

THIS WEEK'S NEWS

Good Bye and Good luck! | Breathing Bliss! | Internet Safety!

Office Online Links

School Shop

The school shop is available through our school website to allow you to make a range of purchases or bookings at time convenient for you!

[Alford Primary School Web Shop](#)

Uniform, both new and pre-loved

[Uniform \(alfordprimary.co.uk\)](#)

PE Kit – including our fantastic House Team polo shirts

[PE KIT \(alfordprimary.co.uk\)](#)

Accessories – such as reading pets and book bags

[Accessories \(alfordprimary.co.uk\)](#)

Wrap around Care – we offer both a breakfast and after school club

[Online Bookings \(alfordprimary.co.uk\)](#)

Educational Visits – pay for any visit or trip easily

[Educational Visits \(alfordprimary.co.uk\)](#)

Medication requests and requests to take your children out of school.

The link to access all of these forms is: [Online Forms \(alfordprimary.co.uk\)](#)



Dear Parents & Carers

People often comment about how time flies when you are having fun. Well, it's true! I can't believe we are already halfway through the Spring term.

There has been so much going on at Alford during 'Spring 1'. The school is slowly starting to resume operation as nearly-normal. We have welcomed visitors into school, organised charity days, and started having whole-school events. Every one of them reminding us of all the pre-covid fun we used to have altogether.

Combined with this, has been the fantastic learning that has gone on within the classrooms. We have certainly crammed a lot into the six weeks we have been back at school, I can definitely confirm that the great learning, and teaching is showing in the work that children are producing.

We have used Resilient Rosie to help us with our learning, have shown a huge amount of Ollie Organisation and Colin Communication throughout all we have achieved. This has been another fantastic half term for the children of Alford, and I couldn't be prouder of the whole school community.

I wish both staff, parents, and children a restful half term break.

Mrs Ross

Attendance

Class Attendance for the last full week is:

Ladybirds - 90%

Butterflies - 93%

1H - 95%

1AW - 98%

2CH - 92%

2HW - 93%

3BM - 94%

3K - 91%

4BS - 91%

4S - 94%

5M - 99%

5L - 97%

6D - 91%

6HS - 94%

Look into Learning!

On Tuesday, all the children joined in with Safer Internet Day.

The children have enjoyed taking part in age-appropriate activities linked to keeping safe online. Look at the amazing work that the Ladybirds and Butterflies have created! They had lots of fun sharing the story of 'Digiduck and the Magic Castle', and then drew pictures to show what they enjoy doing on their devices at home.

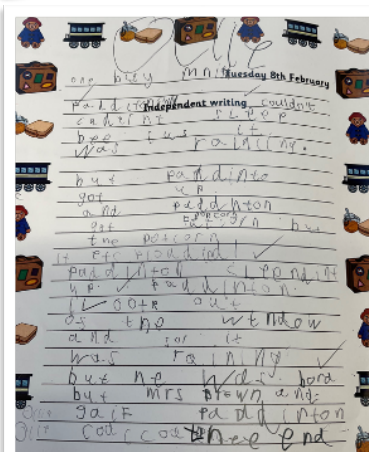
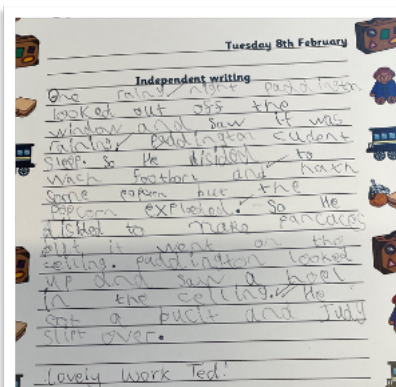
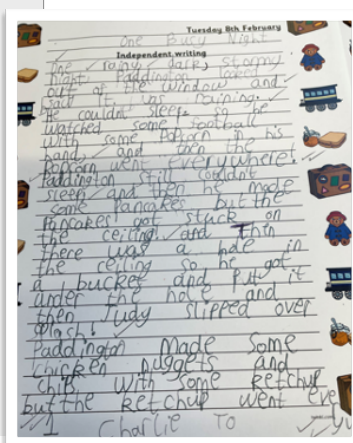
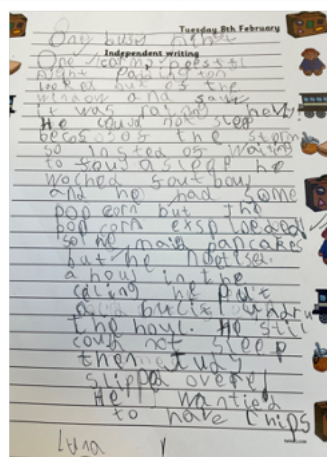
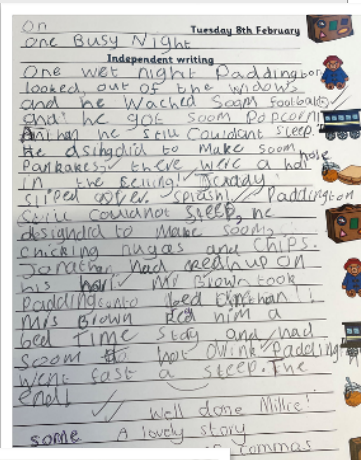


