



Friday 20th October 2023

Gates

As indicated previously we will be starting to widen the exit gates out of the academy. The first gate widening will be happening shortly following half term. The final exit gate widening leading onto Queen Katharine Academy will hopefully still happen in the future. We are just awaiting a further decision from their Trust. In the meantime, if everyone could continue to be as considerate as you have been as you exit, we would really appreciate it. Thank you.

'Run for Fun'

Today the whole Academy took part in the 'Run for Fun' challenge. Well done everyone!



Attendance Update

The attendance for this half term was **95.3%**

This week the overall attendance was a low **94%**

Well done to **Goliath** and **Odin** who both achieved **98%**

Breakfast

As we all know having something to eat before we start to learn is so important. This can be toast, cereal, bagels, hard boiled or runny eggs or porridge. These are just a few of the different ideas that will help ensure that your child has enough fuel to face the day. Please help your child be ready to learn by giving them something to eat before they leave home each morning.

Clubs

- Monday - Yr. 3 & 4 Netball and Football clubs – Lunchtime
Yr. 3 & 4 Drama and Performance club – Lunchtime
Yr. 1 & 2 Football with POSH until 4:15pm (**Starting 6th November**)
Yr. 1 & 2 Multi-sports - Afterschool with Mr Burnham until 4:15pm
Yr. 3,4,5 & 6 Girls Football with POSH until 4:15pm (**Starting 6th November**)
Yr. 3,4,5 & 6 Country Dancing with Mrs Stanley and Mrs Nightingale
- Tuesday - Yr. 5 & 6 Girls Football club - Lunchtime
Yr. 5 & 6 Drama and Performance club – Lunchtime
Yr. 4, 5 & 6 Ukulele Club - Lunchtime
Yr. 3,4,5 & 6 Running club with Mrs Torrens until 4:15pm
Yr. 3 & 4 Multi-sports with Mr Burnham until 4:15pm
- Wednesday - Yr. 5 & 6 Boys Football club – Lunchtime
Yr. 5 Beatles singing club - Lunchtime.
Yr. 5 & 6 Multi-sports with Mr Burnham until 4:15pm
Yr.5 & 6 Netball Club with Miss Hovell and Mrs Savidge until 4:15pm
- Friday- Yr.3 & 4 Football with POSH until 4:15pm (**Starting 10th November**)
Yr.5 & 6 Football with POSH until 4:15pm (**Starting 10th November**)

Trips

We have managed to finalise the details of trips for two of our year groups. The year 5 trip to The National Space Centre and the year 4 trip to Hamerton Zoo. Letters will be emailed today about these trips. The remaining trip letters will be coming out just after half term.

Cathedral Visit

On Tuesday afternoon a group of Year 4 students were lucky enough to attend an exciting musical workshop at the Cathedral with Mrs Barnes. The children worked alongside other schools from across the city singing a new song. They met the composer Alexander L'Estrange, who has been commissioned to write the piece which will be premiered in Spring 2024. The children were a credit to the academy and should be extremely proud of their achievements. Well done.



Hockey Tournament

Well done to the year 5 and 6 team that represented Discovery in the quicksticks hockey tournament on Wednesday.

You were all fantastic!

Reading and Numbots / Times Tables Rockstars

I am sure following parent's evenings you can see how important reading and learning either your number bonds or timetable rockstars is.

Please support your child by continuing to do these things over the half term break.

Pabulum Hot Meals

Please remember your child can have an academy hot meal at the cost of £2.50 each. The menu is on our website and sent out weekly on Class Dojo. It is one way of ensuring that your child/children receive a hot meal at lunchtime. A great idea when the weather is colder. The meal can be paid for in advance via the pupil asset app.

Dates for Your Calendar

Monday 23rd October 2023 – Half Term
Monday 30th October 2023 – Children return.
Thursday 9th November 2023 – 9am - New In-take Tour
Friday 17th November 2023 – Children in Need Day
Wednesday 29th November 2023 – Odin Parents Evening
Thursday 30th November 2023 – Odin Parents Evening

Phase Leader updates

I am sure you will enjoy reading all about the work that the different year groups have been involved in this half term. All updates are at the bottom of this newsletter. We certainly have had a busy half term.

