

Ermine Street Church Academy Newsletter

Issue 053 1st March 2019



A Year 6 team took part in the Rotary Quiz Night yesterday. They scored 112 out of 150 and had lots of fun. They also earned £50 for our school. Congratulations!

Dear Parents,

Since our last Newsletter our SIAMS inspection has taken place. It went extremely well and we hope to have a report to share with you very soon. Children, parents and members of the community were heavily involved and we are extremely appreciative of their contribution. I would also like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to staff for all of their ongoing hard work.

A plea—Please, please ensure that your child has a water bottle and a PE kit in school every day. This week I observed a PE session in which 4 children were unable to take part because they didn't have the appropriate kit. This means that an essential part of the curriculum is missed and healthy lifestyles are impacted on. Thank you.

Looking ahead to next week, we have some great events; particularly the Big Breakfast to mark Shrove Tuesday, World Book Day on Thursday and Hercules' Class Assembly on Friday.

With best wishes,

Mr Adrian Shepherd, Headteacher

Thunderbolt

Attendance this week = 99.1% (last time = 96.8%)

What a very busy first few days Thunderbolt have had since returning back to school! We have opened a café, put on some performances with our wonderful spoon puppets (many sang nursery rhymes), sent musical boxes off to kings and used gummy bears to help us with maths. In addition to all this, we have focused on the story 'Biscuit Bear'; we opened our own circus, just like Biscuit Bear did, and came up with some brilliant shared sentences. It also gave us an idea for our upcoming picnic, so we have been busy baking our own biscuit bears especially for you to eat - we promise we had very clean hands when we made them! We have turned our hands to some sewing too, making the beginnings of a hand puppet; the focus and determination we have shown has been amazing, but it does take quite a long time to get it done. We will continue with our sewing next week too..!

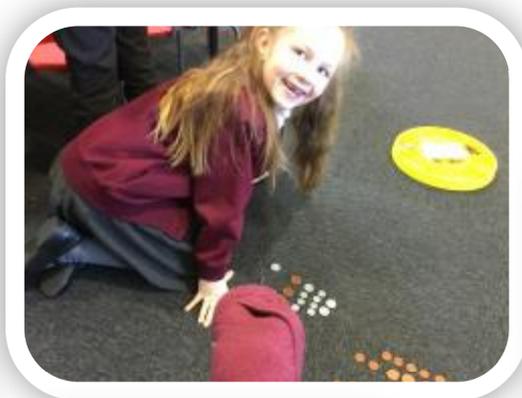


Dakota

Attendance this week = 97.8% (last time = 98.3%)

We have had a fabulous start back after half term. This half term, we are exploring and investigating plants. We have four plants growing in class at the moment as part of an experiment to see what conditions they grow best in. We have one control plant, a plant with no water, a plant with no sunlight and a plant with no soil (this was messy but very much enjoyed!). We are making sure to take care of them by giving them a little bit of water each day and the sunlight this week seems to have helped most of them grow quite tall already!

Adding and subtracting money has been our focus in Maths. In Year 1, we have been recognising different coin and note values, using our number bonds to 10 and 20 and adding and subtracting with a number line. In Year 2, we have been adding and subtracting amounts by partitioning and then moved onto column addition (without carrying) and solving problems such as finding change from a £1 coin. See if they can help you count or pay for items over the next couple of weeks.



Messages from the School Office

We now have 2 spaces for children to take up drumming lessons with Tom Relihan every Monday. Please contact the school office for further details.

On Wednesday 13th March the school meal menu will be different. Just as we had a special menu on Castle Day and Titanic Day, we have a menu to fit with Liberator's Egyptian Day. The menu accompanies this Newsletter.

Tornado

Attendance this week = 100% again! (last time = 100%)

This week Tornado class have been focused on trying to work as a team and show kindness to each other. We have had lots of fun working in different groups. In RE we mixed ourselves up to act out the story of Mathew and how he became a disciple. We enjoyed getting to play different characters especially being the grumpy characters who thought they knew it all. We began this half term's Science by starting an investigation. We are trying to find out if a plant will survive with only two of the three things it needs. We are giving out first plant everything it needs, the second we are starving of sun light, the third we are taking water away from and the final one has had its soil removed. We are excited to see how the plants will look in a month and we are already starting to notice a difference with one of the plant in particular!

