

Headteacher's Note:

Hi everyone,

Mrs Tearle and I have been on a 'wider curriculum' learning walk this week. There is big focus in education now on more subjects besides English and Maths and children 'knowing more and remembering more' across the whole curriculum. Class teachers all have a subject to lead across school and the role and responsibility profile, in all maintained schools of what this entails has been raised. We certainly saw the impact of this during our visits. In every class we went into, it was wonderful to see how enthusiastic children of all abilities are about their learning. Their knowledge and understanding of higher level facts and vocabulary is impressive. There is a saying out there in education currently: 'practice makes permanent' and this is certainly true here at Albrighton.

I am very proud of all of our pupils and also our staff who work incredibly hard!

Kind Regards

Julie Bratt

Dates for your diary



Week Commencing 18th

October:

Parents Evening - email sent to parents

Thursday 21st October:

Special Halloween Menu (see attached)

Thursday 21st October:

Break-up for half-term

Monday 1st November:

Return to school

Tuesday 30th November:

Deadline for donation for Bag2School collection

Friday 17th December:

Break-up for Christmas

Wednesday 5th January:

Return to school

Class Heroes:

Reception Rangers M:

Adam

Eleanor

Reception Rangers S:

Mia

Albert

Shooting Stars:

Oliver

Harper

Racing Rockets:

Phoebe

Darcy

Cosmic Comets:

Jordan

Charlie

Well Done!



Attendance:

11th to 15th October

Reception Rangers M	86.7%
Reception Rangers S	94.8%
Shooting Stars	95.7%
Racing Rockets	96.6%
Cosmic Comets	96.8%
Skyflyers	95.7%
Starships	95.5%
Stargazers	90.6%
Explorers	97.2%
Aeronauts	96.0%

The Albrighton Book Worm



The Importance of Reading Stories to children

It's undeniable that a child's reading skills are important to their success in school and life in general. It is possible to help ensure your child's success by reading to them starting at a very early age. Here at Albrighton we believe that we shouldn't just teach children to be fluent readers but also to develop a love for reading. Everyday we end with a story time in class as well as incorporating stories, songs, rhymes and poems into our lessons when appropriate.

7 Benefits of Reading to Children

Whether you're reading a classic novel or fairy tales before bed, reading aloud to children can significantly benefit your child's life. Some benefits of reading to children include:

- Supported cognitive development
- Improved language skills
- Preparation for academic success
- Developing a special bond with your child
- Increased concentration and discipline
- Improved imagination and creativity
- Cultivating lifelong love of reading

Remember you can find more information to support you with reading at home on our website.

[School Jotter - Site \(schooljotter2.com\)](http://schooljotter2.com)

With this newsletter, we attach a list of '100 books to read before you leave primary school'. It may give you a Christmas present idea.

Call for more book reviews-

Children if you would like to write your own book review on your favourite book and receive a prize from Mrs Tearle, then please get writing. Review must include: your name, class, title and author of the book, an overview of what the story is about, why you really like it and how many stars out of 5 you would give it. Reviews can be hand written and handed to Mrs Tearle or emailed to the school office.

More Information

Please look at your child's class page on the school website for photos and information about what your child is learning at school. There are also useful resources and tips from the teachers to support with your child's reading at home.

Growth Mindset



At Albrighton Primary School, we know that pupils who have a positive attitude towards their learning will make good progress and be successful.

Consequently, instilling all our pupils with 'growth mindsets' has become a key priority for the school this term and beyond especially following the recent lockdowns.

We have introduced the theories of Dr Carol Dweck to staff and pupils and are determined to embed its ideas within our school ethos.

We want all our pupils to relish challenges, embrace their mistakes as part of the learning process, value the importance of effort, respond carefully to feedback and take inspiration from others. This will help them to achieve, not only with us, but also in their future lives as adults. We are very excited about the prospect of nurturing a growth mindset culture at our school over the coming months and seeing our pupils 'bounce back' from all of the disruption they have endured over the last year.

Encouraging children to become confident and resilient learners

We know that in order to fulfil the potential of our pupils and encourage them to become confident and resilient learners we, as a team of parents and staff, need to be modelling the mindset of a learner who is not afraid of making mistakes but who thrives upon them, knowing that this is all part of the learning process. The way in which we encourage children to learn and explore is vital to their success, not only at school but at home as well.