Foundation Stage

It has been a very busy half term in Foundation stage. The children have all settled really well into their first half term at school and have been busy making new friends and exploring the classroom and outdoor area. Our topics this half term have been focused on the children. They have painted pictures of themselves, thought about who is in their family and looked at photos of themselves as babies and thought about how they have changed. The last couple of weeks we have been exploring activities using our senses. The children loved exploring ice, shaving foam and tasting different foods.



The children have started to learn letter sounds in their phonics sessions. They are trying hard to remember all the letter sounds we have learnt so far and are beginning to put these together to read words. It has been great to see lots of the children sharing their reading books regularly at home too.

Next half term we are looking forward to starting our weekly forest school sessions and learning about the festivals of Diwali, Christmas, and Bonfire Night.



Year 1 and Year 2

The children in Key Stage One have been settling into their new classes, learning lots and making new friends. There have been a full range of activities across the curriculum in Reading, Writing, Maths and Science. Class Dojo is used to display the Knowledge Organisers for foundation curriculum subjects, so that parents know about the subjects being studied.

In Year One Design Technology lessons, children have been learning about freestanding structures so they could design a chair for baby bear. The children enjoyed making their own chair from rolled card cylinders. Each child's chair was tested by putting a bear on the chair to see if it was strong enough.

In geography the Year One children went on a walk around the local area to look at different features of the area such as Caverstede Nursery and All Saints Church. They enjoyed lovely weather on the day and saw a squirrel, a butterfly and lots of autumn leaves on the ground. Then they made a large map of the local area using shapes they saw to make the buildings.



In Year Two the children also enjoyed a walk. They went to the post-box to post their postcards, which is one of the aims on their Bucket List. They have been finding out about the history of communication by learning about books, telegrams, telephones, and smartphones. Each class has a timeline showing the history they have studied. In Art lessons the Year Two children are learning about drawing lines, using shape, space, and colour while producing art based on the work of Paul Klee. They will also learn how to use oil pastels.

To support the learning that takes place in the academy, each child in Year One and Two needs to read to an adult at home five times a week. Please remember to write in their reading record so we can count it. We also expect that the children play on Numbots three times a week for 5 minutes each time. Please talk to your child's teacher if you need support with this.

The Race to Read reward will be won by one of the classes very soon! Numbots certificates will be awarded in class each week to the most improved players.



Year 3 and Year 4

Well, we have reached our first half term of a new academic year. As always, we have all kept busy and it was good to meet parents at Parents' Evening to share our expectations for the new year. It is so important for all adults to work in partnership for the good of the children.

Teachers are very happy with those children who are reading 5 times a week and working on their TTRS sessions. Please support your child in completing their home learning as it really helps them in everything we do.

In Year 3, the children have stepped back in time to Prehistoric Britain; where the children learnt about how life changed from the Stone Age through the Bronze Age and into the Iron Age. They have also explored Rocks and Soils in Science; particularly enjoying the scientific enquiry of how fossilisation happened (with layers of bread and jelly worms).



Although it is only the first half term the children have already started to make links in their learning by thinking about what early settlers needed in Settlements in Geography. They also enjoyed looking at land use in the local environment on their walk yesterday.



Year 4 have been learning about States of Matter and the Water Cycle in Science this term. They showed how the Water Cycle works by making a Water Cycle in a bag, which were displayed on the classroom windows.



This week, Year 4 have been learning about important festivals for Jewish People. The children worked together to create Sukkahs, which looked amazing!



Enjoy half term. Keep safe and take care of each other.

Mrs Nightingale

Year 5 and Year 6

Year 5 and 6 have had a fantastic start to the year and have completed some excellent learning across the curriculum.

