ST LAWRENCE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

10th January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a lovely break and are looking forward to the Spring term. The children have returned with smiles on their faces and are working hard. We have been talking to them about showing listening bodies and used the Chinese symbol (see overleaf) to explain our expectations for listening: using not only our ears to hear but also our eyes to see, our hearts to feel, our undivided attention to focus and our minds to think, making the point that listening is an active action, not a passive one!

At the very end of term, we had a few events which we want to share with you. One of the highlights was a very successful second Poetry Slam. This time we invited some of the Governors in to judge the competition. They heard a range of poems being performed by each class: some that were funny and some that were poignant. The poems that were memorised by the children were: Year R – Twinkle, twinkle Christmas Lights; Year 1 – A little frosty snowman action song; Year 2 – Someone by Walter de la Mare; Year 3 - Silly Old Baboon by Spike Milligan; Year 4 - Windrush child by John Agard; Year 5 - It was the Night before Christmas by Clement Clarke Moore; Year 6 - Invictus by William Ernest Henley. The Governors found it such a hard job to choose one winner that they broke with tradition and awarded a Key Stage 1 winner which was Willow Class and a Key Stage 2 winner which was Maple Class. Well done to all the children and staff who put so much effort in to this.

Year 5 completed a two-week project with the DT department at Amery Hill and created some amazing motorised buggies. They learnt skills (see below) such as using a glue gun, sawing, various joining techniques and how to adapt their designs to make their buggies unique.

Congratulations to Ruby Brooks-Abrahamsen for winning the primary category of the ACAN Pollinators Poster competition. We heard this exciting news on the last day of term that Ruby had produced a beautiful poster and has been invited to the community centre to collect her prize. The email we received said, "The judges said your poster was really informative and beautifully presented." Well done Ruby!

Thank you to all of you for supporting the PTA Christmas raffle – they made a fantastic amount of money. Thank you to the volunteers who helped to organise the event. It was a great success.

In Collective Worship, we have been looking at Epiphany and the tradition of chalking the door. Our Collective Worship Crusaders created signs to go over each of their classroom doors with the symbols: 20 + C + M + B + 25. This means "in 2025, may God bless this house" It is also the initials of the three Kings.
I hope you all have a lovely weekend.
Take care, Fiona Micklefield

PARENT QUOTE

"My children are truly flourishing in your school because of the fabulous care and guidance that is wrapped all around them. We are very blessed and appreciative to know that they are having such a great primary school experience."

GOVERNOR QUOTE

"Thank you so much for such a special half an hour! What a privilege to watch everyone perform so animatedly and with pride. I thought the poems were obviously carefully chosen and worked so well for each age group. The children clearly enjoy learning the lines and actions, it was so difficult to choose!"





COLLECTIVE WORSHIP THEMES

For this half term, we are focusing on:

- Epiphany
- Jesus' miracles
- Fair Trade Fortnight
- Light

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MESSAGE FROM THE PTA:

I hope you had a lovely Christmas; although it already seems a distant memory! Thank you to everyone that brought raffle tickets, donated cakes and came to our Christmas cafe. We sold out of raffle tickets for the first time this year and between raffle ticket sales and the cafe we made a fantastic £671.44.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 23rd January at 6pm (to be held in school). All parents are welcome and anyone can join us throughout any stage of the school year. There is no commitment to help at all our events; it would be lovely to see some new faces. The more help we have the more funds we can raise for all the children to benefit within the school.

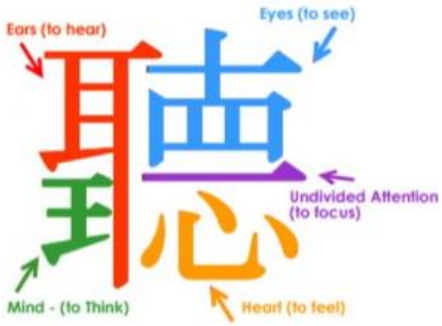
Kate Miller - PTA Chair

PE days for Spring 1

MON	Y1 & Y6
TUES	Y4 & YR
WED	Y5
THURS	Y2
FRI	Y3

ATTENDANCE
w/c 6 Jan 2025

Year R – 97.41%
Year 1 – 93.33%
Year 2 – 99.01%
Year 3 – 92.04%
Year 4 – 98.16%
Year 5 – 90.73%
Year 6 – 92.28%



The Chinese symbol for listening

COMMUNITY & PARISH INFORMATION

Available to anyone without referral:

Alton Community Cupboard: Open on:

Monday 12pm-1pm.
Tuesday 7pm-8pm.
Wednesday 12pm-1pm.
Thursday 7pm-8pm.
Friday 12pm-1pm.
Saturday 12.30pm-1.30pm (excluding market Saturdays).

Alton Clothes Bank: Open Tues 9.30am-11.00am, St. Mary`s Church

GLOW – a group for Key Stage 2 children in St Lawrence Church every Thursday afternoon 3.15-4.15pm

Messy Church – Alton Methodist Church (1st Saturday of the month at Alton Methodist Church)

Collective Worships - All welcome - Thursday mornings in St Lawrence Church 9.00-9.30am

Teddies – A toddler group on a Monday morning in term time in the church for free play, activities, music, stories and prayer. 9.30-10.30 but someone is there in the church from 9.00am.

REMINDERS

13 January	HMS Guitar Lessons
13 January	KS2 Dance Activity Club
13 January	KS1 Multisport Activity Club
14 January	Maple – Dance – (Main Hall)
14 January	KS2 Football Activity Club
14 January	KS1 Dance Activity Club
15 January	Woodwind Music Lessons
15 January	KS2 Drama Activity Club
15 January	KS1 Football Activity Club
16 January	KS2 Multisport Activity Club
17 January	Beech – Swimming
20 January	HMS Guitar Lessons
20 January	Family Time
20 January	KS2 Dance Activity Club
20 January	KS1 Multisport Activity Club
20 January	Fair Trade Fortnight (to 31 January)
21 January	Maple – Dance – (Main Hall)
21 January	KS2 Football Activity Club
21 January	KS1 Dance Activity Club
21 January	Sycamore – Young Shakespeare Company
22 January	Woodwind Music Lessons
22 January	KS2 Drama Activity Club
22 January	KS1 Football Activity Club
22 January	PTA Meeting – All Parents Welcome
23 January	KS1 Dance Activity Club
23 January	KS2 Multisport Activity Club
24 January	Beech – Swimming
27 January	HMS Guitar Lessons
27 January	Beech – Vedic Society Hindu Temple
27 January	KS2 Dance Activity Club
27 January	KS1 Multisport Activity Club
28 January	KS2 Football Activity Club
28 January	KS1 Dance Activity Club
28 January	Maple – Dance – (Main Hall)
29 January	Woodwind Music Lessons
29 January	KS2 Drama Activity Club
29 January	KS1 Football Activity Club
30 January	Violin Lessons – Library
30 January	KS2 Multisport Activity Club
31 January	Beech - Swimming