



18<sup>th</sup> September 2020

### Whole School Together Again

I just thought I would share with you my thoughts as we enter our second full week at school. As always it has carried on being a pleasure to have the buzz of the children in school. They have been completing lots of different activities both inside the classroom and outside with Forest schools, Science and P.E. sessions. The children have enjoyed the opportunity to learn outside in the beautiful weather. All children in school have been recapping on the Behaviour systems and the importance of our Zero Tolerance on any form of bullying. The children have been discussing the different forms of bullying in their classes through PowerPoints and different resources to show how bullying can be prevented.

I know that our school community can do anything when we work together. I know that we live in an ever-changing society due to COVID 19 but at our school we are committed to creating a safe, enjoyable, stimulating and creative environment for all of our children to flourish in. Our staff, Governors and families work together to strive to ensure that the primary years are a positive, rewarding experience for all of our children and we all learn together in a caring Christian community

### Head Boy/Head Girl

Archie Saunders and Kate Sullivan have been appointed as head boy and head girl. James Brennan and Niamh Roberts have been appointed as deputy head boy and deputy head girl. Congratulations to you all.

### School Parliament

The school parliament representatives are: George Winter, Jessica Martin, Max Bunseedhun, Imogen Elliot, Esme Hetherington Doyle, Archie Saunders, Kate Sullivan, James Brennan and Niamh Roberts.

### Sports Leaders

Heidi Woods and Elliot Howe have been appointed as our sports leaders. Well done to you both.

### Thought of the Week

I believe in this quote below:

**"This year, more than ever, we've witnessed the positive power that society can have when we come together to tackle a common challenge."**

### Prayer of the Week



O Lord, you who have called and equipped the teachers in our community, we pray for them this week. Watch over them, provide for them, guide them, sustain them. May you be their sun and shield, so that they might do the work that you have entrusted to them and sense your care in these uncertain times. Amen.

### Assessments and initial findings and parents' evening

Staff have spent the first few days of the school year observing and assessing pupils' knowledge and understanding, especially in English and mathematics. Recently they have started to use more formal, standardised tests to support their overall assessment of children. Our aim is to build a picture of what each child can and can't do.



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The national media has painted an unfortunate image that children are months behind where they should be due to being out of school for such a long period of time. We are generally delighted with the children's work in mathematics and English and are recognising that we need to further support the children's development of writing and phonics. However, we have seen real improvements in the children's manners, politeness and social skills.

We are pulling together all of this information about the children to create a plan to target the government's catch-up premium funding to meet these identified needs across this school year. We do not feel it is in the children's best interests to rush this and will take a calm and measured approach across the school year.

### **Applying for Reception Places and for High Schools for September 2021**

The application process for children who are due to start school for the first time and those who are due to transfer to secondary school in September 2021, started this week. Please apply online at [www.cheshireeast.gov.uk](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk) or alternatively you can request an application form by contacting the Local Authority on 0300 123 5012.

Closing dates:-

31 October 2020 for Secondary admissions

15 January 2021 for Primary admissions

If you have friends who are interested in places at our school, could you please make sure they have our telephone number, to register their interest with us.

### **Praise Assembly - new way of working**

Following on from last week's success, we are using Microsoft teams to carry out online assemblies on Tuesdays and Fridays. At the moment I am leading them from my room and broadcasting to every class but, in the future, I am hoping to lead the online assemblies from the school hall. We are hopeful that this will feel more like the Praise Assemblies we were used to. Details of children praised in assembly appear below.

### **Praise Book Children this week**

#### **Mrs Burgess and Mrs Maughan's class:**

Phoebe Phillips for practising her cutting skills using scissors

#### **Mrs Hayward's class:**

Archie Hill for putting in 110% effort in everything this week.

#### **Mrs Richardson and Mrs Smith's class:**

Alyssa Welch Harding for her excellent homework of a Fire of London picture..

#### **Mr Davies' class:**

Tallulah Woods for consistently working hard in class

#### **Miss Morris' class:**

Billy Fellows for concentrating extremely hard in all his lessons and producing some lovely pieces of writing in English.

#### **Mr Blenkiron's class:**

Ollie Binns - despite having a broken elbow, Ollie has gotten on with completing his work and having fun without a single complaint this week. Amazing resilience, Ollie!

#### **Mrs Bird's class:**

Ben Mellor - For working diligently and being kind to his class friends.



### **Attendance**

The winners of the attendance cup this week are Amethyst and Diamond class. Well done to you all.

