

Alexandra Primary School

Aspire, Perform, Succeed



News: 13th September 2024

Message from the Head Teacher

Hello Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to see the children return to school with lots of enthusiasm and confidence. Children new to Alexandra are settling in and everyone is getting to know the routines and expectations.

School has invited parents and carers to welcome meetings and these introduce staff, cover routines and provide some curriculum information. More information such as the weekly learning overviews and PE days can be found on the school website at www.alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk

At Alexandra Primary School, we have thought about our curriculum offer and how reading supports learning. Reading is the key to our curriculum and we teach 8 reading strategies and repeat these over the year. There is a great deal of research to suggest that the more children read or are read to or have reading modelled by parents, teachers and adults, the more successful they will be later on in life. Encouraging and facilitating reading for pleasure is something that parents and carers can support their child with that will impact now and throughout their lives.

Thank you parents for following our drop off and collection arrangements. It is really important to use the correct gates for both drop off and collection. These arrangements support safeguarding as when we are full, there are nearly 700 children that need to attend and leave the site daily. Following collection of your child, please ensure they remain with you and leave the site promptly.

Classes and teachers this year are as follows:

Year 6	Miss Cooper 6SC	Miss Carberry 6C	Mr Berryman 6B
Year 5	Mr Severn 5S	Miss Hynes 5H	Miss Conway 5C
Year 4	Miss Padda 4P	Mr Cuell 4C	Mr Brain 4B
Year 3	Mr McDonell 3M	Mr Cheatham 3C	Ms Barry 3B
Year 2	Miss Raymond 2R	Ms Smith 2CS	Ms Gray 2G
Year 1	Ms Stubbs 1S	Ms Mila 1M	Ms Harji 1H
Reception	Miss Crowder Yellow class	Mrs Sikora / Mrs Bradfield Blue class	Mrs Savill Red class
Nursery	Ms Lovett Mrs McLaughlin (SENDCO)		

Breakfast club and aftercare have some spaces at the moment. DO contact the school office if you would like to book one. More information can be found in the Information for Parents area of the website.

There are also still a few places in before school and after school sports clubs. Information can be sought from the school office. Term dates can be found on the school website.

And don't forget:

In September we have...

Air Ambulance Week - 9th to 15th September

<https://www.airambulancesuk.org/air-ambulance-week/>

National Coding Week - 16th to 22nd September

<https://codingweek.org/>

National Eye Health Week 2024 - 23rd to 29th September

<http://www.visionmatters.org.uk/>

Thought for the week:

**Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not come yet.
We have only today. Let us begin.**

Question of the week:

What sport will be invented next?

Nursery – The Children have been visiting the nursery to get acquainted with the environment and get to know the nursery staff. Staff have also been completing home visits to meet children and parents in familiar settings.

Reception – The Children in Reception have been busy settling into their new classes and choosing many of the resources that they have wanted to explore.



Matching coloured teddy bears has been fun!



Playing with playdough is always a favourite activity.



The children have enjoyed exploring paint using different objects to print with



Focusing on balancing objects in different ways is exciting.

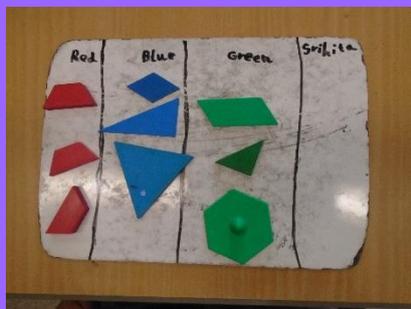
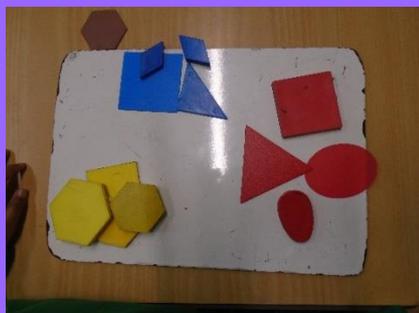
The children have been singing lots of action number songs, playing listening games and choosing many activities to support their learning.

Year 1 – We have had a super start to the new academic year! Children have settled in very well and they are enjoying their new topic; Me, You and the World.

In English, the children have been looking at nursery rhymes. They have been showing off their acting skills by performing familiar rhymes with a focus on clear, loud voices as well as actions and facial expressions.



