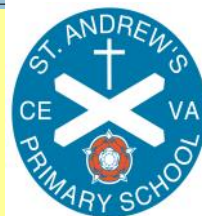




St. Andrew's CEVA Primary Newsletter October 2023



Head Teacher Mrs Val Griffiths

Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you - Phillippians 4:9

Our new year has started off so well with all of our amazing children demonstrating our I Aspire values across the curriculum. We have welcomed new pupils, our Reception classes have settled quickly and are thriving, and new staff already feel like they have been here for years. Our I Aspire focus has been Independence this term, something that we have seen demonstrated in abundance already.



We have fitted a lot into the first few weeks. A huge thank you for everyone who contributed to our food collection for our Harvest Festival – we sent so much to the Food Bank that we filled an entire car with boxes and bags. We are waiting to find out how many families our donations will be supporting, once it has all been logged in. Our Worship team met with a volunteer from the Foodbank who explained to them how the donations are used. The team are going to be asking for further donations next month, focusing on selection boxes and chocolate gifts that can be given to families in the run-up to Christmas – more information to follow soon.



We have a variety of after-school clubs running this term that we had a huge interest in. We love that we are able to offer the children these additional opportunities and I am very grateful to the teachers for giving their time to run these throughout the year.



We are also pleased to share that we have been awarded a National Quality Mark for Religious Education. The REQM assessor gave us the silver award for the high-quality teaching and learning of Re in our school. We are extremely proud of what we offer our pupils and this recognition is wonderful. Special thanks to Mrs Connors and Mrs Lightfoot for their continued hard work in this area.

After the break we will be starting a updated curriculum in certain subject areas. Rather than continuing with our connected curriculum we are going to be looking at subjects on a more individual basis. We are very excited by this as it has allowed us to plan for some really new and exciting topics in every year group. Our website will be updated very soon to show our curriculum overview, so you can see what your children will be learning every term.

It has been great to see so many parents in school already this year. Y6 parents for the Y7 transition meetings and YR and Y1 parents who joined us to learn more about phonics teaching. It was wonderful to see so many people here earlier in the week for Parent Evenings too. I hope you found them useful. As I write this, I am very much looking forward to Fantastic Finish Friday, where you can share the learning journey of this half-term with your children.

At the start of term, we were delighted to learn that Mrs Willars had had her baby! Alfie is doing well and we hope he may come in for a visit soon.



Finally, I would like to thank you for your on-going support with uniform and attendance. We try to keep our uniform expectations clear, with cost and practicalities at the heart of the choices. We have noticed a great improvement over earrings and correct footwear in particular and thank you for your understanding. We know that children do best when they are in school regularly and on time. Please be reminded that the

school gates close at 8.55am, at which time all children should be in ready to learn at 9am. It is also vital you inform us if you are going to be late collecting.



I hope you all have an enjoyable half-term break and look forward to welcoming you back to a busy Autumn 2 on **Tuesday 31st October 2023**

Much love, Mrs G

SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS

WITH THE SPARKS STAY SAFE!

As autumn arrives, you may be tempted to hold your own bonfire or fireworks display. It's always safer to go to an official display, but remember the following advice if you do hold your own. Fireworks are fun but pose a danger if mishandled or misused.

Make sure you • Follow manufacturer instructions carefully and read them in the day or by torchlight, never a naked flame
• Never go back to a firework once it has been lit, and never throw a firework or put it in your pocket • Light fireworks at arm's length, using a safety firework lighter or fuse wick, and stand well back • Collect fireworks after a display with care. Douse them with water and dispose of them properly in a metal container Follow these safety tips and enjoy a safe time this bonfire night.

For more information:

www.northantsfire.gov.uk



PARKING

Can we remind parents that the school car park entrance is **NOT** to be used for dropping off children or turning around in. There are many pedestrians in the area, both at the start and the end of school and we want to ensure there are no serious accidents. We ask that parents consider the local residents and **DO NOT** block entrances/driveways, or park too close to junctions or the roundabout. Causing obstructions on the roadside is dangerous and may lead to a collision. There are plenty of spaces in the car park close to the local shop, alternatively park slightly further away and walk the short distance to the school gates.