So many children have received Merit Certificates this week. Well done to these Year 1 children for the massive achievement of 50 Merits!!!!



Here is some amazing writing by Year 1 – Yes – Year 1!!! They have been rewriting Paddington Bear with their own twist – Exploding Popcorn!!!

Well done, Year 1!



Term Dates

2021/2022

TERM 1: 2021/2022

Monday 6th September 2021 until
Thursday 21st October 2021

TERM 2: 2021/2022

Monday 1st November 2021 until
Friday 17th December 2021

TERM 3: 2021/2022

Tuesday 4th January 2022 until
Friday 11th February 2022

TERM 4: 2021/2022

Monday 21st February 2022 until
Thursday 31st March 2022

TERM 5: 2021/2022

Wednesday 20th April 2022 until
Friday 27th May 2022

TERM 6: 2021/2022

Monday 6th June 2022 until
Friday 22nd July 2022

2022/2023

TERM 1: 2021/2022

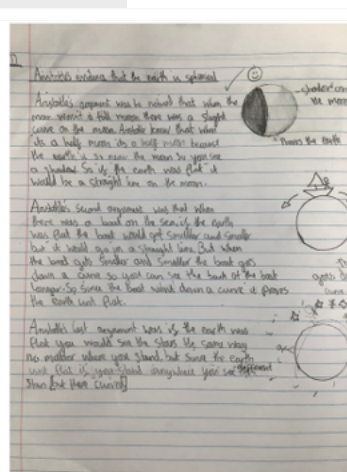
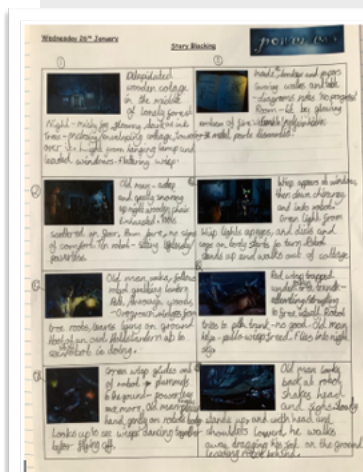
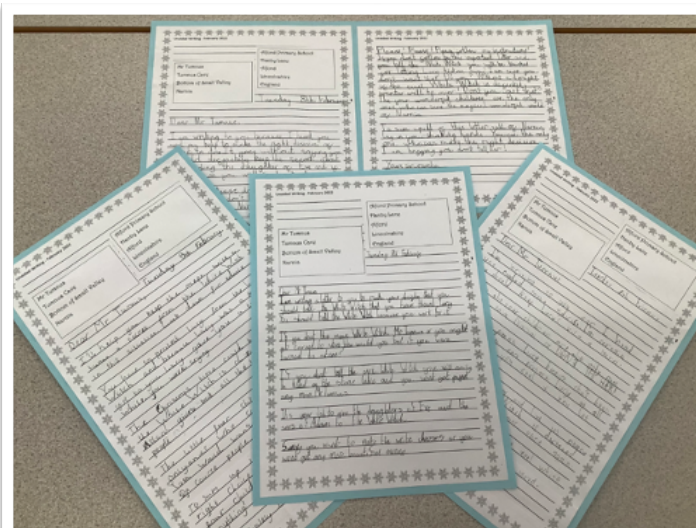
Tuesday 6th September 2022 until
Friday 21st October 2021



Year 2 have been making Moon buggies for Neil Armstrong as part of their DT. They have designed their models and explored using a variety of joining techniques to support them when creating their spacetastic vehicles.



