

At Oasis Aspinal we...

Aspire, Aim high, Achieve



December 2021 | Issue 16

Welcome!



Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you for your amazing support again this half term. The children have all worked really hard this half term and have done really well in some recent assessments we have done. The children enjoyed watching the pantomime and Santa's visit! The children enjoyed Christmas Jumper day and Christmas dinner last Friday.

We are looking forward to Year 2 being in their brand new classroom when they return to school in January. This means everyone's class will now be in a new classroom.

We have elected some pupil leaders, we have our Well-Being Champion's, Academy MPS, Physical Health Champions and a mini leadership team! All the leaders have met with their link adult and have given some great suggestions for the school.

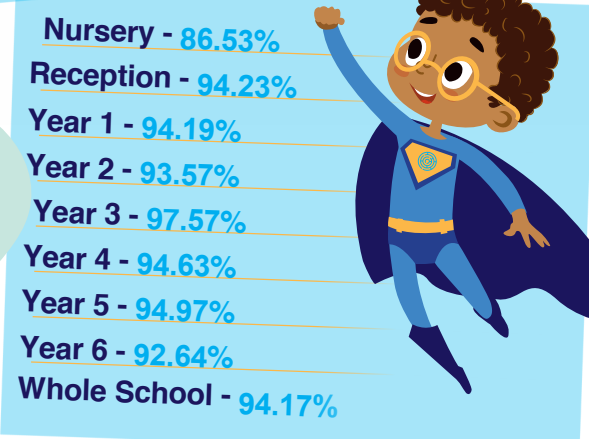
Please find the attendance information for each class inside the newsletter. Thank you for your continued support on this. Children who have been absent relating to COVID are not counted as missing any days from school. Let's see if we can have even more next term!

A reminder we have also updated our school website (www.oasisacademyapinal.org). Please make sure you check MCAS as all letters will be attached to the app this year rather than sent out.

Have a lovely Christmas and New Year and we will see everyone back at school on Tuesday 4th January.

Miss Sweeting

This half terms attendance



Contact us anytime at...

- 0161 223 0053
- www.oasisacademyapinal.org
- @oasisaspinal
- admin@oasisaspinal.org

ASPIRE, AIM HIGH, ACHIEVE

EYFS News

Well everyone that's the first term over – how quickly it has passed and how very strange it has been.

The children are working very hard and making great progress.

I'd just like to say 'Thank You' for the amazing job you are doing at home supporting the children with their reading. It is obvious by their progress and your comments that they are having regular practise with their books and the key words at home – Well Done!

Lost Property

With the weather getting colder and wetter the children are understandably wearing more items of clothing, hats, gloves, scarves. Please make sure that you put your childs name in everything (even initials is better than nothing).

Learning so far...

Children have been creating self portraits as part of the 'This is Me' topic. They also created firework toast for bonfire night which they really enjoyed. We have studied 'Owl Babies' and the children made their own Owl Baby out of playdough!

We are looking forward to lots more fun next half term!

Have a wonderful Christmas break and Thank You for your continued support

Miss Bailey, Mrs Currie and Mrs O'Brien



YEAR 1



Wow! We can hardly believe it's the end of our first term already!

The children have continued to work so hard and we are seeing some fantastic progress.

ENGLISH

In English we have studied the book 'The Way Back Home' by Oliver Jeffers. The children have worked tremendously hard planning and writing their own version of the story. fantastic writing, including speech bubbles, letters and reports.

PHONICS

The children are making great progress with their phonics. If you haven't already you will soon be receiving a phonic practise pack (this will consist of games, flashcards etc) which the children are to keep at home and play/use regularly with an adult. We are now at that vital point where, just like in those early stages of learning to ride a bike or drive a car, very regular, short-burst (5-10 mins here and there) practise is essential to maintain progress made to this point-if you don't use it-you lose it!

MATHS

In Maths we have focused on numbers within 20 (comparing and ordering numbers to 20, addition and subtraction strategies and number patterns). We have also learned about 2D shapes and comparing names and properties.

