

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



Newsletter 01 - 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021

## Headteacher's Note:

Hi everyone,

Firstly, I'd like say how lovely it is to see our children back looking so smart and eager to learn in their new classes. Everybody seems to have enjoyed their first full week back at school with no bubbles, which has allowed our pupils to mix with pupils from other year groups again at playtimes.

Although we have been able to relax some of our Covid procedures, we have still maintained some to keep our school community protected as much as possible. Unfortunately, we have had some confirmed cases of covid in both pupils and parents this week. It is important that we all follow the government guidelines set out for our school in our risk assessment, which can be found on our school website. We do require pupils to take a PCR test if they have any symptoms or if household members test positive for Covid, as well as taking regular LTF tests if required. The links for ordering LFT tests is <a href="https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests">https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests</a> and <a href="https://www.gov.uk/qet-coronavirus-test">https://www.gov.uk/qet-coronavirus-test</a> to book a PCR test.

It is essential that we all work together as a community to try to stop the spread of Covid, while allowing our daily lives to return to a sense of normality.

Kindest Regards

Karen Tearle



Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September: School Photographs

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October: Break-up for half-term

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November: Return to school

## PE:

Timetable	Indoor PE	Outdoor PE
Shooting Stars	Wednesday	Thursday
Racing Rockets	Tuesday	Thursday
Cosmic Comets	Wednesday	Thursday
Skyflyers	Monday	Wednesday
Starships	Monday	Wednesday
Stargazers	Monday	Wednesday
Explorers	Thursday	Tuesday
Aeronauts	Thursday	Tuesday

#### Indoor PE

Children must have their indoor PE kit in school to change into. Please note that sometimes indoor PE days may change so kit should be left in school for the full half term.

#### Outdoor PE

Children must come to school in their outdoor PE kit.

## Attendance:

6 <sup>th</sup> - 10 <sup>th</sup> September		
Reception Rangers M	92.6%	
Reception Rangers S	100%	
Shooting Stars	95.5%	
Racing Rockets	98.9%	
Cosmic Comets	91.1%	
Skyflyers	98.6%	
Starships	94.3%	
Stargazers	100%	
Explorers	99.3%	
Aeronauts	96.7%	

Congratulations to Reception Rangers S and Stargazers on 100% attendance.

## Meet our LearningMentor!

## About Me



Hello - My name is Victoria Petrylak and I am the Learning Mentor at Albrighton Primary. I have worked as a class teacher for 9 years and am passionate about supporting children's mental health and wellbeing as well as their academic attainment.

I joined the school in April 2021 and really enjoyed working with the pupils in Years 3 and 4 in the summer term. I am now looking forward to meeting more of the children and their families from across the school in my new role.

I have lived in Albrighton for 8 years after having been posted here with my husband's RAF career. Since living here, we have had our son, now aged 5 and a daughter, aged 3. We love how warm and welcoming the local community are and enjoy exploring Shropshire's beautiful countryside.

## My Favourites

Food: Chinese and home baking Movies: Inside Out

Colour: orange Place: A sunny beach, anywhere!

Sport: I enjoy walking, running and swimming Animal: Cat

Books: The Smeds and The Smoos by Julia Donaldson Subjects: English

## Cross Country

As the new school year starts, so do the fixtures and what a way to kickstart it by hosting the first race in the East Shropshire Cross Country Competition.

Even though it was extremely hot and awful running conditions the













children were incredible! 28 children represented Team A.P.S. with every kid finishing their race. Plenty of PBs, even more top 10 finishes and one incredible 1st place run (came first by 20 seconds).

So good to get back competing and even better to see so many schools and 100s of parents and children enjoying sport in the sun!

Bring on race #2 at Oldbury Wells next week!

Well done to all those who took part; runners and helpers.

## Wellbeing

Wellbeing is a term we hear a lot when discussing adults and young people - but we don't often think about it so much for young children under five. We know that rates of teenage mental health problems are



rising alarmingly and we are aware that young people can feel stressed at times. But it is important to support our youngest children's wellbeing as well, so we are setting them off to a great start in in life.

One critical factor in helping children improve their wellbeing is making sure that they know that they are loved for being the unique and precious individuals that they are. Parents and grandparents clearly have a crucial role to play in letting children know that they are unconditionally loved, but key workers, childminders and other early years practitioners have their own role to play in showing children that they are loved and wanted also.

Here are some practical ideas for supporting young children's wellbeing:

#### Playing Outside

Research shows that children have a need to be outside, taking opportunities to explore, discover, climb and run.

