



ALBAN WOOD NEWSLETTER – Issue 11, 2017-2018

Attendance

Congratulations to our spring 1 raffle winners... Charlotte (Reception), Jessica (Y3), Lara (Y2), Harry M (Y1), Eddie (Y6), Rushini (Y4).

Staffing update

Firstly, congratulations to Mrs Barnes who will be expecting her second baby later this year. Mrs Barnes is likely to begin her maternity leave during the summer holidays.

Secondly, welcome to Mr Newing who joins us as a Sports TA. Mr Newing has enjoyed his first two weeks at AW and in particular leading a new club – dodgeball.

Alban Wood library

Our library prefects work hard to keep our library looking lovely and well stocked with new and exciting books. Over the next few weeks our Y6 prefects will begin to train up some new Y5 prefects.

A special well done to these children – **Rihanna (Y1), Kayla (Y2), Maddison (Y3), Lia (Y4), Ibraheem (Y5) and Oliver (Y6)** - as they visit the library on a regular basis and were therefore awarded these books as a 'well done'!

In addition, our library prefects are currently sorting out some books which are still readable but just a little tatty. These will be sold (for a parent contribution) before school on **Wednesday 7th March**. Please buy a book or two! Thank you to Mrs McCready and the library prefects for organising this.

Well done to our **Gold Reading award winners too – Eddie (Y6), Lily-Ella (Y5), Ethan (Y4) and Kevin (Y3)**.

Maths and spelling challenges

Congratulations to all children who tried so very hard in our recent maths challenge. It is great to see the children competing across two classes though we know this is a challenge for them too. Spelling challenges have now gone home for this half term and this competition will take place on Wednesday 28th March with the final on Thursday 29th. We look forward to seeing the next winners and thank you to parents for the support given at home to learn these spellings and mathematical questions.

Winners for last half term were...

Year 2: Jay, Aidan, Roman

Year 3 and Year 4: Georgina, Rushini, Dylan

Year 5 and Year 6: Keira, Tyler, Kayleigh

PTA trip contribution

Each year we see that the cost of trips increase due to coach costs and entrance fees. We try our very best to keep these costs low and contribute quite heavily towards trips. In addition to this, the PTA have agreed to fund part of trips (£2 per child per year) – a huge thank you to them. This has meant that trips for this year are no more than £10 per child (and some trips are, of course, less than this).

Weather

It certainly looks like spring is now on the way – at long last! Thank you to parents for their support last week with the severe weather and school closures... hopefully this weather is behind us now. Just to remind you, please always ensure we have your most up to date contact details for our text system. Thank you!

Easter Competition

The PTA and the Creative Team will be running an exciting competition this half term, as part of the upcoming Easter Event on Friday 16th March. Children should design their own 'Mindfulness' Colouring page on A4 paper using black lines and named clearly (see the posters around school for examples). The closing date for entries will be Wednesday 14th March. Good Luck!

Governor visits

Each term governors come into school to meet with different staff teams. Over the last few weeks this has included meetings with our Humanities Team and Creative Arts Teams.

Here is the feedback from these governors...

Creative Arts, Sarah Ziman - It was extremely interesting to get a clearer view of the many exciting opportunities the children have to progress in the creative arts here at Alban Wood, whether in the classroom, making use of the outdoor learning environment or on a cultural trip. The staff are certainly committed to providing exciting opportunities to 'think creatively' across all aspects of the curriculum and the children have produced some really vibrant work it was a pleasure to see.

Humanities Team, Carole Stroud - I would like to thank the Humanities Team for meeting with me on Monday 26th February. They gave an enthusiastic approach as to how the children were learning within the classroom and outdoors, highlighting the writing outcomes particularly in Yr5 & Yr6, class book corners and the great interest in the use of Atlases were very encouraging. The topic of Important People gave the children a broad chance to show and learn about different important people. Well done everyone!

Daily Mile Week

Please join us (KS2 parents) for Daily Mile week this week – see letter from Miss Wells.

Trips and events this term and next!

I have been asked by parents to share dates for trips and events taking place this year – here are the ones organised so far...

Tuesday 6th March – Viking 'Thing' afternoon in Year 3 and Year 4

Wednesday 14th March – Year 3 and Year 4 Viking workshop

Thursday 15th March – Guide dog visiting Reception

Friday 16th March – Year 5 and Year 6 trip to RAF Hendon

Friday 23rd March – Blue Watch Fire Engine visiting Early Years

Tuesday 8th May – Year 5 and Year 6 KNEX challenge