Parents are also asked not to park outside school during school class hours and watch/or film their children at playtime. We have had several reports of parents/carers having conversations through the fence with their children at lunchtime or break times, and we ask that you do not disturb the pupils during the school day.

Thank you!



Road Safety

Tips for crossing the road safely in winter for kids

- Wear bright, reflective clothing.
- Stop, look and listen.
- Use pedestrian crossings and traffic lights where possible.
- Wear shoes that grip to avoid slipping on ice.
- Never cross at a bend.
- Avoid being on your mobile phone when crossing.



Please watch and use the following short clips with your children to start important conversations

Short Video clips and song for 3-6yrs olds:

<https://www.think.gov.uk/resource/crossing-roads/>

<https://www.think.gov.uk/resource/safer-journeys-anthem/>

Short video clips for 7-12yrs old:

My first journey.....:

<https://www.think.gov.uk/resource/first-journeys/>

Expect the unexpected:

<https://www.think.gov.uk/resource/expect-the-unexpected/>

Gold Tokens

At St. Andrew's, children can be awarded a special Gold token for outstanding behaviour, attitude and/or learning.

These tokens can only be awarded by Mrs Griffiths, Miss Davidson or Mrs Gentry (Senior Leaders).

Gold tokens can be exchanged for 10 house tokens and winners get to enjoy a hot chocolate with Senior Leaders. Gold token winners also have their certificate displayed in the Hall of Fame (otherwise known as the school foyer!).

We are proud to announce that the following children received a Gold token award for this term:

Year R Sywell – **Amelie**

Year 3 Pitsford – **Alteo**

Year R Holcot – **Imole**

Year 4 Denton – **Lola**

Year 1 Overstone – **Alicja**

Year 4 Brixworth – **Sofia**

Year 1 Cogenhoe – **Alexandru**

Year 5 Isham – **Emily-Louise**

Year 2 Ecton – **Savio**

Year 5 Althorp – **Roy**

Year 2 Wilby – **Eliana**

Year 6 Grendon – **Maja**

Year 3 Moulton – **Malakai**

Year 6 Lamport – **Joel**

***Well done and congratulations to all
of the children!***

***We look forward to finding out who will get a
Gold token next term!***



Year R News

This term our topic has been 'All about me' where we have been getting to know your lovely children.



We have looked at feelings, families and what makes us different and unique. This term the children have been supported by their teachers to settle into school life and follow the routine. Alongside our topic we have also learnt about Rosa Parks and why she is important.



1 2 3 4 5 6



We have explored numbers 1,2,3,4,5, learnt the story of 'Mr Wiggle and Mr Waggle' and have explored the letters and sounds a, s, m, i, t, n, o and p.



Next term we will be looking at festivals and celebrations such as: Christmas, Diwali and Bonfire Night. We will be looking at sources of light, candles and stars, alongside more phonics, numbers and stories.



Well done to our IAspire winners this term!
Our IAspire winners have been **Advika, Luke, Lucas and Medeea** from Sywell class.
Arthur, Sienna, Dominik and Matteo from Holcot class.

Thank you for all your support this term! We have had a lovely term and have enjoyed watching all the children settle into school life. Don't forget to practise name writing, phonics and numbers at home with your children. Along with reading 5 times per week and signing the yellow reading journal.

Please get involved by posting on tapestry. We would love to see what you are doing at home!

Have a lovely half term break :)

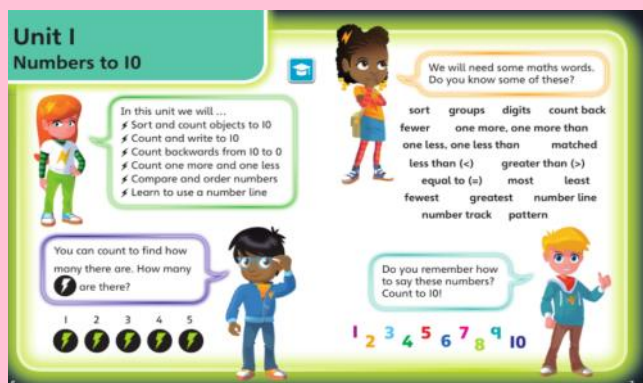


Year 1 News

Year 1 started their first week back with a WOW week, when a dinosaur appeared in the playground. The children completed lots of different activities all involving dinosaurs. Finally, they created their own dinosaurs and used adjectives to describe them. The children particularly enjoyed making their own moving dinosaurs using split pins.



