



# Newsletter

For more school information please visit our website: [www.alford.lincs.sch.uk](http://www.alford.lincs.sch.uk)

**ISSUE 27**

**22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020**

Dear Children, (and Friends, Parents and Carers)

I hope you are all enjoying the wonderful weather that we have been having. In school, we have been so busy preparing, in case the Prime Minister says that some of you may be able to come back after half term. We don't know if it will definitely happen, but it is important to get ready.

It probably doesn't feel any different but it is half term next week. I have asked the teachers not to set any work for you next week, so you can have a little rest and enjoy other things like: reading (makes you clever!) drawing, exercising and even a little extra screen time if you've been helping out around the house!

In school, we have had to make lots of changes. We have really cleared up the classrooms – there is hardly anything in them now. We are looking at making small groups called 'Bubbles' to work in. If you come back soon, you might be in a different classroom, called a 'Bubble Base' and you might be with children from your class, or even some children from other classes. There will be two characters: Daisy and Dilly Distance to help you with lots of new rules that we will have. I can't wait to introduce them to you.



I know lots of you have been doing the work that your teachers are setting you on the

website. It is important that you have a go at it. I know lots of you have been getting phone calls from me, or from your teacher. If we haven't managed to ring you at the right time, then send us an email to let us know how you are getting on.

Happy Half term!

**Mrs Ross**

## **FREE SCHOOL MEAL PAYMENTS**

With the possible partial re-opening of the school in June, we would like to give you advance notice that the Free School Meal payment scheme is likely to change. We are at present looking at ways to support our pupils who are entitled to a free school meal, whilst managing a situation where some pupils may be in school and others may not – even within the same family!

Any change would be from Monday 8th June at the earliest and as soon as we have further details we will update you.

I'm sure you will be pleased to know that free school meal payments will continue to be made during the May half term holiday

## **Important Information regarding re-opening**

**Below is important information that was sent out this week regarding the POSSIBLE re-opening. I am including it again, in case you missed it.**

## Keyworkers' Children

We have been open to children of keyworkers every day since the lockdown began and this has worked well.

Due to building works on site, we are unable to be open over the half term to those key worker children that have been attending throughout, but, all going well with the building works, **should be able to open to keyworkers' children on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June.** We ask that children that have been attending confirm their requirements for that week by emailing [primaryschool@alford.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:primaryschool@alford.lincs.sch.uk).

**If you are a keyworker, whose child has not been attending school** but now needs a place, please email the school to confirm the days needed. We are asking that you attach proof of your keyworker status (payslip, letter from employer etc.)

## Reception, Year 1 and Year 6

Due to building works taking place, and the extensive preparations that are needed to meet with the government guidance, even if the announcement is made, **school will NOT be open to Reception, Year 1 or Year 6 on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June.** We are aiming to have the school ready to accept the following children on the following dates:

**Year 1: Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

**Year 6: Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

**Reception: Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020.**

**Initially these year groups will be able to attend full time. However, without knowing the Government's plans regarding other year groups, it is possible that this offer may reduce to part time later in the term. When I know, you will know.**

**The start/end of the day will be staggered to minimise. The exact timings will be communicated at a later date.**

## Year 2, 3, 4, and 5

The Government has announced its aim for all primary children to return to school before the Summer break, if it is safe to do so. If classes have to remain at 15 children or fewer, then, unless the guidance changes, school will not be able to house all the children without a part-time rota or using another site.

We await further announcements. Until then, online work will continue to be available on the school website. Due to the extended nature of the closure, we are asking parents to, wherever possible, regularly submit children's work, via email, to the year group emails.

## **After- School Club and Breakfast Club**

These will not be starting until further notice following guidance to avoid mixing groups of children, lack of available staff and space capacity.

## **Attendance**

I am very aware of the anxiety and concerns that parents/carers and the community have over schools being open to larger numbers of children and, at no point will you or your child/children be penalised for not attending. Our survey shows **50% of you have said you will not be sending children** back if school re-opens on 1<sup>st</sup> June with only **18% of you have said that you definitely would.** Every parent/carer will have to make the decision that is best for their child/family circumstances and we will fully support and understand the decisions that you have made.

As always we are here to support the children/families of our schools and would not want to add to any anxiety or pressure at such a difficult and challenging time for all. Every family has their own thoughts and we respect that, as do all of our staff and their families. We need to remember that we are all different and respect each other for who we are.

## **DFE Information for Parents**

Message from the Department for Education:

The DFE have updated their guidance on helping primary school aged children learn at home to include information on the wider opening of educational settings.

The guidance can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-primary-school-children-continue-their-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

## LEARNING THIS WEEK

To cheer us up, let's look at some of the lovely learning going on this week.

