



Message from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers

As we come to the end of the Spring Term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our parents/carers, staff and pupils; without your support and cooperation it would not have been possible to keep the school open for all our pupils. The daily temperature checks and the twice weekly lateral flow tests undertaken by staff and volunteers have definitely helped to keep everyone safe. Please remember to wear a face covering during drop off and pick-up times as this will minimise the transmission of the disease and remember to maintain social distancing as much as possible. All being well and if everyone works together to minimise the disease, these measures will not be necessary after 21st June.

It has been wonderful to see the children back in the classroom, where they belong. The Buddy Bears from the APPTA have been a real incentive for the children and have helped them settle back into school. We have enjoyed many lovely events this term, including Book Week, Science Week and we even managed to have class parties today, dressed up as amazing book characters! Parent Consultations have taken place this week. If you didn't manage to see your child's class teacher for any reason, please email the school office and we can arrange for a telephone appointment to take place. Year 2 Carina Class consultations will take place after Easter on 20th April and 22nd April- the Google Form sign-up sheet will be sent out to all parents/carers soon.

The Covid catch up programmes will begin after Easter, for children in Reception - Year 4 who have been selected by their teachers. The Summer term will be filled with lots of exciting projects for the children, with a special focus on pupil well-being, yoga, fitness and cricket. After Easter, we will be taking part in Sustrans Big Pedal 2021, the UK's largest inter-school cycling, walking, wheeling and scooting challenge. The challenge runs from 19 April to 30 April. It is completely free and we would love everyone to be involved. Please encourage your child(ren) to take active journeys to school on as many days as possible during the event, and join them on their way. We will be arranging a special day for the children on Friday 30th April; this will be a non uniform day and we are asking for a donation of £1 (more details to follow).

Our recruitment drive for September is currently under way. You should also have received a letter from Mrs Andrews regarding a vacancy for Parent Governor. We are particularly looking for nominations from parents/carers who have skills in mental wellbeing, the arts, or construction, but this of course does not preclude any parent/carer from applying. The deadline for nominations is Monday 12th April at 2:00pm.

I wish you all a restful Easter break and look forward to seeing you all on our first day back on Monday 12th April.

With my very best wishes to you all.

Mr Tofallis
Head Teacher



Our Value
For April is
Appreciation

March
2021

Reception

It has been so lovely to have everyone back in school. The children have really enjoyed coming back, seeing their friends and exploring all of the different areas both in our classroom and in our outdoor area. Calypso class particularly enjoyed 'Science Week'. Participating in experiments excited the children greatly; especially an experiment involving coke and mentos! The children made great predictions throughout the week and are looking forward to more science experiments and investigations in the future. We hope you have a lovely, restful Easter break.



It is wonderful to see the children so happy to be back at school. They have got used to getting back into a routine and have settled in so well. Orion class loved taking part in science week and getting involved in some fun, exciting experiments. They also got very imaginative with some of their inventions! Our topic for this term is 'people who help us' and we were very lucky to have a special guest visit from a doctor and the children have really enjoyed exploring different jobs.

Year 1

Nova class have had a wonderful first three weeks back at school. The children have all been enthusiastic in all lessons and shown great progress, especially in their reading. Well done everyone! In Maths, we have been learning about money and using coins to make total amounts. In Literacy we have been re-writing traditional tales but with an alternative resolution and ending. We have had so much fun creating some great plot twists. The children in Nova class have absolutely loved our Art topic this half term. We have been looking at different artists and learning all about printing. The children have worked in groups, pairs and independently to explore different ways of printing and how to create repeating patterns.



Luna class have settled brilliantly back into school and have been very excited to see their friends and teachers. Since returning, we have worked very hard to understand the value of money by setting up a Luna Class shop! In Literacy, we have been using our senses to write a poem about wobbly, jiggly jelly and the seaside. We then performed our poems to our class, everyone was very supportive. We had an amazing time during science week and investigated different ways to create paper plates. Finally, we have been creative in the afternoon creating Victorian style wallpaper by creating a repeated pattern using acrylic paint.