In English, we have been looking at journey stories. The children worked hard to learn the text map of The Baby Mouse. The children have all created their own versions of the story by changing the characters and adding adjectives to make their writing more interesting. We have also been learning a class poem, hand on the bridge by Michael Rosen, and we have added our own actions.



In Maths, we have continued to develop the children's fluency in numbers, sorting, counting objects, and comparing. The children are becoming confident in using a range of manipulatives to support work, including ten frames, counters and Rekenrek frames.

In our Connected curriculum lessons, we have been looking at toys from the past and present. We discussed toys that they played with as babies. The children have looked at Pieter Bruegel's art work of toys. They used his work as inspiration and drew their own versions. Finally, the children have looked at the history of Lego and how Ole Kirk Christiansen founded the popular brand. The children enjoyed watching an animation on the history behind Lego.



Well done to this term's
I Aspire winners:

Cogenhoe: Curtis, Alex,
Karly, Thia and Evie.

Overstone: Alicja, Lilly Clarke, Fernando,
Natas, Natas and Sofiia.

Year 2 News

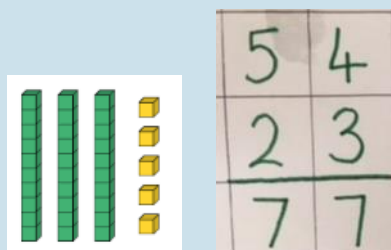
Well done Year 2, we have completed our first term! The children have risen to every challenge and new experience.

We have continued to build on our phonics knowledge this term, so we would be very grateful if you could support this knowledge by spending time reading with your child.

We expect 5 reads every week.



As Mathematicians we have been learning all about place value. Together we have made, represented and discussed the tens and ones of a range of two digit numbers. We are now beginning to apply these skills into the column method to add and subtract!



**BLACK
#ISTORY
MONTH**



This month as historians we have been learning about Mary Seacole and how her experiences as a nurse in the Crimean War were similar and different to Florence Nightingale.

To celebrate her service we created a beautiful piece of artwork using watercolours.
Take a look at some!



Our IASPIRE Stars this half term are...

Ecton: Chloe-Ann, Elvin, Tianna,
Ephraim & Emma.

Wilby: Simba, Kacper, Hazel,
Mudiwa & Emilia-Jayne.

Well done!
We are so proud of you!



As writers we have not only learnt how to retell a journey story this half term, but we have also been looking at how to write instructions. We would be very grateful if you could have a go at building or making something over the October Half Term so that the children can use it in their instructions writing when we return to school!



Year 3 News

Bright Sparks

We have been learning all about electricity! We have made circuits, investigated magnets and learnt about how thunderstorms are made.

Welcome to the Year 3 newsletter! We have had a fantastic first term and have been very busy.



Dragons!

In English, we have focused our learning around dragons. We found a dragon egg at the start of term, and last week, we discovered a mysterious bag belonging to a Dragonologist. We are now writing reports.



Well done

to these children for showing the school's I ASPIRE values:

Mark, Ebenezer, Ishan,
Davi, Ellie, Arjodh,
Brian, Cassandra,
Patrick & Ella-Rae

Spanish

iHola! Every week, we now have a Spanish lesson and have looked at countries that speak Spanish, basic classroom instructions, how to greet each other and how to say what our name is.



I ASPIRE STAR

Year 4 News

It has been a very busy term and we have learned many new things.



Connected Curriculum – Why do we see? How do we hear?

In Science we have learnt how humans are able to see and how they hear. We have learnt that light travels in a straight line and bounces off objects into our eyes. Both classes have tested different materials to see which would be the best to create curtains from so that a person could get a good night's sleep.

Maths

Place value has been our focus this term. We have been exploring numbers up to 10,000. We have learnt how to round to the nearest 10, 100 and 1,000. We have also been using Base 10 and place value counters to help us understand the value of each digit!