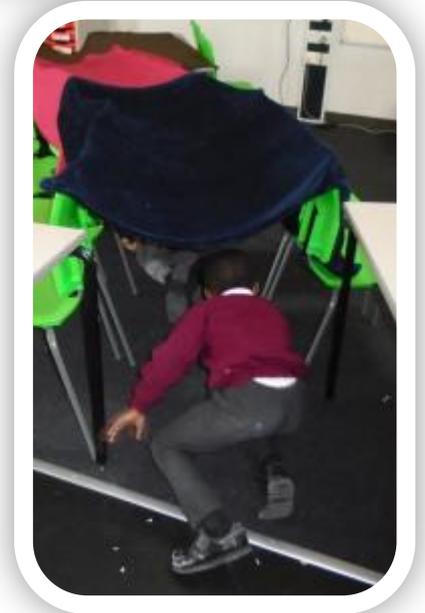
In English this week Year 1 have focused on singular and plural nouns, we have been looking for examples of these in books and learning about why some plural noun words end in just 's' and some end in 'es'. Year 2 have been exploring possessive apostrophes and thinking about how verbs change in the past and present tense. We really enjoyed thinking about things that belonged to us!



Liberator

Attendance this week = 98.4% (last time = 95.2%)

In Liberator, we have had a very busy start to term. We have been the archaeologist Howard Carter and learnt about how Tutankhamen's tomb was discovered and that as a ruler he was not famous, he is only famous now because of the way he was discovered. We had to quickly look at some artefacts before crawling back out of the tomb as after being sealed for a few thousand years it had lots of poisonous gases. We enjoyed working as a team in the sun to draw pictures of the artefacts. We have also begun to create green screen videos about the discovery of a tomb and they already look good even before we've changed the background. Not only this, but we have been started to make our own 3D death masks which look really good (although Liberator weren't sure about the messy hands!). Next week we will paint them to look as authentic as we can.



Collective Worship

This term our theme is Fruits of the Spirit.

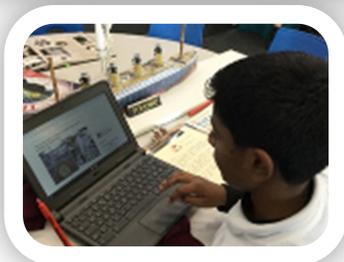
This week we have been reflecting on 'Goodness' and how goodness comes from within and isn't just about doing 'good things'. Next week we will be celebrating the start of Lent.

Hercules

Attendance this week = 98.9% (last time = 96.8%)

Just before half-term, Hercules arrived at school to be transported back in time to 14th April 1912. We 'boarded the Titanic' and spent the day exploring what the boat was like inside, as well as investigating the real people who travelled and worked on board using a range of different records and information sources. We then used the information we found out to write letters as real life passengers, from the ship to loved ones. We dined in style at lunchtime, in our own first class dining saloon, and ended the day with an afternoon tea, with food from the last menu on the Titanic. We also took time to reflect on the people whose lives were sadly lost when the boat sank, and the children's impromptu prayers at the end made it a poignant moment during an otherwise busy and exciting day.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped to make the day extra special, including families who baked cakes and scones, Mr Bridges for our wonderful lunch menu, as well as Marks and Spencer, Waitrose, MM Flowers, and Urban and Civic for their kind support with loans of equipment and donations.



From Revd. Rob

Are you listening?

It is the Big Pancake Breakfast next Tuesday which in the Christian year is the day before the beginning of Lent. In many ways Lent is a period of focussed listening. Listening to self (body, mind and spirit); Listening to others (how we care for and love them); and Listening to God (how we live out our lives). This is what we are going to be looking at in our next Alconbury Weald Church service 'Interactive' March 10th (see flier attached). Whether or not you observe Lent, this time of year is a good time for some focussed Listening. So are you listening?



Dates For Your Diary

5th March 8am	Big Pancake Breakfast.
7th March	World Book Day—Children bring in their favourite book, second-hand book sale after school.
8th March 9am	Hercules class assembly followed by Sharing Learning.
12th March 3pm	Football match v Alconbury C of E Primary.
13th March	Liberator class Egyptian Day.
14th March	Afternoon tea for local retired and older residents.
15th March 9am	Thunderbolt class assembly followed by Sharing Learning.
22nd March 9am	Liberator class assembly followed by Sharing Learning.
27th March 8.50am	Coffee morning—everyone welcome.
28th March 8.50am	Prayer Group.
29th March 9am	Tornado class assembly followed by Sharing Learning.
29th March 12.30pm	Mothers' Day Lunch.
5th April	Last day of Spring term.
23rd April	Teacher training day. Hangar Club open.
24th April	First day of the Summer term.