



Altmore News



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Dear Children and Families,

What a busy but exciting time we've all had. I'd like to say a really big, *well done* and *thank you*, to everybody for making our school such a special place: you – our children and families, and of course our fabulous staff.

I know that everything feels a bit different at the moment, but I hope that you all have a happy holiday and enjoy being able to spend time with each other safely at home.

Merry Christmas!
Sarah



Attendance Awards



Highest Class Attendance Week Ending 11.12.20

Our Target: 96%

Nursery – Green room (pm)

100%

Reception – Class 5

97.5%

Year 1 – Class 16 & 18

97%

Year 2 – Class 15

99%

Nursery

Green Room

This term in Green Room, our topic was 'Why can't I have chocolate for breakfast?' We read books such as 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar', 'Dave's Breakfast Blast Off' and 'Kitchen Disco'. 'Dave's Breakfast Blast Off' has given children the opportunity to develop language around likes and dislikes.



Blue and Red Room

This term our topic was Light and Dark. We used the book 'The Night Pirates' to teach prepositional language through an obstacle course and building pirates ships using loose parts in the outside provision. We modelled and reinforced this language throughout the term. We also used the text as a starting point for counting with 1:1 correspondence and matching numerals to quantity. We also made telescopes to use on our telescope hunt around the school like Timothy Pope from the story 'Shark in the Dark'.



Reception

People Who Help Us

In Term 2 we focused on a variety of non-fiction books relating to our topic 'People Who Help Us.' This topic gave children the chance to explore the 'People and Community' aspect of UW in great depth. The children have learned about various occupations and ways of life in a variety of cross curricular contexts, which they demonstrate their understanding of in a variety of ways. Role play was a big part of this term's topic. The children will explore roles and occupations through having free access to a role play 'Fire Station, Doctors Surgery and Police Station'.



Year 1

Splendid Skies

In Topic this term children have been learning about the four seasons, and what the weather is like during each season as part of their Science and Geography lessons. They used anemometers and compasses, and also ran around holding scarves up in the windy air to see which direction the wind was blowing in. Children watched videos about extreme weather, discussed the causes of floods and hurricanes, and created their own survival bags. They found out why it rains and how clouds are formed, and created different types of clouds using cotton wool, and made season wheels to show the different seasons and weather throughout the year.

Listen to the children talking about how the wind felt.



The children talked about what makes rain, and how clouds are formed. They used different parts of their body and instruments to make the sound of rain. Watch the video to hear them sing 'I hear thunder', using their bodies and musical instruments to make the sound of rain.



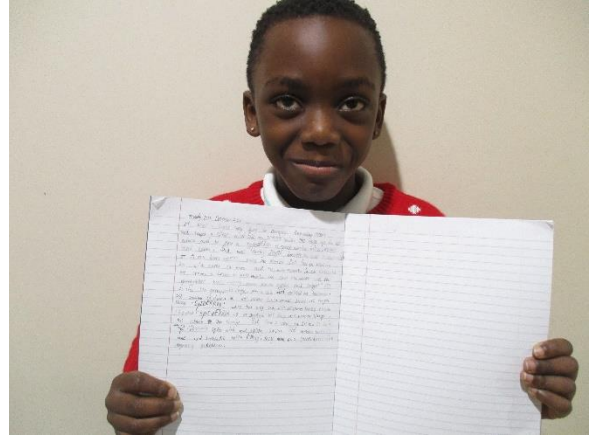
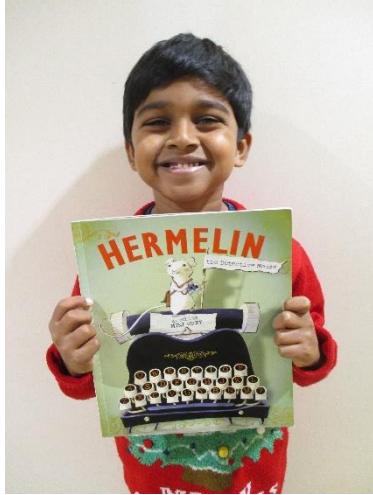
The children created different types of clouds using cotton wool.



Year 2

Hermelin the Detective Mouse

In Year 2, the children have been learning about the story 'Hermelin the Detective Mouse'. They have really enjoyed learning how to become a detective and they were lucky enough to get a visit from Hermelin himself! The children have produced lots of amazing writing such as letters, posters, invitations, and they even re-wrote the story. Well done Year 2!



Other News & Events

Remembrance

To commemorate Remembrance Day this year, all staff and children across the school listened to the song 'The Last Post,' before holding a two minutes' silence to remember those that fought or lost their lives during the wars. The children stayed silent across the school and it was amazing to see how well they concentrated and reflected on the importance of this moment. Throughout the day, the children then completed some activities related to Remembrance Day and the symbol of the poppy including some wonderful art activities. Well done to all of the children for working so hard and commemorating this special event.



Antibullying Week

We began the week by wearing odd socks to school to celebrate that we are all different and proud of it!



Then the whole school took part in an antibullying workshops where they learnt about what they could do to help to stop bullying. They used this information to design posters to teach people how to be kind.



We ended the week by wearing colourful clothes to celebrate that we are all unique and proud.



Christmas Journey

On Thursday Year 1 children were very lucky to take part in a virtual RE visit to the church to experience the Christmas Journey through Zoom with Faiths in School! We had so much fun role- playing the shepherds and the Three- Wise Men. We even got to make bread in Mary's wonderful kitchen and tasted bread sticks. We had so much fun learning and exploring, it was as if we were there, a part of history taking place.



Christmas Jumper Day



The children and staff all dressed in their Christmas jumpers and brought a contribution for the charity Save the children. We all looked very festive.

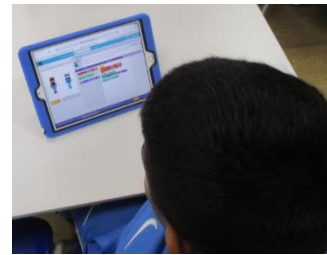
Christmas Songs

We have been celebrating our festive Christmas singing at Almore. We have been practising hard to ensure that our singing can bring positive energy to our local community. Scan the QR code to watch our performance.



Hour of Code

Over the past two weeks Year 1 & Year 2 children have been taking part in an 'Hour of Code'. This is a worldwide event celebrating the importance of learning how to code as part of Computer Science. The activities nurture problem-solving skills, logic and creativity. The children all explored using code to create algorithms.



Children in Need

We just wanted to say a big thank you for all the donations for Children in Need. We raised £237.



To all staff, parents and children,

As some of you may already know, I will be leaving Almore at the end of this term as I am moving to a new school in Cambridge, in January. While this was a very tough decision to make, I just wanted to write a message to say a massive 'THANK YOU' to all of the staff, children and families that I have met and worked with. Almore is where I trained to be a teacher seven years ago and I have had a brilliant time teaching here, from exciting lessons to amazing Educational Visits, I will always cherish this school as a very special place with many happy and everlasting memories. I know this is a very strange time to be leaving and I wish I could say goodbye to lots of you properly however I will keep in touch with lots of the teachers and I hope to be able to come back and visit you all later next year!

I hope you all have a very happy and restful holiday season during these unusual times and take care.

From Natalie x



Dates for your diary...

January	
5 th January	First day of term
8 th January	Nursery closed
February	
9 th February	Safer Internet Day
12 th February	Last day of term
22 nd February	First day of term
26 th February	Wear it red day for the British Heart Foundation
March	
4 th March	World Book day

Please note these dates are subject to change

The Winter Reading Challenge

Don't forget to go to your nearest library and join in on the Winter Reading Challenge.

