



Our Value
for March is
Respect

February
2021



Message from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers

The Prime Minister announced this week that the Government has set out its plan for the return of all pupils to schools and colleges, as part of the roadmap for leaving lockdown. All primary school pupils will return to school on Monday 8th March. Primary school staff will continue to take two rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) tests each week at home to identify any positive cases more quickly and help to prevent any further transmission. All staff and visitors will wear face coverings during the school day, especially in situations where social distancing between adults is not possible. This will include inside and outside the classroom and I must ask that parents and carers do the same - children are not required at this time to wear face coverings.

I am delighted that our pupils will finally be able to receive the face-to-face teaching they so desperately need and deserve. Over the last few weeks all the staff have been delivering first class lessons remotely. Nevertheless, I think we will all agree, that the best place for the children, is in school. The children will remain in their year group bubbles for now until we have received further guidance from the DfE. We will still keep the children in their class groups as much as possible too. This last year has been an incredibly difficult time for everyone and whilst there is a brighter future ahead of us all, we must take a moment to remember those that have been lost to the virus and our thoughts and prayers are with their families. If there is anyone that needs support through this time, please do get in touch and we will try our very best to support you.

All pupils will need support to transition back to school. We will certainly focus on pupil well-being and assessments will be used to identify areas where pupils are likely to require additional support. At Ashmole Primary School we will be delivering extra catch up programmes after school for children in Years 1-4 - further information will follow in due course. This will be led by teachers, HLTAs, SDs and tutors. The funding from the government will help support programmes led during and after school. In order to support pupils who have fallen behind, structured interventions, which may be delivered one to one or in small groups, will be used. A particular focus for interventions will be for reading/ literacy and numeracy. Information will be shared with parents/carers on intervention programmes used during the school day.

Breakfast and After School Club will return on 8th March, like before, with pupils in their year group bubbles. If you would like your child to attend and you have not yet informed Mrs Mittins, please do so as soon as possible.

Foundation Sports will also resume their sports clubs and further details about this will be confirmed in due course. We also hope to have some holiday clubs set up.

Next week, you should receive your child's Mid-Year report. If you have any concerns or questions regarding this, please speak to your child's class teacher during the Parent Consultations which are due to take place on Zoom towards the end of March.

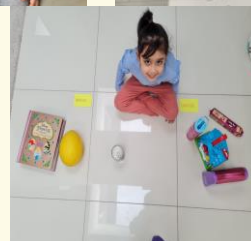
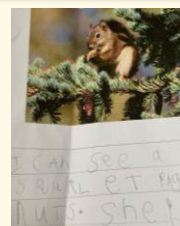
With my very best wishes to you all.

Mr Tofallis
Head Teacher



Reception

Orion class have been absolutely amazing with their online learning whilst still continuing to have huge smiles on their faces, it won't be long now until we are all back at school together. The children have enjoyed learning about different measures in maths such as weight, length and time and it has been wonderful to see some of the clocks they have been making at home. We are now becoming more confident in attempting to write sentences independently and it is amazing to see the children using their phonics knowledge to help them. I am so proud of you all and I cannot wait to see you all again at school. Well done Orion class!



Calypso class have had another great month of remote learning! I have been super impressed with the amount of the positivity that each child in our class has shown during this time. This month, we have been busy exploring length, weight and time in maths. The children had lots of fun at home investigating these different areas of measurement and using mathematical language to describe different objects. In phonics, we have now finished learning all of our phase 3 sounds. The children have produced excellent pieces of writing, especially in their letter to the Little Red Hen and when making their own non-fiction books about food, using all of the sounds they have learned to help them write their sentences. I am so excited for all of the children to return to school shortly - we can't wait to see you!