In Maths, the children have been sorting, counting and representing objects. They have shown a great understanding so far and have been able to sort objects in lots of different ways.



In indoor PE this half term, the children are doing Dance. This week the children learnt some actions to a song they all seemed to know very well. They were brilliant at following the actions and listening carefully to the music.



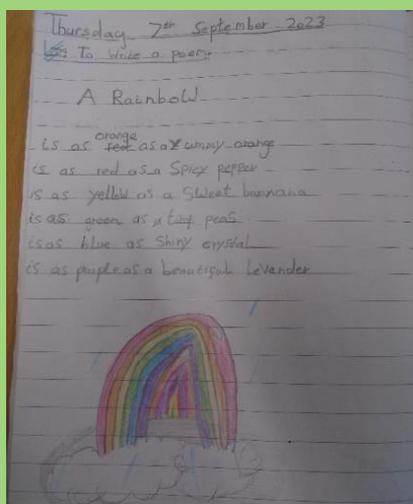
Well done Year 1 on an excellent start. Your teachers are very proud of you.

Year 2 – The children have settled into Year 2 and have been working hard at making our learning environment comfortable and informative. We have been looking at our rights and have created our own class rules and class charter.

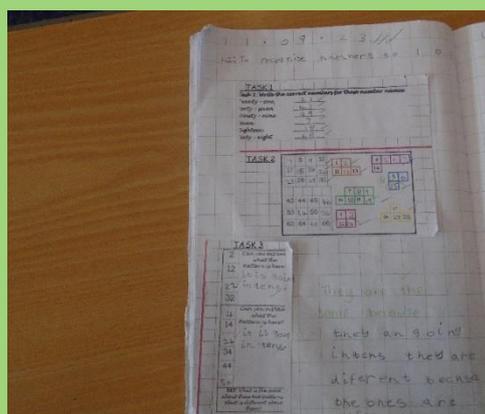


During Circle time, we took the theme of 'building relationships' to have a discussion, role-play different scenarios and give each other ideas on how we could build relationships. These activities have helped us to understand the importance of working together and as part of a team.

In English, we have been learning about poetry. We were given a poem called 'The Rainbow' and as a challenge, we were asked if we were able to think of alternative endings. We had lots of fun creating and performing our versions of the poem.



In Maths, we have been demonstrating our skills and knowledge we learnt in Year One. We showed that we were able to compare numbers to 50, recognise numbers to 100 and how to partition using the Part Whole method.



Year 3 – We are so delighted with how well Year 3 have settled into their new classes. They have conquered the stairways and have ensured that they are now conquering their classroom. We have already been busy and have completed a lot of work in these early days.

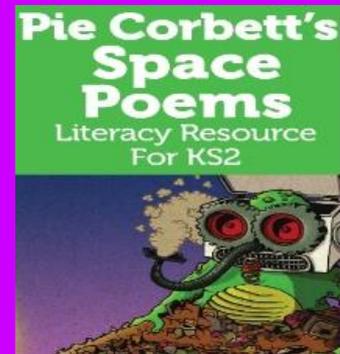
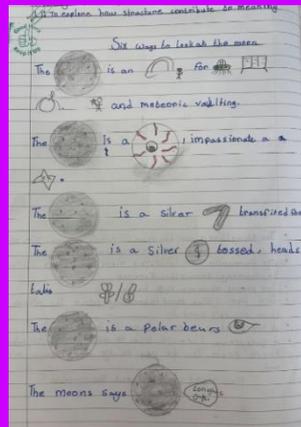
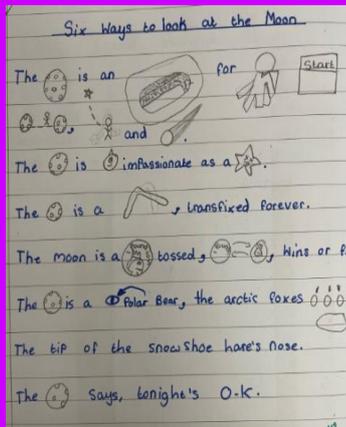
We have discussed and created our class charters and agreed the responsibilities of both ourselves and the adults. Through our topic we have begun learning about the Stone Age and within our writing lessons we have started learning some Stone Age based poetry, here you can see some of us acting out the poem!