Central to this attitude and approach to learning, are the theories and proven evidence of Growth Mindset. This is a term coined by psychologist Carol Dweck and her research has identified the characteristics of learners with a fixed and a growth mindset:

For further information on how to encourage confident and resilient learners at home, have a look at some of the links below.

<https://www.mindsetworks.com/parents/growth-mindset-parenting>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/help-your-child-try-new-things>

<https://www.oxfordlearning.com/growth-mindset-tips-for-parents/>



Health and Wellbeing



When times get tough

Sometimes you might worry about your child's mental health. While you might need to speak to a member of school staff or your GP for advice, here are a few things you can do if you're worried.

Let your child know that you're concerned

Explain why you feel that way, for example if you've noticed they haven't been interested in activities they usually enjoy.

Use activities that you do together to have conversations about how they are doing

Talking whilst doing something together, side-by-side, such as cooking or an art activity, can help them share their feelings more easily than a face-to-face conversation.

Let them know that struggling sometimes is normal and nothing to be ashamed of

Tell them about the mental health spectrum and that we all, including you, go up and down the scale throughout our lives. Reassure them that talking about difficult feelings with the people we trust is a brave thing to do.

Listen and empathise

Often the first step to feeling better is feeling connected and knowing that someone is alongside you. Empathy helps young people (and adults) connect. Empathy involves acknowledging what your child is feeling, trying to understand things from their point of view and avoiding judgement. Empathy is usually more helpful than giving advice or trying to 'fix' their problem.

If you're still worried

Talk to a trusted member of school staff or your GP who can point you towards sources of help. Remember you can look at our school website under the Mental Health and Wellbeing section for more advice and support.

Internet Safety

It can be difficult to know how to start talking to your child about what they're seeing and doing online or who they might be speaking to. But talking regularly, like you would about their day at school, will help your child feel relaxed and mean that when they do have any worries, they're more likely to come and speak to you. It can help to:

- reassure them that you're interested in their life, offline and online. Recognise that they'll be using the internet to research homework as well talking to their friends.
- ask your child to show you what they enjoy doing online or apps they're using so you can understand them.
- be positive but also open about anything you're worried about. You could say "I think this site's really good" or "I'm a little worried about things I've seen here."
- ask them if they're worried about anything, and let them know they can come to you.
- ask them about their friends online and how they know they are who they say they are.
- listen for the reasons why your child wants to use apps or site you don't think are suitable, so you can talk about these together.
- ask your child what they think's okay for children of different ages so they feel involved in the decision making.

Here are some useful links to websites that can support your conversation and help you understand more about the uses and dangers of the internet for young people.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/social-media-advice-hub/social-media-tips-and-advice/>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/social-media-advice-hub/social-media-concerns/>

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/tiktok/>

Worried about a child online?

If you're worried about something a child or young person may have experienced online, you can contact the NSPCC helpline for free support and advice. Call them on 0808 800 5000

Children can contact Childline any time to get support themselves.

Safer Schools

Yesterday, we held our Safer Schools meeting with a representatives from Shropshire Council, the local community police and school representatives, including governors, staff and pupils. Albrighton has held the Safer Schools accreditation for many years now, but due to Covid, meetings haven't taken place for a while.



The initiative is a holistic, practical and realistic approach to school security and personal safety. It gives our school a clear focus on the subject and turns a negative subject into a positive one. It sets a minimum standard for school security.

The essential elements of the 'Safer School' process include:-

- Implementing a security policy that the governors have adopted.
- Consulting parents/carers and pupils/students for their views and updating them on any progress.
- Publicity of Safer Schools to school staff, pupils, school neighbours, parents and prospective parents.
- Establishing a Safer School Group. This Safer School Group is a partnership of school stakeholders - Headteacher/Deputy, staff, governors, parents, pupils, neighbours, Shropshire Council and West Mercia Police.
- Regularly reviewing and implementing good practice and essential security/safety measures for staff, pupils, the site and assets.
- Educating pupils through the Personal, Social, Health and Economic curriculum programme or the Safer School folder.
- A daily procedure for recording incidents should they occur i.e. trespass, burglary, theft, anti-social behaviour, vandalism, arson, suspicious activity etc., both during school hours and out-of-hours.
- Solving real problems rather than perceived problems. Prioritising work (if any) and reviewing action.
- If there are security issues i.e. vandalism, anti-social behaviour etc., the intention of the initiative is to reduce/eliminate the issues.

Albrighton Primary & Nursery School

"Our school is a Safer School"



We implement essential security/safety measures for staff, pupils & property.

Security/safety is regularly reviewed by our Safer School Group.