Year 1

Our lovely Luna class, you have all continued to be absolutely amazing during our online live lessons. You have focused so well and all shared your ideas with your peers. It has been wonderful to see you all enjoying our topics and uploading such great work each day. Many of you have shown lots of interest in our topic about Victorian houses and are excited to create a whole class non-fiction book. It was also great to see such enthusiasm during our DT day when you all created beautiful Easter cards for your friends and families. Mrs Tibbs and I are extremely excited to see you all very soon when we can learn altogether again in our classroom, thank you so much to all of your grown-ups for their support while you have been learning at home.



Nova class have been absolutely amazing this half term. Though our start to the year has been so very different everyone has continued to show such great enthusiasm towards their learning. We absolutely loved our Design and Technology day where we designed and made sliding cards. Everyone put so much effort into their designs and the end products were phenomenal. The children will be giving/sending their cards to somebody that they are missing and can't wait to see soon. Nova class, we think the person receiving your wonderful cards and messages will be so very grateful. You are all superstars! Keep up the great work.



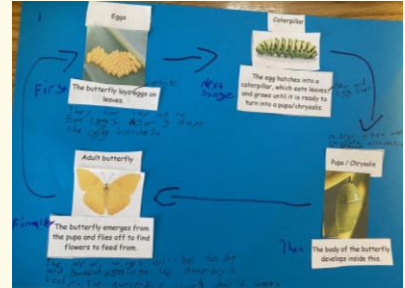


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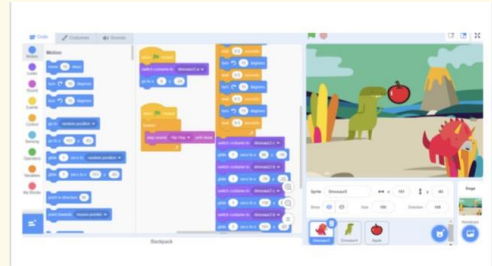
Year 2

This month Carina Class have continued to work hard with their online learning. They have learnt all about animals and their habitats in Science; the different habitats that dinosaurs lived in within our Geography lessons; and how to write a clear explanatory text on the lifecycle of a butterfly in Literacy. The Carina Class team once again are very proud of the children in Carina Class and are looking forward to seeing them all back in school in March. 😊



February is nearly over already can you believe it? We still managed to have lots of fun with our online learning though. We wrote amazing explanation texts all about the lifecycle of a butterfly. If you see anyone from Lyra class ask them what METAMORPHOSIS means.

We had some fun learning some simple coding using SCRATCH. We made our dinosaurs dance and created Andy Warhol inspired Fossil art. We also introduced 'Silly Friday'. We have had silly hair, silly superheroes and silly pyjama Friday so far.



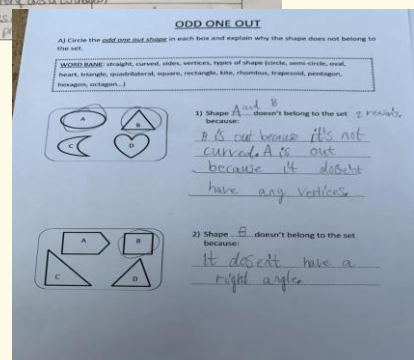
Year 3

Lynx class have been extremely busy. In English, we have been learning about poems and looking at how poems are structured. The children have also been working extremely hard in Maths. We have been looking at 2D and 3D Shapes. We have also been working hard to identify lines of symmetry and understanding what symmetry means. In Geography, we have been looking at the term food miles and where food comes from.

I would also like to thank all members of Lynx class for being super resilient during our online learning sessions. Lynx class behaviour is absolutely outstanding in and outside the classroom. Well done Lynx class. I am very proud to be your teacher.

Friday 23rd February 2021
To identify similes and metaphors.

SIMILES	METAPHORS
She was as happy as a bee.	The printer was busy like a office worker.
The dragon's fire was as hot as lava.	The clothes was waving like a waving hand in the wind.
The coffee was as brown as mud.	The blanket was hugging the bed like a person hugging their friend.
The glue stick was as sticky as honey.	The tissue was soft like a baby's pillow.
The glass bowl was as transparent as a window.	
The roses - put as a p...	