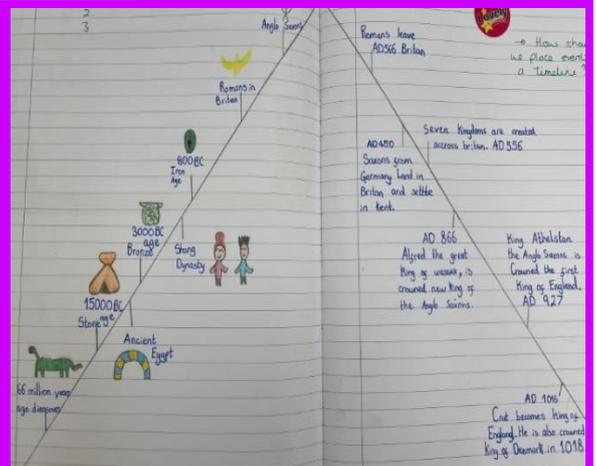
In PSHE, we have been looking at and sorting the wants and needs article cards. We discussed what we actually 'need' (to survive) and what we 'want' (we would like but do not require to live) and explored the difference between the two words. Once we had this understanding we worked with our partners to identify the articles that link directly to our lives and in particular education, using the UNICEF Little Book of Rights. After voting for the most relevant rights we created our class charter which we refer to during each lesson and throughout the week.



Year 5 – In English we have been using the poem 'Six ways to look at the Moon' by Pie Corbett to inspire our poetry writing. We have identified the poetry features in the poem and used the structure of the poem to help create our own figurative language.



In History, we have started our learning about the Anglo Saxons in Britain. We have reviewed our prior knowledge (understanding the Romans were in Britain before) and then thought of questions we would like to know about this unit. We also created a timeline in our books, showing the time periods we have previously studied in chronological order, as well as some of the main events of the Anglo-Saxon period in Britain.



Along with Year 6, we enjoyed the special assembly by Rock Steady Music, which was extremely entertaining and informative. Some of us even got to be a part of the band!



Year 6 - Children have settled into Year 6 beautifully and are getting used to being APS role models for the younger children.

In English this week, children have explored Tennyson's poem, The Eagle. We started off completing a poetry jigsaw puzzle and piecing the stanzas together. Then after exploring the poetic devices and vocabulary, children constructed their own poem in the same style about a lion. Here is an example of some of our work so far:

Tuesday 10th September 2024
 LI To use prepositional phrases

Eyes locked on today's lunch; 7
 It lays low in a still hunch; 7
 To pack such a powerful punch. 7

The overgrown grass waves in delight; 7
 Look! A jinxed hog as fat in sight; 8
 Srrrr! It chases with all his might. 7

Great personification sense
Great! Add another stanza for the attack!

Monday 9th September 2024
 LI To form stanzas and metaphors using adjectives and adverbs




• Skulking
 • It is as strong as a main General
 • Focused
 • Eyes are plates
 • Teeth as sharp as blades

• unflinching
 • velvet ears twitching
 • Savage spirit with no heart
 • Silent assassination

• Impossible to escape
 • Stone heart
 • The teeth sink into the flesh.
 • Lunch/Breakfast/Dinner served.
 • If you come face to face
 you would be in your grave
 • His teeth like spikes

• Savage spirit
 • Who ever looks in the eyes will know their fate.
 • Eyes on prize
 • Showdown
 • Lion is on Olympic runner
 • Belting through the grass

Some brilliant vocabulary and metaphors.

Next Step
 I really like the way how Tennyson does not reveal that the animal is an eagle.

Science - Children have started our Autumn term topic of Evolution and Inheritance with curiosity and enthusiasm. Lots of questions have already been asked, which will help inform our learning. This week, we learned the difference between inherited and acquired traits and we collected some class data on the inherited traits that we have. Then, children displayed these results into a bar chart to help us spot patterns and trends.

Monday 9th September 2024
 LI: To explain the scientific concept of inheritance

What I know:

- I know that humans evolved from ~~monkeys~~ ^{Chimpanzees}
- Although we evolved from chimpanzees, our DNA matches more with a banana.
- Sharks used to be land animal before evolving to a sea animal.
- Only the strongest and fittest in a species will survive to pass on their features.
- Charles Darwin discovered the theory of Evolution.