#### Use Emotional Language

We need to help children understand their feelings and using emotional language will help give them the vocabulary they need to understand their own feelings, as well as other people's. Even when children are babies we can start talking about their feelings. For example, when a baby is crying to be fed, we can say: "It's okay, I know you are feeling hungry. I am going to feed you now."

#### Stop Rushing

Our lives are often very busy, and our children's lives can often be busy too. We need to help children find the time to rest and experience moments of stillness. Do they have spaces where they can lay back and relax or daydream? You can also use yoga and mindfulness with young children. Both of these practices help children to find stillness.

#### Being Creative

Creativity is an essential part of wellbeing. We need to give children the space to be creative and join in the process with them. Find times to sing and dance with children, this can be a joyful experience. Give children the opportunity to experiment with a wide range of materials and mark-making tools. Creativity should be about enjoying the activity and not about having a finished product.

#### Join in

Children have a passion for learning and discovering. They need adults around them who want to learn and explore with them. Children are great at becoming fascinated by something – this might be the snail and sticks you see on the road as you are walking to the shops, or it might be a keen interest in dinosaurs. As adults we can express our own interests and delight our children by learning alongside them, allowing their natural interests to shape our daily activities.

Article taken from the Early Years Alliance website

## Information and Reminders



## Wings Club

The club will be starting next Tuesday lunchtime, 14<sup>th</sup> September, at 12:30pm.

Today two pupils from Year 6 have been talking to children across the school (Y1 to Y6) to tell them what and when it is.

The club is specifically designed for children from military families to come along, meet new friends and have a play.

#### Home Learning

We are updating our home learning class pages in case your child needs to self-isolate. Work will be updated on a weekly basis.

If you require any further support with this work, then please email your child's class teacher. Email addresses can also be found on the class page.

We have published a document that is on our website which gives details of resources to support reading and book related activities at home. It can be found at:

https://www.albrightonprimary.com/homelearning/websites-and-resources

Just click on the book worm picture for the latest document.

#### COVID 19 - LFT and PCR Tests

Lateral flow tests can be ordered online following this link and are usually delivered the next day. https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests

To book a PCR test follow this link <a href="https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test">https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test</a>

#### School Photographs

Our photographer will be in school on Thursday  $16^{th}$  September to take individual and sibling photographs. Children in KS1 (Shooting Stars, Racing Rockets and Cosmic Comets) should come to school in their normal school uniform and not their PE kit.

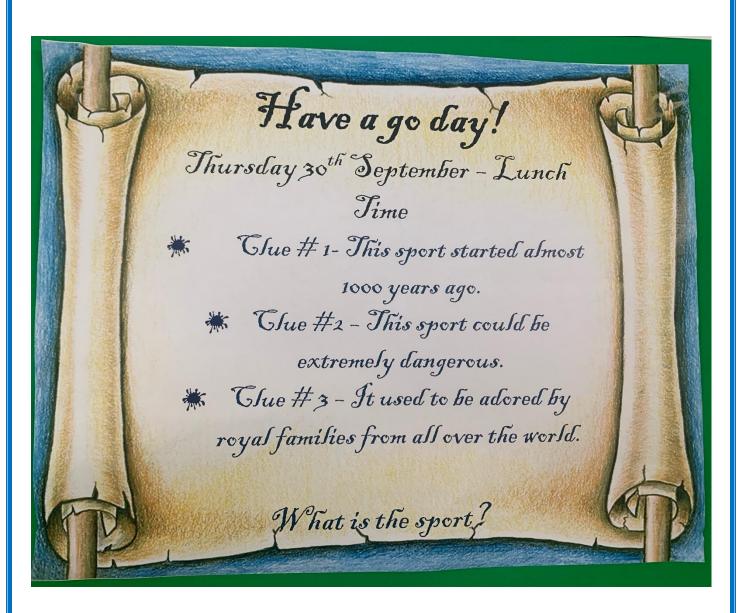
#### Lunchtime Supervisors

If you would like to register an interest in joining our dedicated team in ensuring the safety, welfare and enjoyment of our children during lunchtime, please contact Hayley Mason in the school office. We are seeking people, who are enthusiastic, caring and self-motivated for relief position and for when vacancies occur. The role involves supervising the children both in the dining room and outdoors, encouraging independence and promoting positive behaviour.

## New Sports

Every half term Mr Mountford is going to do a new 'wacky' sport that might be an old sport or a foreign sport for the children to try and there are clues up on the PE board to work out what it is before the day.

These are the clues to the first sport, which will take place on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September. Please encourage your child to try it.



## Memorable Experiences Reception Rangers M

Reception Rangers M have been settling into school really well this week...











## Memorable Experiences Reception Rangers S

Reception Rangers S have been really good at settling into their new school. We have had lots of fun making new friends and exploring our classroom.