Cont'd...Year 3

February has been a particularly funny month in Astra Class as we have been laughing every day with the amazing jokes the children have been thinking of, sharing in Zoom sessions and sending in. We are impressed at how well the Astra superstars have demonstrated our value of Humour! 😊

In preparation for Book Week, the children have worked extremely hard to create their own amazing dragons and write fantastic instructions explaining how to make their unique creations. We loved to see that the children remembered to include materials they would need along with their great instructions. We have recently introduced our new Geography topic of Food Miles and the Story of the Cocoa Bean. We have been amazed at the knowledge our class already have of where in the world different types of food may come from and we can't wait to learn all about the story and journey of the Cocoa Bean. We are excited to welcome everyone back to school safely. We miss our Astra Class and are so proud of all of your super work! 😊

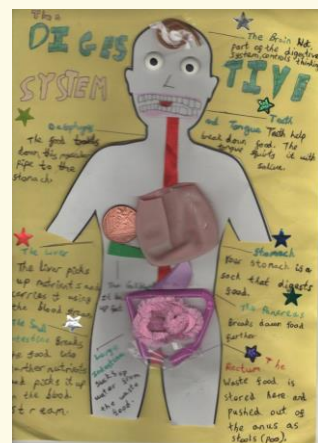
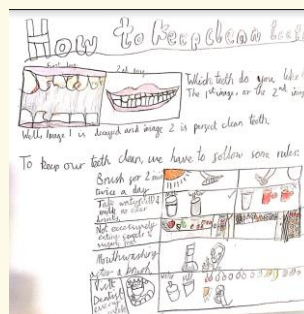


Year 4

Apollo class have been working really hard this half term on non-chronological reports. It has linked really well with our Science topic 'Where Does All That Food Go!' The children worked hard planning, writing and editing their reports about keeping a healthy body. We also really enjoyed the well-being day. We hope that you found it relaxing and a welcome break from school work all day! We are really looking forward to seeing you all in March back in class. Keep well, the Apollo team!



This month Cosmo enjoyed a special wellbeing day where we took part in many fun and relaxing activities and even managed to have some time away from the screen! We have also been learning about digestion and keeping safe. Now we know exactly how food travels through our body. We also had a go at matching sets of teeth to different animals. We look forward to welcoming the children back into school next month too!





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Art Corner

Mindful Home Activity

Baking can be a grounding, therapeutic and artistic experience for parents and children to do together, while also being fun and active. Children can focus their attention on tasks such as stirring, mixing and weighing. The repetitive actions and gentle rhythms can help relax the mind and ease stressful thoughts by focusing concentration and being in the present.

To further use the senses, encourage your children to describe the colours of the ingredients, the texture of the food during different parts of the process, and notice the different forms the food has taken, from the individual ingredients at the start, to a finished meal.

It is also very rewarding and satisfying when children have finished baking and can see and eat the end result. They can then share the food they have made with the rest of the family, with the simple act of sharing which is great for mental wellbeing, as well as bringing the family closer together through the exercise.

One of the best parts of this mindful activity is also the delicious aroma of the baked goods filling the house, creating a lovely cosy atmosphere, perfect for the family to unwind in.

Please send any photos to office@ashmoleprimary.org or upload your artistic, mindful baking creations to your Google Classroom account for your class to see.



Love Productions; the company behind The Great British Bake Off, The Great British Sewing Bee and The Great Pottery Throw Down, have recently opened applications for the 6th series of **Junior Bake Off**; a Channel 4 programme that celebrates the culinary talent and ambition of the younger generation in Britain. With this in mind, they have contacted our school in the hope that we can help them spread the word regarding this exciting opportunity.

They are looking for young budding bakers between **9 - 15 years old**. Filming would take place from July 2020, but their **applications close on Sunday 5th April 2021**.

Interested bakers can apply online at - WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK.



Instrumental Lessons

Please see the link below for the application form for Summer Term Instrumental tuition. I would be grateful if you could complete the form and submit it as soon as possible. If your child would like to learn more than one instrument then you will need to submit a separate form for each instrument.