English

In English, we have been writing portal stories. The children have had to take their character to a new world through a special portal and try to make sure they get back alive.

We have learnt how to use adjectives, commas in a list, prepositions, similes and lots of new exciting vocabulary.

MOON ROCK

Yes you're right! Year 4 have touched Moon rock this term! We had an incredible afternoon observing and touching rocks/meteorites. The children held moon rock and all managed to get a picture with it. As well as this, one of the rocks was 14 million years old. How incredible is that?



Spanish

We have learnt to say how to count up to 30 in Spanish. We have also been learning the months of the year

Ask your children what months these are?

Los meses

Abril Agosto Enero
Julio Mayo
Noviembre

P.E.

We have focussed on invading games. We have learnt how to keep the possession of the ball and to pass and dribble accurately. We have been playing competitive games during our sessions to develop our skills.



Can you beat Roger Jammer? AKA Mr Harvey

We are setting the chance for children to beat Mr Harvey and Mrs Hill at their times tables on TTRS! Make sure you have ago at trying to beat your teacher and other children in the class.

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/ttrs>

R.E.

In R.E. we have been learning what it is like to follow God. We have found out how Noah followed God and that he made a promise to God. We have also discussed the promise we make in our own lives and how this can be tricky sometimes.

Year 4 Reading Challenge

This term Brixworth have beaten Denton 6-0 with getting more reads as a class each week!

Well done Brixworth



I ASPIRE STARS

Well done to Ocean, Alexandra, Lily-Rose, Jovan, Elizabeth, Jacob, Huanita, Chloe, La'Rosa and Rueben



Year 5 News

Welcome!

Year 5 have had a good start to the new school year and have settled in well. We have also had a few new starters who have coped with the change in routine and expectations.

Dinosaur at St Andrew's...?

We had a very 'special' visitor to school, who arrived on the school field via a portal— a dinosaur. Unbeknownst to the children, a huge Tyrannosaurus Rex explored the playground before entering the school building.



Waste not, want not!

As part of our Marvellous Materials Science topic, we participated in an online lesson about what happens to our waste when it arrives at a recycling plant and is transformed into energy.

We wrote stories set at our school to show what the T-Rex's visit was like. We also researched other dinosaurs on the Internet and created information leaflets about them.

Young Leaders

This year's young leader trainees had a great day with Natalie working on the skills and qualities required to be a good leader. There were lots of activities to support the team in their new role.



Black History Month



We learnt about the story of Floella Benjamin and her move to England from Trinidad and Tobago in 1960s as part of the Windrush Generation. This year Black History Month celebrates successful Black women in history.



OUR I-ASPIRE STARS

Well done to all of you for your hard work this term.

Althorp: Abel, Beatrice, Derrick, Kelvin and Lola B.

Isham: Kamsi, Marlee-Rae, Russell and Emily-Louise.

Year 6 news

English

This term in English we have been writing our own action and adventure stories. We have been working hard to use show not tell and short sentences for effect.

Maths

In Maths we have been learning to read, write and round numbers up to 10,000,000 and have been learning how to do long multiplication and long division.

Black History Month:

As part of Black History Month, we discussed and performed the poem "Caged Bird" by Maya Angelou which raises issues such as racism, oppression, freedom and inequality. We performed this as part of our Fabulous Finish Friday.



In music this term, we have been learning how to sing the song 'Happy' by Pharrell Williams. We have had a lot of fun learning the lead vocals, backing vocals and the recorder parts. We are performing the song as part of our Fantastic Finish Friday to our parents.



Connected Curriculum

Our topic this term has been Out of this World. We were very lucky to have a special delivery of different types of meteors that hit different locations across the world. We also were able

to look at examples of moon rocks and dust that had come from the moon's surface.



We have also been planning fair tests and investigated which materials would make the best thermal insulators to keep an astronaut warm in space. Here we are using data logging equipment to track the temperature of water.



Well done to those children who have been awarded an I ASPIRE certificate this term for all of their hard work.



* **Blake, Lexi, Preston, Toby and Anastazja in Grendon.**



* **Briana, Joy, Joe, Mariangela and Simon in Lamport.**