If parents have an issue or concern, the Safer School Group needs to know.

Through our newsletters we update parents on Safer School progress.

Visitors on our school grounds wear a school visitor badge.



School problems are reviewed by our Safer School Group.

We use a risk management process and analyse issues or problems.

We consult parents/carers and pupils for their views.

The school's curriculum illustrates how crime or problems impact on a school and life.

The school governors have endorsed the Safer School scheme.

Our curriculum includes good citizenship.

We have professional advice and support from the Police and Council.



For further information on 'Safer Schools' please contact
Ian Bartlett - tele (01743) 252821 or 252819
E mail - ian.bartlett@shropshire.gov.uk



As part of our pupil voice, we have set up a pupil Safer Schools group, who will meet with Mrs Tearle and other interested parties, half termly to look at how we can improve safety from the point of view of our pupils. They have already made some great suggestions that we hope to put into place very soon.

As part of the process, we would appreciate your views as parents. Please complete our Safer Schools questionnaire <https://forms.office.com/r/wd1dpDWgdF> . It would be useful to have as much feedback as possible so it can be considered at our next Safer School meeting in February. The focus of the survey is the school grounds/site so any observations you have would be gratefully received.

Questions to ponder:

- Do you feel that the school site is a safe site?
If 'no' what do you feel could be done to improve the situation?
- Do you feel that the site is tidy and welcoming?
If 'no' what would you suggest?
- Do you consider the current school and directional signage around the site to be adequate?
If 'no' what would you suggest?
- Are you aware that as a parent/carer visitor during the day, you should report to the school reception via the main entrance?
- You should be aware that daytime visitors are asked to wear a school visitor badge and staff should wear their school IDs. Do you feel that both the visitor badges and staff ID system are well deployed and evident on the occasions when you visit?
- Unauthorised use of school grounds can be an issue for some schools. Are you currently aware of any unauthorised people using our school site out-of-hours? This would include people walking dogs?





HARVEST

On 7th October, we celebrated Harvest at school with two assemblies taken by Revd Mary and Revd Jess from St. Mary's church.

The theme for the assembly was the potato and how important the potato is in so many ways. We focussed on being grateful for the food we have.