SCIENCE

Our Science unit this half term has been 'Animals', the children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the five different vertebrate animal groups.

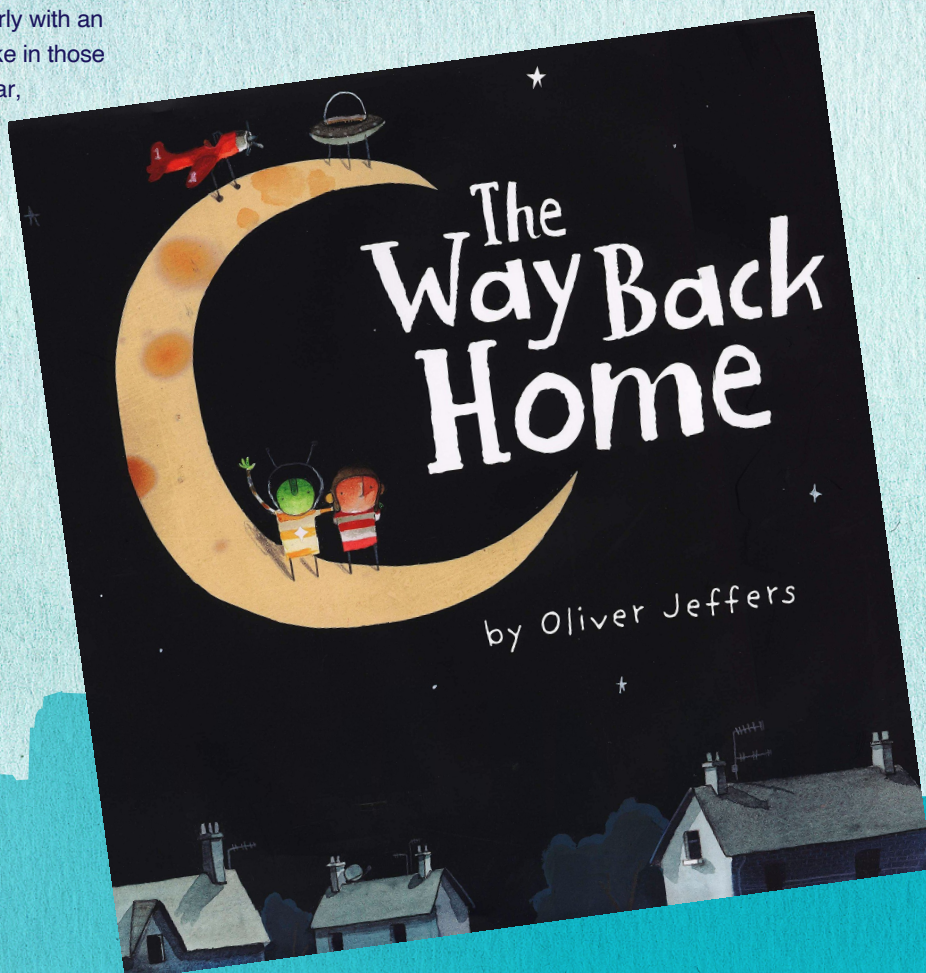
HISTORY

Our History topic this half term has been 'Nelson Mandela'. The children have learned all about what an incredible person Nelson Mandela was and all of the amazing things he achieved in his lifetime.

As always thank you to those families who are supporting their children by reading regularly and practising key words and spellings at home, your hard work is not going unnoticed and these are the children making the most progress.

Thank you for your continued support, we wish all of our families a VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A HEALTHY AND HAPPY 2022!

Mrs McDonald, Mrs Cragg and Miss Stringer



YEAR 2

We can't believe we've completed yet another amazing term at school in Year 2!

A big well done to all of Year 2 for working extremely hard in all areas of learning this half term. The Year 2 team have been driven, adaptive and reflective and have gained greater confidence with using the iPads and technology for learning. It has been lovely watching friendships blossom and watching the class welcome our three new classmates with big smiles and friendly words.