### **School**

#### **Amethyst class:**

This week in Amethyst class the children have listened to the story "Just Imagine" by Nick Sharratt. We have been imagining being magical, the type of machine we would invent, what animal we would be and the type of wheels they would like to whizz about on. We used the vehicles to make marks on paper, counted objects to 5 and beyond and built car ramps using the big wooden blocks.

#### **Sapphire class:**



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In English we have been building sentences about what we see when we look up and when we look down. In maths we have been practising counting forwards and backwards to and from 10. We have also been practising to write numbers correctly. In geography we have been comparing Audlem village to the city of London.

**Pearl class:**

This week we have researched Mae Jamison who was the first African American woman in space and created fact files. We have learned about the place value of two-digit number to 100 and asked questions about how the Great Fire of London started.

**Amber class:**

This week we have been looking at Katherine Johnson and her amazing maths ability that helped put the Apollo 13 Astronauts on the moon. In maths we have looked at place value. We have also made some amazing stone age cave paintings. All children have been working on the importance of the school's anti-bullying policy through different scenarios and activities

**Emerald class:**

Emerald class have looked at the character of Katherine Johnson and described her using the past progressive tense in English this week, as well as looking at conjunctions. In Maths we have started to work with four-digit numbers in practical and visual ways. The children have loved reading about a vain and rude Warthog in this week's guided reading lessons!

**Ruby class:**

This week in Ruby Class, the children have continued to expand their knowledge of place value by rounding and comparing numbers up to 100,000 as well as finding connections between different times-tables.

In English, we have discovered the famous Arctic explorer, Matthew Henson and have begun to write a letter from his perspective to his friend back home using expanded noun phrases (involving adjectives, prepositions and fronted adverbials). We have been introduced to another 'Rebel Girl' in our guided reading text: writer and Black rights activist, Maya Angelou. The children have read about and discussed elements of her fascinating life, and have used their inferencing and retrieval skills in order to answer questions about her and the issues of discrimination and segregation. We have also been thinking about the concept of *bravery*; discussing what it really means and debating what actions could be considered braver than others. We shall be enhancing our debating skills further this week by considering the statement 'Soldiers are the bravest people.'

In PE, we have been focusing on improving our accuracy in order to aid us in our games of dodgeball.

**Diamond class:** This week, the children have been learning more about famous black artists, activists, dancers, musicians, sportsmen and women scientists who bravely paved the way for others. They have been debating about which ones deserved to be mentioned in the book 'Of Thee I Sing' by Barack Obama, and have written explanations using complex and compound sentences. They have also been decorating their pebbles ready for a lovely wellbeing display which recognises their uniqueness, but have also been thinking about how they can all unite to stand against bullying. We are making a great display of their ideas about what part they can play in creating a safe place for everyone. In Forest Schools, they have built tents and made fires and have been enjoying all the lovely weather with lots of time on the new fitness equipment.

**Academy Photography – Individual Photographs next Wednesday, 23 September 2020**

Academy Photography will visit school to take individual photographs of our children on this day but there will be some differences to their usual procedures:

- All their photographers have been placed in small bubbles.
- All their staff are required to complete a health questionnaire at the start of each working day as well as conducting daily temperature checks.
- All staff will carry facemasks and sanitisers
- All the equipment will be thoroughly cleaned before each visit
- All equipment will be sweep cleaned between each group throughout the visit.
- Each year group will remain in their bubble and be photographed separately.
- Staff will not be able to provide combs and wipes for this visit so that they avoid any potential cross contamination.
- Only individual photographs will be taken on this visit – no family groups will be taken and no playgroup children or younger siblings will be included.

**If you do not wish your child to partake in the photography sessions, please let the school know by phone call or email as soon as possible.**



Audlem St. James C.E. Primary School

*Let your light shine'*

*Matthew 5:16*



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**NUT FREE SCHOOL**

Please be aware that we are a Nut-Free school to protect children from serious allergic reactions. This means that nuts of any kind and products containing nuts must not be included in snacks or packed lunches.

Thank you.

**Important reminders – social distancing and arrival times**

Please remember the social distancing rule when dropping your child off at school. We are aware that arriving and leaving promptly at your child's set time is difficult if you have two or more children **but could everybody else please keep to the allocated times**, especially when bringing children to school at 8.45 or 9.00 am. We have identified the beginning of the school day as the most difficult time when adults are most likely to be congregating on the premises. These rules have been introduced to keep the children, staff and parents safe and we very much appreciate your help.

**ABC**

We are continuing on with our theme "everyone is special and everyone is different". We are focusing on new vocabulary, making friends and getting to know one another a bit better.

We request that parents are timeous when picking their little ones up please.

A.Perry