<https://forms.gle/823SsLD2sFvW3j7x8>

Please ensure that you have read the terms and conditions and important information carefully, as you will find that many frequently asked questions are answered there.

We are all very much looking forward to having face to face lessons once more! Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. Ms Beacon, Music Manager



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Treat people the way you
want to be treated. Talk
to people the way you
want to be talked to.
RESPECT is EARNED,
NOT GIVEN.



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Treat
OTHERS
the way
YOU
want to be
TREATED

EYFS Celebrating Achievement

	Orion	Calypso
Merits	Brandon Maxine Azra Arrian	Max Caspar Callie Arianna Benjamin
Values	Rheya Eleni	Christopher Sofia Ava

KS1 and KS2 Celebrating Achievement

	Luna	Nova	Carina	Lyra	Astra	Lynx	Apollo	Cosmo
Merits	Anya Olivia Darcey Johnny Frankie	Murat Rafael Ella Ryka Mia Arjun	Aun Ayla Sienna Berkin Akwas Ria	Ayden Michael Olivia Georgia Arya Hazal Kayden	Roan Any Sophie Kaan Mara Alaena	Isla William Dimitar Marina Aaira Avash	Naima Rohan Nikolaos Kiki Jasmine Henry	Jake Elizabeth Oliver Florrie Musa Gabiella
Values	Orla Mabel Reya	Kaiden Iklim Ella	Sebastiyan Ayaan Aryan	Jansu Milo Alfie	Ellie Della Nicholas	Ben Iza Jennah	Ankit Maxi Erin	Erin Ted Jimmy



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Dates for your diary

March - Value for the month is RESPECT	1 st	All week	Book Week Value- Respect
		All week	Mid Year Report update for parents
	8 th	8.50am 7.45am 3.15pm	All pupils return to school Breakfast Club to resume After School Club to resume
	12 th	All Day	Mrs Pavlakos begins maternity leave
	15 th 19 th	All week All Day	Science Week Dress up as a Scientist
April - Value for the month is APPRECIATION	23 rd 25 th 26 th	PM PM	Online Parent Consultations Online Parent Consultations Last day of Spring term
			EASTER HOLIDAYS
	12 th April		First Day of Half Term Value- Appreciation The Big Pedal

Values Competition

Thank you to all the pupils who have shared their jokes based on the Value of the Month. Our Value for February was Humour. Thank you to everyone that shared their jokes - the winners will be announced soon. The value for March is Respect. There is a £5 book token for the winner each month.



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PTA News

We hope everyone had a wonderful half term break - we know that the last few weeks have not been easy, and to help welcome and support their return to school, the APPTA have special **Buddy Bears** for each child to take home. Keep an eye out for these adorable bears getting up to mischief while they wait for the kids to return!



Thank you so much to those who have agreed to have a **Platinum Estates board** up to help raise much-needed funds. We need more families to come forwards - we are aiming for ten boards per class. Some classes have hit their target already which is amazing! Please let your class rep know as soon as possible if you're able to support us in this way.

APPTA are funding the upcoming **Author Visits in March**, and we really need donations from every parent/carer to help us fund this. **Click to donate (suggested donation is £5 per child to cover the costs):** https://www.paypal.com/pools/c/8wRuMixpWA?_ga=2.74423442.1094762867.1613124050-589989838.1605111427

Last week we held **Have Your Voice** sessions with all year groups and we look forward to putting some of your suggestions into action. Don't forget to keep in touch and get involved by joining the PTA WhatsApp Group. **Click here to join:** <https://chat.whatsapp.com/BZKY1HKU5FzKo4Wjg1jK8i> or email us directly at ashmoleprimarypta@gmail.com.

Finally, in the absence of being able to run in-person events, look out for our invite to our **Virtual Bingo Night** coming soon!

We will also be sharing information about how to donate in other ways soon too. Thanks for your ongoing support.