More Writing - Year 3 have been enjoying 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' by C.S. Lewis. As part of this, they have all written fabulous persuasive letters to Mr Tumnus encouraging him to make the right choice - should he tell the White Witch about Lucy's first visit or protect his new friend?



Even more writing.....Look at this amazing writing from Year 5. They have been inspired by the video short 'Powerless' and used the video to rewrite the story. Their language and vocabulary use is just stunning!

IMPORTANT DATES THIS TERM

January

Tuesday 4th January – Back to school

Monday 10th January – Paul Cookson,
Performance Poet visiting school

February

Friday 4th February – NSPCC Number day
– wear maths/number themed clothes for
50p donation

Tuesday 8th February – Internet Safety
Day

March

Thursday 3rd March – WORLD BOOK DAY
– dress up as your favourite book character

Tuesday 8th March – Monday 14th March
Book Fair

Friday 18th March – Red Nose Day – wear
red for £1

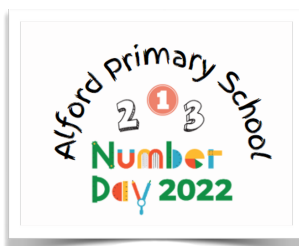
Parents' Evening – dates TBC

THURSDAY 31st March – last day of term

April

Wednesday 20th April – Return to school
for pupils

NSPCC NUMBER DAY – The final round up!



On Friday 4th February, it was NSPCC Number Day! We had an amazing day with fun for all. The children all visited the Year 6 challenge rooms and faced puzzles to earn points for their teams. It was a close run battle but, in the end, the purple team won!

The overall total raised was £143.60! Thank you for all your donations and thank you to Mrs Simons and Year 6 for such a wonderful day!





Goodbye and Good Luck!

Goodbye Mr Willoughby

As I'm sure many of you know, Mr Willoughby has been our Chair of Governors for many years.

His contribution to the school has been remarkable and his dedication to the care of the school community second to none

In September, he stepped down from the role (after staying on an extra year to keep us going through the challenging last few years), but, due to Covid, we were unable to invite him in for a farewell assembly. Despite several failed attempts at a final send off, last week, we finally managed to rectify this with a surprise, outdoor assembly.

Mr Willoughby was presented with a beautiful painting of the Alford Tree (our logo) made from the fingerprints of staff and students. Mr Willoughby was truly overwhelmed and wanted to pass on his thanks to the wonderful Alford community for the rewarding time that he had working with us.

Goodbye Mr Hextall

This week, we also had to say farewell to our very own Mr Hextall.

Mr Hextall has worked in the school for many years. He has worked as a teacher in just about every class from EYFS, all the way up to Year 6.

During our goodbye assembly, it transpired that every child remembered being taught by Mr Hextall, and the love they feel for him shone through in their applause.

Mr Hextall is leaving to explore a different career in sunny Boston and we wish him the very best for the future. He will be greatly missed, but he has promised to come back and visit!



Children's Mental Health Week

This week was Children's Mental Health Week.

In all our assemblies, we have been talking about ways to be more resilient, and ways to help feel more positive. We have been learning from Mrs Simpson how breathing can help relax us if we are feeling anxious, angry or like we can't cope. In Wednesday's assembly, we learned 5 tips for improving our mental health. They are:

1. Get a good night's sleep

Sleep is when our bodies and our brains recover. It's when our brains sort out information that we've taken in during the day and process it.

2. Get outside and get active

Exercise and physical activity aren't just good for our bodies, they are good for our brains as well.

Exercise makes our bodies produce happy hormones, which have chemicals which help us to feel good.

3. Feed your mind

Our brains need energy too! Eating lots of different things of different colours and drinking lots of fluids too helps to keep your brain ticking over and your mind working better.

4. Speak up

If you're struggling, feeling down or worried about something then find a trusted grown-up you can speak to about it.

5. Look out for each other

Being kind to one another not only helps us feel good about ourselves, but it's also beneficial to our mental health.

These tips are from Dr Ranj's latest book: Brain Power: A Tool Kit to Understand and Train Your Unique Brain



Year 1 practising mindful breathing.