Year 2

What an amazing first few weeks we've had in Lyra. Our Buddy Bears were waiting for us when we came back to class. Thank you to the APPTA for them we love them, they do mindfulness, literacy, PE in all our lessons with us. We haven't had much time to rest since we came back, we've already had science week, we dressed up as scientists too. Our theme was 'Not so Fantastic Plastic' so we investigated milk plastic and made plates from paper mulch. It really made us think about how much plastic we use and how much we waste. We had a great science day on the Friday, we explored, gases, liquids and solids. We made Mentos and coke rockets, blew up balloons using vinegar and baking soda, made milk dance and created oobleck- a wonderful creation which is liquid and solid at the same time! We have learnt all about dinosaurs and have now come to the end of our unit of work but we wrote an amazing non chronological report all about them, so many facts, they really were fantastic.



This month in Carina Class we have been looking at different levers in D&T. We have been using split pins to make first class, second class and third class levers to create a moving dinosaur book as a class for Reception children. During Science week, we have been looking at different ways of making plastic products out of alternative materials for our topic 'Not so fantastic Plastic'. We have been learning about the negative effects of plastic on our environment, causing us to experiment with making plastic plates out of newspaper and make plastic spoons out of 'milk plastic'. In History we have been looking at dinosaurs, where we have worked as Palaeontologists to excavate dinosaur fossils. Also, we have been using timelines to plot the different time periods of the evolution and extinction of dinosaurs. In Music, we have been looking at different types of music related to Machines. We have been working on identifying the different types of instruments as well as having a go at composing our own machine music.

Year 3

Lynx Class have had a fabulous month. In Science, we have started our new topic which is focused on rocks. We spent our first lesson getting outside in the natural environment where Lynx Class investigated and found different rocks around Ashmole Primary. Lynx Class had to describe and compare and contrast rock properties and carry out different experiments on rocks and record and evaluate their observations and results. The children also highly enjoyed Science week which was organised by the amazing Miss Cleary. We carried out a series of practical experiments e.g. adding Mentos to a coke bottle which the children loved seeing the chemical reaction.





Cont'd...Year 3

What an eventful few weeks Astra Class have had! We have had so much fun with all of our different in class activities. We all had an amazing time during Science Week and loved learning about a different inspirational inventor each day such as Alexander Graham Bell and Marie Curie. It was great finding out that even the most successful inventors of all time did not succeed from the first attempt but persevered and came up with their revolutionary and life changing inventions. Following our theme of '**Innovating for the Future - Space Tourists**', the children spent each afternoon focusing on a different invention challenge linked to space travel in their groups. Our invention challenges included designing a vehicle to transport tourists to space, a machine to move tourists around on the moon, a place for tourists to stay and a device that will return tourists back to earth. Mrs Charalambous and Miss Elia were absolutely blown away by the work the children produced each day. They worked hard to research, design, plan, create and evaluate their inventions and we are certain that we have a future inventor, or 30, in Astra Class. Our Friday afternoon was spent outside finding out about how coke reacts with Mentos and creating elephant's toothpaste! Mrs Charalambous got a little messy, but it was all worth it 😊



Year 4

It was been lovely welcoming back Apollo class to school and seeing them in the flesh, rather than over a screen! We have had a fun, exciting and creative couple of weeks back at school so far. We finished off our dragon topic with making clay models of dragons and painting them. We also have had Science week where the children have been planning and carrying out experiments testing which materials would help make their Buddy Bear land safely to the ground! Luckily all the Buddy Bears landed safely and we had no trips to the Bear hospital! Well done for all your hard work over the last few weeks and enjoy a restful Easter break. The Apollo Team.