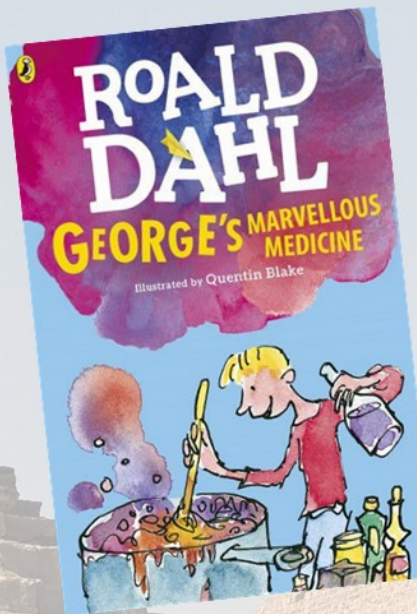
In English, the children have enjoyed exploring the 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch' book. They have developed creative responses to the text through drama and storytelling and have built on knowledge and skills gained in Year 1. Year 2 developed their own authorial voices and ideas to innovate a story and write a letter all about Mr and Mrs Grinling and how to keep Mr Grinling's lunch safe from the pesky seagulls! We have also built on our excellent sentence stacking techniques when engaging with our other text 'Meerkat Mail', alongside building on our fantastic VIPERS skills during our exploration of the 'Winter's Child' text in our literature sessions.

In Geography, Year 2 have been using maps to locate places and landmarks within the UK, alongside discussing the continents and oceans of the World. We have also paid close attention to the weather in each continent and compared Gorton, England to New Delhi, India. Y2 have also gained valuable knowledge and understanding of themselves as citizens and their place in the World, which has been further embedded during our PSHE and Personal Development sessions too.

Miss Buckley, Miss Cairns & Miss Morrison



YEAR 3



The end of the Autumn term is here. The children have worked hard and impressed us with their effort.

In English, they wrote narratives based on the text *George's Marvellous Medicine*. The children enjoyed exploring the text and their final writing pieces were as marvellous as the medicine.

In maths, the children have been working on addition and subtraction. They used known facts to solve problems, learnt to add and subtract ones, tens and hundreds and are now able to add and subtract two 3-digit numbers.

During Science, the children have learnt how the three different types of rocks are formed, investigated the properties of rock, and classified and grouped them according to their properties. The children also learnt about Mary Anning who is known as the greatest fossil hunter to ever live.

As part of our citizenship and the world theme, history lessons looked at Ancient Egypt. The children learnt about the environments that ancient civilisations rose from, identified where Egypt is and are able to describe Egypt's unification. The children enjoyed learning about Egyptian's beliefs, mummification, and how written language developed in Egypt.

In geography, the children learnt about the different settlement in the United Kingdom and compared them to settlements in Uganda. We discussed the similarities and differences between the settlements and enjoyed exploring the land used and different landmarks.

Remember you can support your child's learning by completing home learning tasks and reading with them daily. If you need any support with this, please contact me via Class Dojo.

Thank you for your continued support and we hope you all enjoy your winter break.

Miss Clayton & Mrs Robinson

Year 4

Wow - how is it Christmas already?! I am so proud of each and every child in the class and how well they have settled into school, especially with all the new changes. They have a hard working attitude, dedication and motivation toward all aspects of their work.

Maths

At the beginning of the half term, we continued with addition and subtraction – learning how to do column addition and subtraction where exchanging takes place. Although at times Year 4 found it hard, they never gave up and continuously impressed me with their efforts. We then began learning about measurements and working out the perimeter of rectilinear shapes. Year 4 thoroughly enjoyed this unit and were maths magicians by the end of it!

English

Moon Man has been a HIT with Year 4! We read the beautiful story of the journey Moon Man took to Earth and all the trouble he stumbled across on the way. The pieces of writing Year 4 produced from this book are jaw-dropping. The vocabulary, metaphors, similes and powerful sentences that were written were out of this world. I am so amazed with the progression I have already seen in only one term, and I am SO excited to see what comes next.