Here is a wonderful poem by Enola.

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

**Writing a poem**

**I see children eating delicious, creamy ice-cream in the summer sun,  
During this, others splash in the salty sea having so much fun,  
While, the sun beats down on the glistening, golden sandcastles below.**

**I taste sweet sensations of candy floss,  
The sugary doughnuts at a low cost,  
And Fizzy Fanta tingling on my taste buds.**

**I can hear booming people talking,  
The crunchy seaweed stood on by people walking,  
Lastly, The calming waves splashing in the sapphire sea.**

**I feel gritty sand in my fingernails,  
And the freezing water filling up my pail,  
Also, the warm sun's rays beating down on my body.**

And another one from Ollie...

### My Beach Poem By Ollie Taylor - 4K

Beautiful rock pools filled with crab and starfish,  
Ships getting further and further into the distance,  
Colourful beach huts standing in a line.

As I paddled in the waves tasting the salty air,  
Yummy ice cream getting smaller and smaller,  
Falling in the sand doesn't feel that grand.

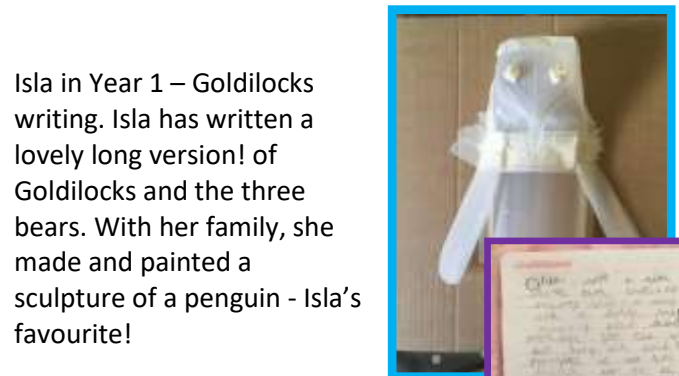
The smell of yummy donuts makes my tummy rumble,  
Barbecued sausages sizzling in a huddle,  
The smell of the open water makes me feel free.

Squawking seagulls making lots of noise,

Girls running round shouting at boys,  
Lifeguard alarm helping to save lives.

Wind in my hair makes me feel wild,  
Filling my eyes with grains of sand,  
The force of waves knocking me of my feet.

What I like most of all, is spending with my family!!

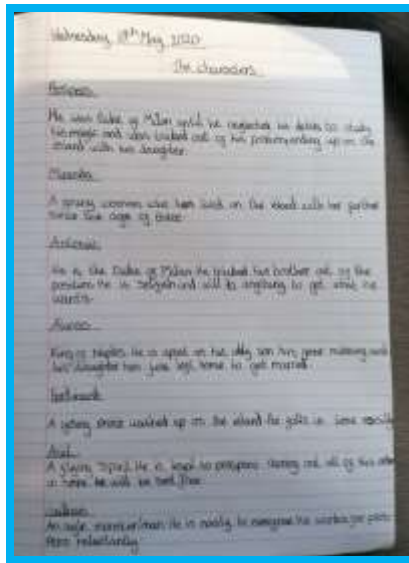


Isla in Year 1 – Goldilocks writing. Isla has written a lovely long version! of Goldilocks and the three bears. With her family, she made and painted a sculpture of a penguin - Isla's favourite!

Ellis has been working hard again this week and has really enjoyed the tasks that have been set. Here is a picture of his science work so that you can see the work he has produced - he was so proud of this!



Here is work from Freya, based on the characters of The Tempest which Year 6 have just finished reading.



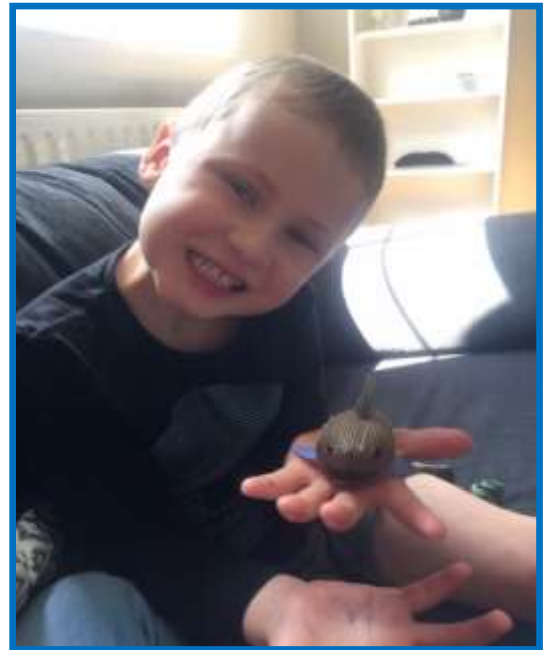
A fact file from Jedd about William Shakespeare.