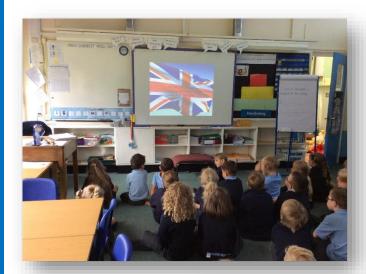


# Memorable Experiences KS1

As a starting point for our theme, we were invited to a tour of Buckingham Palace and to have tea with the Queen!

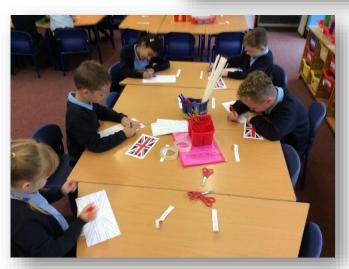
To enjoy this experience, we decorated biscuits (which we could eat!), made crowns and flags and built our own versions of Buckingham Palace.

We all had a great time.











# Memorable Experiences Years 3 and 4

We had a Royal banquet, designed a Tudor family crest, danced around the may pole and went apple bobbing!























# Year 5/6 Memorable Experience

We are learning about the solar system this term.

The children used fruit and toilet paper to create a representation of the solar system.











The children acted out a 'human orrery' to show how the Earth and Moon move around the Sun





The children created planet art based on the work of Leah Newton.













## Our Governing Body

#### What Does a School Governor Do?

Governors are responsible for overseeing the management side of a school: strategy, policy, budgeting and staffing. They enable their school to run as effectively as possible, working alongside senior leaders and supporting teachers to provide excellent education to children. Being a school governor is a commitment to attending governing body meetings which consider issues such as setting the school vision, mitigating financial risk and scrutinising educational outcomes. They are also involved in the school community, acting as critical friends to the headteacher and senior leaders. Governors bring a wide range of skills and expertise from their professional lives to the governing board and schools benefit greatly from working with skilled volunteers, for example anyone with experience of finance, law, premises management or human resources. A governor with business know-how can help transform the running of a school.

Governing bodies are the key strategic decision makers in every school. Along with the Headteacher, it is the job of a governing body to set the school's aims and objectives around how the school will develop and improve. They support setting of policies, formulate plans and agree targets to help the school achieve these objectives, as well as regularly reviewing their strategic framework in light of that progress.

The governing body is there to support and challenge the school's senior leadership team. They play a crucial role in holding the Headteacher to account for securing the best possible outcomes for pupils. By challenging key decisions and asking pertinent questions about the school's performance data, governors aim to guarantee high standards in education.

Full governing body meetings are held once a term and whilst there are many important aspects of the role, the most important is the business that takes place at these meetings. There are also committees for different aspects of running the school such as finance, premises and curriculum.

## Meet our Governors at Albrighton-

Chair Adrian Marsh

Vice Chair Cath Ratcliffe

Headteacher Julie Bratt

Co-opted Governors David Dale

Chris Jones Keith Lockley Damien Madine Di Rowlands

Parent Governors James Foster Booker

Tracey Lewis
Sheetal Mistry

Staff Governor Becky Roberts

Associate Governor Karen Tearle

## Our Community

## A Message from Albrighton & District Swimming Club



Thank you to everyone who has already shared their views about the pool - we really appreciate your feedback and suggestions which will be used to inform plans for next season ... and beyond! If you haven't already, please complete the short survey here:

https://forms.office.com/r/TDrPeFwzJw

Don't miss the chance to have your say!

#StaySafe #BeKind #JustKeepSwimming

### Albrighton Parish Council

## Albrighton Parish Council



# Donation Collection Point

SHROPSHIRE SUPPORTS REFUGEES

#### Donations can be made to:

Albrighton Parish Council Offices and Library Station Road Wolverhampton WV7 3OH

Monday to Friday 10.00am to 5.00pm Saturday 10.00am to 12.00noon

#### Examples of donations:

- Toiletries
- Canned vegetables/soup/fruit
- Packaged items with a long shelf life such as biscuits, crisps, cereal, confectionery bars
- · Tea and coffee
- · Small household items

## Thank you for your generosity

Please do not donate perishable items such as fresh vegetables/fruit, freshly prepared meals, milk, or any item with a short shelf life

The Parish Council only have limited space for starage prior to delivery to the charity.

We are sarry but we cannot accept large items such as furniture

The Parish Council are warking in partnership with the Charity – Shropshire Supparts Refugees
Please contact Shropshire Council if you would like to danate larger Items, provide accommodation or
donate money – 03456789000



## Never miss any school information again



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