner to go with each part of the story. In Science/History/Geography, we have been looking at dirt... We discussed how the Vikings wanted to settle in Britain was because our soil was better for growing crops than in Scandinavia. We decided to test where the Vikings would want to settle in our school grounds and have taken samples of soil from different areas to test. Later on in the week, we will see which area had the soil with the best percentages of sand, silt and clay: "loamy soil". We have also been working hard on our Easter Service contribution, and had an amazing time with ZooLab handling giant snails, corn snakes, bearded dragons and giant millipedes - as well as getting to see a rose hair tarantula!

**Diamond Class** This week, Year 6 had a wonderful visit from Zoolab who brought an exotic collection of animals for the children to handle. The only animal we didn't handle was Tallulah the tarantula! The experience really brought to life our Science learning about animals and their habitats. Medusa the snake was very popular as well as Turbo the giant land snail. The children have also been learning about different pop artists and have been creating some pop art of their own. There has been lots of singing practice taking place, and some have discovered high notes they didn't know they could reach!

#### **Attendance**

In EYFS/KS1 the best attendance was in Pearl class and, in KS2, Diamond class had the best attendance. Congratulations to both classes.

#### **PPG at Audlem Medical Practice - volunteers needed**

The chair of the Patient Participation Group (PPG) at Audlem Medical Practice has asked us to bring this to parents' attention. The PPG enables a two-way channel of communication between patients and the GP Practice. It means any suggestions, feedback or updates relating to the patient experience can be presented both ways. The eight volunteers have been meeting every three months, albeit virtually. If you would like to apply to join the PPG please contact Michael Willcocks at the Practice. They are especially keen to recruit some young members so that the PPG membership accurately reflects the whole patient demographic. They currently have 2 vacancies and their next meeting is on Wed 20 April, 6:30-7:30pm, so it would be great to introduce one or two new members then.

#### **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