Being Grateful



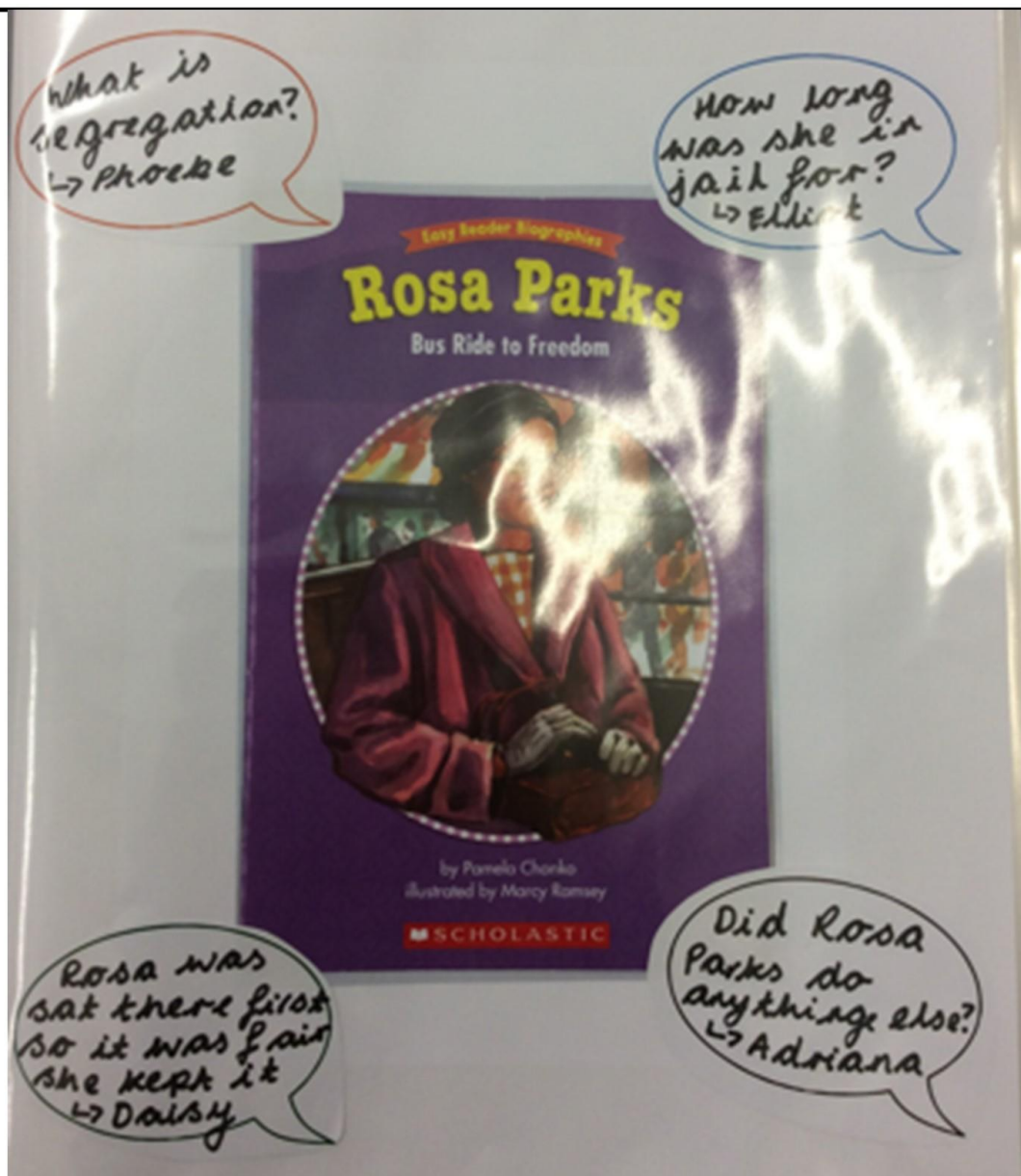
Thank you

Thank you for the excellent contributions of food that we can now send to the Albrighton Food Bank. This food will be distributed to local families and people in need.

Black History Month

Year 1/2: Rosa Parks

Year 1 and 2 listened to the true story of Rosa Parks. They also watched a video too to reinforce key messages. They recalled key facts and considered why we remember her.



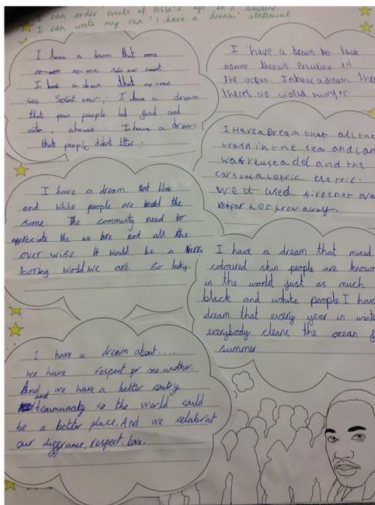
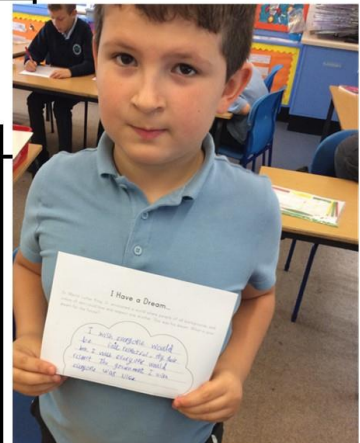
Black History Month

Year 3/4: Martin Luther King

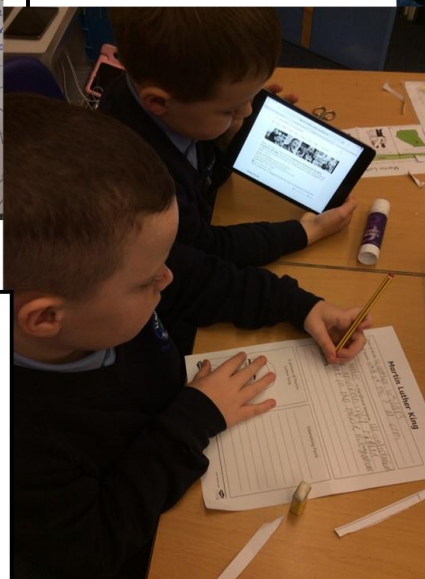


We ordered some of the main events of his life chronologically.

We thought about MLK's famous 'I have a dream' speech. We thought about our own dreams for ourselves and our planet.



We researched and wrote fact files about MLK.