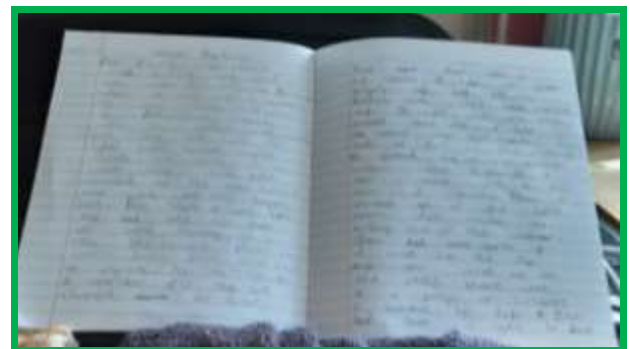
And from Rubie-Rose: a dolphin – she is learning how to create origami animals!



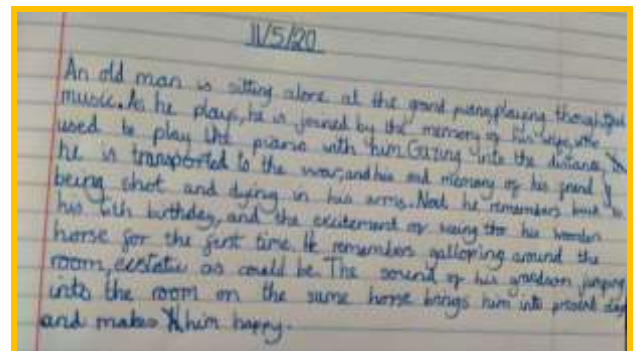
Here is a fabulous shark model – watch out he doesn't bite!



Writing about Grace Darling by Scarlett N. Well done Scarlett!

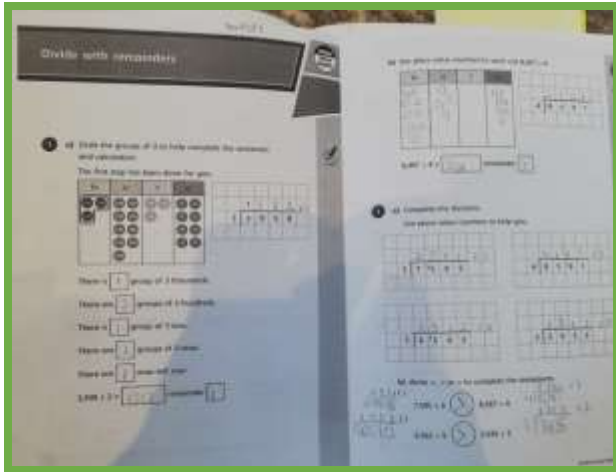


A summary of 'The Piano', the Y5 English focus at the moment, by Thomas J. Amazing effort!

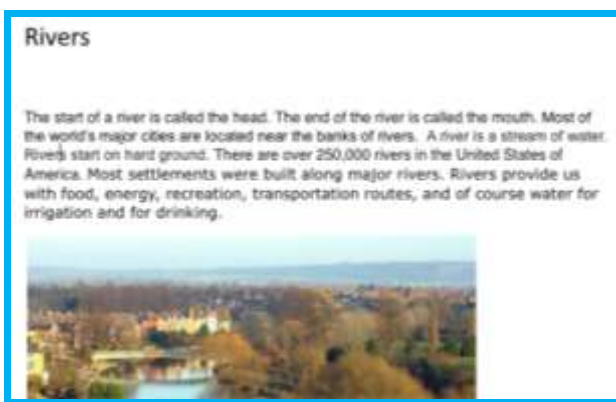




One of Casey's maths sheets! He always does so much work!



Great topic work from Lily-Mai



Evie worked really hard on her story.



Reuben's model of his dog, 'Millie'



Evelyn wanted to share a picture of her scarecrow she made for VE Day, she took it to our

local nursing home in Alford to go on display. Lots of fun making it!!



And finally...

Here is Tommy's completed poem based on the coast. He used some of the ideas from the bank uploaded, as well as his own. He discussed lots of ideas with his family before writing them down on strips of paper. His family said, 'He's virtually thrown a thesaurus at it and we've had lots of discussions about using appropriate, precise language to describe, rather than picking the longest word each time!' Then Tom reorganised the strips of paper until he was happy with the order and flow of his ideas. He has typed up the poem and then added some pictures to illustrate it.