Science

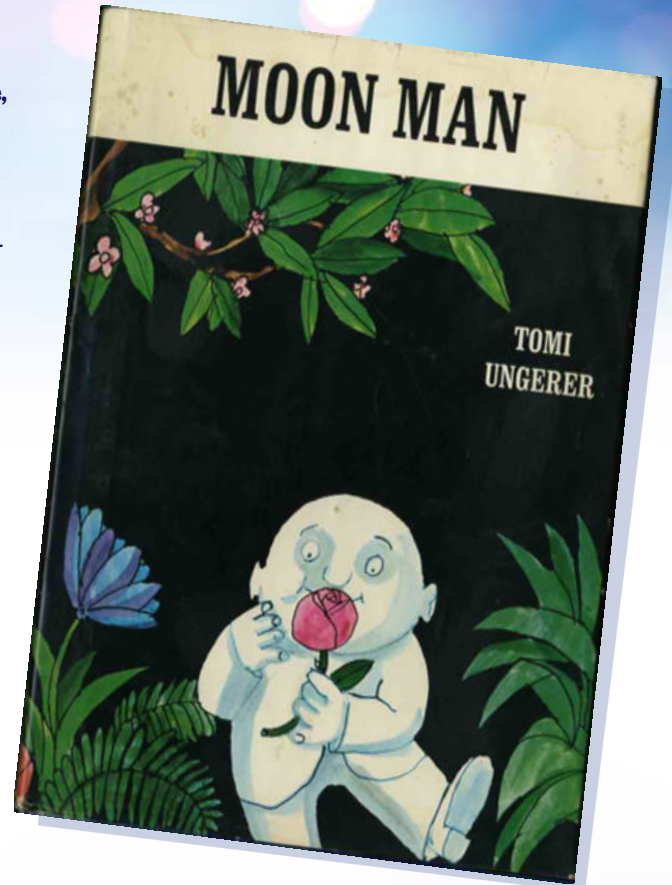
In science, our new unit was 'States of Matter'. We started by looking at the differences between solids, liquids and gases, classifying objects and identifying their properties. To finish off the unit, the children have explored in-depth how water changes state, exploring melting, freezing, condensing as well as a particular focus on evaporation. From this, they learnt about the stages of a water cycle and even created a comic strip of 'The Story of the Water-Droplet' which were INCREDIBLE!!

This half-term's theme has been Citizenship and the World, which was the focus in history, geography, art and PSHE. Some incredible work has been produced throughout and some very interesting and insightful conversations have been had.

Have an amazing Christmas break and we look forward to seeing everyone again in January - Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Thank you so much for your continued support

Miss Dale and Miss Lindop



States of matter



Solid

Gas



Liquid



YEAR 5



Here we are at the end of another very successful half term! The children have settled well and are really getting stuck into all of the new learning. It was particularly lovely to see many of your faces at parents evening and to give you the chance to see our lovely new classroom where we have settled in nicely.

Miss Turner has joined us as our teaching assistant this half term and we are really glad to have her with us!

In English, we have had so much fun and enjoyment this half term reading and writing our own Fairy Tale based on *The Lost Happy Endings* by Carol Ann Duffy. The children particularly enjoyed the part when the witch was burnt to deal and good conquered evil! They have shown real imagination in their writing using skills such as fronted adverbials, onomatopoeia and expanded noun phrases to describe settings and characters in detail!

Our maths focus this half term has been mainly working on different types of data and graphs. The children have learnt the difference between discrete and continuous data as they began to learn to read, respond to and even draw their own line graphs. They have learnt some key words including sum, total and understood that when a problem asks us to find the difference we need to subtract. Towards the end, we have begun making a real big effort learning and practicing our times tables as we move into our multiplication and division unit. This has seen us begin to understand the term multiple and factor as well as being able to identify common multiples that appear in more than one times table.