Year 5

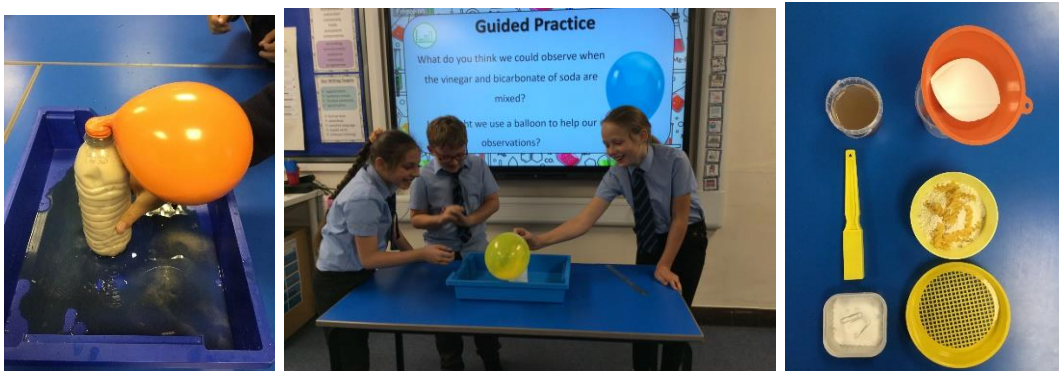
Year 5 have settled well into their first year of Upper Key Stage 2 and have worked incredibly hard across a range of curriculum subjects. To begin the term, the children have focussed on formal writing, creating their own letters of application for the position of Academy Councillor. We have then constructed balanced arguments on the key question *Should zoos be banned?* including a range of new sentence structures and key vocabulary. The children worked especially hard to use a formal tone in both pieces of writing.

In history, all three classes thoroughly enjoyed learning about 17th century London and the impact of the plague and the Great Fire of London on society. The children particularly enjoyed learning about the strange 'cures' prescribed by the plague doctors (dried toads, anyone?) and people's fear of pointy-shoed men, who were believed by some to have caused the plague!

Having learnt about the structure of Tudor houses and how these helped the Great Fire of London to spread, the children then designed and built their own model houses in Design and Technology. New skills of sawing and gluing were challenges that were overcome, and the children constructed and decorated some outstanding models. These beautiful structures were then used in a recreation of Pudding Lane itself, which, to the excitement of the children, caught fire once again! The children were thrilled to watch the way in which the fire spread so easily between houses and helped to deepen their understanding of their history learning.



In science, Year 5 have completed a range of experiments in their learning about the properties and changes of materials. They have particularly enjoyed a long-term investigation into the evaporation process on brine - in which the children have observed salt-crystal formation - and a (very messy!) investigation of irreversible changes involving vinegar, bicarbonate of soda, balloons, and some very wet teachers! They have also investigated the most efficient ways to separate substances and mixtures.



All three Year 5 classes continue to strive for their 5x weekly reading. TTRS tournaments have also created fierce competition between classes – well done to all of those children completing your 50 sessions weekly and deepening your maths fluency as you practise.

Year 6

Year 6 have had a reflective start to the year, as they have written some excellent autobiographies, with a focus on creating cohesion and maintaining the correct tense throughout.

Meanwhile, in maths, the children have revisited and reviewed the four main operations and have continued to work hard with their Times Tables Rockstars, which is really helping to support times tables fluency.

In history, Year 6 have studied the inciting incidents for the outbreak of WWII, its impact on society and how it changed the role of women on the Home Front. In Design and Technology, the children have worked really hard to develop their sewing skills. They have learnt how to thread needles and use running, blanket, and back stitch. Amazing work!

Year 6 have been very lucky to be invited to Arthur Mellows for a basketball festival, which everyone thoroughly enjoyed. The Race to Read challenge is also well underway, with Beagle claiming the first win of the year. Great reading!

A fantastic start to Autumn Term, Year 5 and 6. You should be very proud of everything that you have learnt and achieved in the past few weeks.

Well done!