Martin Luther King	
Date of birth	He died on the 4 th April 1968
Date of death	He was born on the 15 January 1929
<p>Martin Luther King is significant because he told speeches in America to make it a better place for black people. He His most famous speech was in Washington D.C. and it was called I had a dream.</p>	
<p>A picture of Martin Luther King</p>	<p>Interesting Facts</p> <p>His birth name is Michael not Martin. He received entered college age 15. He was imprisoned 30 times. He received his Nobel peace prize in 1964. He was a baptist minister and a civil rights activist.</p>

Information and Reminders

Zoom Club



Bookings for Zoom Club can be made using our paper booking form or our new online booking form <https://forms.office.com/r/N33iQvQKUn>. Booking forms are available from our

website: [Albrighton Primary School and Nursery - Session Booking Forms](#)

Bookings for November must be sent to us by Tuesday 19th October, in order that we can ensure correct staffing for after half term.

Bookings are increasing and we are unable to guarantee that we will be able to accommodate late requests for places.

Parking Outside School

Further to the Headteacher's letter of 8th October regarding the impact on children's safety by parents illegally parking on the yellow zigzag signs outside the gates, there continue to be cars parked in a morning and evening. It is disappointing that these parents continue to put children's lives at risk.

With effect from Monday 18th October we will be taking details of cars parked on the yellow zig-zags and will pass them onto the police.

School Dinners

Vicky will be serving a special Halloween menu on Thursday 21st October and a revised menu for Monday to Wednesday. Menu are at the end of the newsletter.

Vicky is hard at work creating a new menu for the winter and details will be sent next week.

School Uniform

A reminder to parents that all school uniform including PE kits and coats need to have your child's name in it. Our lost property collection is getting larger and we are unable to reunite items as they are not named.

It is part of our home school agreement that our school uniform policy is adhered to. There are increased cases of children wearing of nail varnish and jewellery and the size/colour of hair accessories, all of which are outside policy. We hope we can rely on your support in addressing this issue.

TikTok Warning

We are aware that some of our pupils are using TikTok outside of school. This is not a safe site for children as there are currently many things on there that are causing real safety concerns. The official age for the site is 13+ due to the content which is not appropriate for children below this age restriction.

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 <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

Halloween Menu

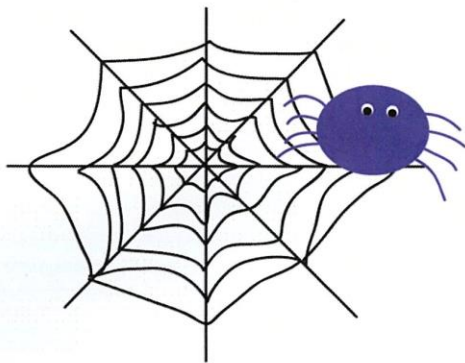
Thursday 21st October



Bat-itious Burgers
(Beef or veggie burger in a bun
topped with a cheese shaped bat)



Frightful Fingers
(pork or veggie sausages in a
wrap with tomato ketchup)



Cobwebs
(lattice potato)

Sweetcorn
Baked Beans



Graveyard Pots
(orange jelly, banana angel delight topped Oreo soil & bugs)

Eye-Scream
(with strawberry sauce & smarties)

Orange Pumpkins & Banana Ghosts





October

Weeks Commencing: 18th October 2021

	Marvellous Monday	Tasty Tuesday	Wicked Wednesday	Thrilling Thursday	Fruity Friday
MAINS	Pizza- Cheese & tomato (v) Pizza- salami Or Jacket potato Cheese (v) Beans (v) Tuna ~~~	Chicken Cordon Bleu (Breaded chicken fillet served with a cheese & ham sauce) Or Cheese Toasties (v) ~~~	Roast chicken Yorkshire pudding Gravy Or Quorn fillet (v) Yorkshire pudding Gravy ~~~	Bat-ilious Burgers Or Frightful Fingers (Veggie option available in both choices) ~~~	~~~~~
SIDES	Potato smiles Baked beans Sweetcorn ~~~~~	Penne Pasta Baked beans Broccoli ~~~~~	Roast potatoes Creamed potatoes Baby carrots Peas ~~~~~	Cobwebs (lattice potatoes) Sweetcorn Baked beans ~~~~~	~~~~~
DESSERTS	Flapjack Fruit salad Yogurts	Chocolate crunch Fruit salad Yogurts	Vanilla & Jam sponge & custard Fruit salad Yogurts	Graveyard pots Eye-Scream Orange pumpkins Banana Ghosts	~~~~~ 
	Wrap	Sandwich	Wrap	No cold option	