I am sure all of the children will agree that their favourite subject this half term though has been science! We have learnt about Earth and Space. Lots of children have shown curiosity and interest in the subject and asked some very important and interesting questions! We have learnt about the planets, stars, eclipses and even about the scientific theories which have evolved through different scientists.

We have learnt so much more through art, PE, religious studies, PSHE, history and geography! Our music lessons have continued and you can see some highlights from these and our PE lessons on Class Dojo! You can always ask your child to share this with you on their iPad.

We hope you have a lovely well-earned rest over the holiday period and we wish the best for 2022 to you and your families.

Miss Hughes and Miss Turner.

YEAR 6

We could not be prouder of Year 6 and the incredible effort they have put in so far this year!

This half term we have explored the book 'The Arrival' by Shaun Tan. The silent graphic novel is the story of every migrant, every refugee, every displaced person, and a tribute to all those who have made the journey. The children have wowed us with their interpretation of the images and have used knowledge gained in other areas of the curriculum to inform their responses. Following on from this, they produced some fantastic letters to persuade the government to act concerning the current child refugee crisis.



In maths, we have been introduced to long division as a new method for completing division calculations. The children have become proficient using the method and can identify when to use long division as an efficient strategy. In addition to this, we have been developing our knowledge of fractions, consolidating the skills we developed in Year 5 to deepen our understanding as well as extending our knowledge to tackle questions involving dividing fractions by whole numbers.

Through our geography and history lessons, the children have been introduced to the Oasis Global theme 'Citizenship and the World'. Through thought-provoking enquires, they have explored the causes, consequences and global impact of World War 2, deepening their understanding of essential world knowledge and helping them to question, and challenge, the past to give them an informed judgement. We have investigated global human and physical geography to understand the world's biomes and natural resources. Furthermore, we have focused on non-renewable and renewable energy and the impact they have on the environment.

In other areas of the curriculum, we have been looking at classification in science. The children began by exploring how living things can be classified and looked at scientist Carl Linneaus and his contributions to taxonomy. We then went on to classify plants and microorganisms. Finally, the children explored their locality and classified the living things we came across during our investigation.

We wish you all a fantastic Christmas break and a well-deserved rest.

Miss Webster and Mrs Myatt



Community MATTERS

Afterschool Clubs

We are so happy that we can now provide several after school opportunities at only £2.50 per session. There are still a limited number of places available if you would like to join any of our sessions in the new year. Please book on to the courses via MCAS early to be sure of securing a place. We hope to add additional clubs in the spring term.

Meet the Author

Trips and visits have not been possible this term, however all classes have enjoyed a virtual visit from two published authors. In November pupils joined author Matt Haig who talked about his new book - A Boy Called Christmas, which has now been made into a film, soon to be available on Netflix! Earlier this month, we enjoyed a multi-school online event hosted by Manchester Libraries - Twisted Christmas Tales with Gav Cross. This was an interactive performance with some great contributions by pupils who played the part of various characters alongside their hilarious narrator

Academy MP's	Mini SLT	Wellbeing Champions	Physical Health Champions
Academy MP's have been elected by their classmates to represent their year group in meetings with SLT. They have already met twice with our Personal Development Leader to explore themes around Hope and Joy which link closely with our monthly 9 Habit focus.	The mini SLT applied in writing for their position in Year 6. They will be assisting our school leaders and will each be linked to specific areas of the Academy Development Plan – Curriculum, Safeguarding and Leadership.	Wellbeing Champions applied for their post and were selected on their commitment to ensuring that everyone is healthy and happy both in class and outdoors. They were very proud to receive their new handbooks and smart reflective jackets to wear while on duty.	Physical Health Champions have been selected for their sporting talents and are responsible for organising resources efficiently and assisting with games at playtime and lunchtime. We were so proud to witness our Year 6 champions organising games of handball with the pupils in year 4. What a great start.
			

Wishing you all joy this Christmas

JOY