It is lovely to have Cosmo back in the classroom! Everyone is settling back well and enjoying spending time with their friends. We had a lot of fun during Science Week when making and testing parachutes for our buddy bears! We also discovered what happens when an acid and a base are added together. In literacy, Cosmo have been writing and editing playscripts before performing in front of the class. There are some very talented actors in Cosmo and it was wonderful to watch their creative performances! In geography, Cosmo have been learning all about the different climates that exist in the world and thinking about how to survive in extremely hot or cold places. The children in Cosmo have worked hard since returning to school and had a lot of fun in the process.





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Art Corner

Sir Gordon Howard Elliott Hodgkin (6 August 1932 – 9 March 2017) was a British painter and printmaker. His work is most often associated with abstraction. Year 1 have been focusing on printing and overlapping colours and have produced some lovely work. Year 1 have also been looking at Fred Tomaselli and how his work is focused on repeated patterns and group patterns. Year 1 have produced some outstanding Art work. Well done Nova and Luna!



Instrumental Lessons

We are delighted that face to face instrumental lessons begin the week of the 12th April 2021, apart from Piano with Mr Parkinson, who starts a week later.

Please make sure your child brings all the necessary equipment with them on the correct day - including a sharp pencil!

Thank you.

Amanda Beacon

https://docs.google.com/document/d/18gtfry_bB65oOYsyNvAOGuABgieIE_1YZ8jcP6wP_Kk/edit?usp=sharing



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EYFS - Celebrating Achievement

| | Orion | Calypso |
|---------------|---|---|
| Merits | Alice Ravi Arjan Sharne Amelia Leo Evelyn Oliver | Suendam Kvaan Jushn Mayra Yusuf Ella Christopher Saara |
| Values | Yoana Anna Christopher Maria | Saara Alice Ayla Maya |

KS1 and KS2 - Celebrating Achievement

| | Luna | Nova | Carina | Lyra | Astra | Lynx | Apollo | Cosmo |
|---------------|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|
| Merits | Klay Nikol Karim Saanvi Dominic Emilia | Olanna Kaiden Victoria Elias Sara Eesa Rose Arianna Milo Ameila | Isabella Sebastiyan Roven Simeon Melis Isabella Nihal Lewis Johan | Mason Maria Edward Skye Anna Ben Hazal Alexandra Milo Alfie | George Tolu Alexander J Mara Kheon Ella Nicholas Anya Kaan Ariyan Della | Liyana Zachary Anoushka Zhane Kenan Alyssa William | Sophie Joe Natalie Arden Seb Erin Eliza Henry Maxi Arabelle Naima | Laurence Jenna Malaika Lewis Jasmine Musa Zahir Freya Vivaan |
| Values | Gabriel Tia Inaya | Ryka Ayden Ibrahim Emily | Roven Almira Ria Reyyan | Kayden Maria Arya Olivia | Kaner Rocco Sophie Roan | Yiannis Abigail Marina | Alexandra Kiki Arabella Joshua | Jasmine Sia Jake Oliver |



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Dates for your diary

April - Value for the month is APPRECIATION

| | | |
|--|--------------------|---|
| 12 th | | First Day of Half Term Value- Appreciation |
| 12 th | 2:00pm | Parent Governor Election Nomination deadline |
| 13 th | | Class Photos - Rec, Year 3 and Year 4 |
| 14 th | | Class Photos - Year 1 and Year 2 |
| 19 th - 30 th | | The Big Pedal |
| 20 th | 4pm - 8pm | Carina Class Parent Consultations - |
| 22 nd | 3.45pm - 6.15pm | Carina Class Parent Consultations |
| 30 th | All Day | The Big Pedal - Non uniform day - £1 donation |

Values Competition

Thank you to all our pupils who have followed the value of the month and worked hard to be top role models. Our Value for March was Respect and the winners this month are Callum in Year 2 Carina Class and Muzeeba in Year 4 Apollo Class. There is a £5 book token for the winner each month. The Value for April is Determination.