What I ~~want~~ ^{would like} to learn

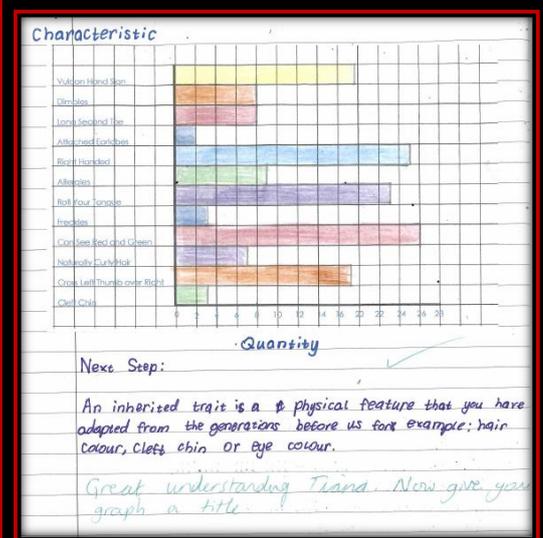
- What gave Charles Darwin the idea of evolution?
- Why did it take so long to evolve?
- How were animals ~~and~~ created? *Good questions*
- What can we evolve into next?
- Is it possible for a creature to not evolve.

Inherited Traits

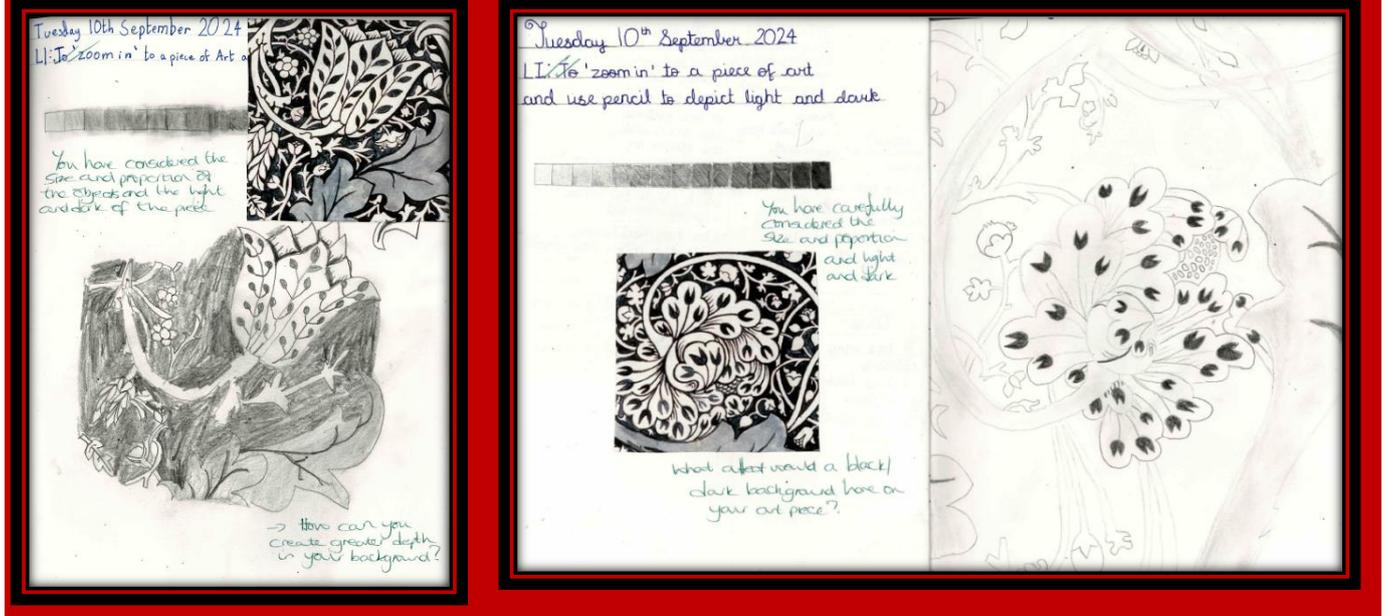
	Yes	No	Someone in your family?
Vulcan Hand Sign		✓	
Dimples		✓	
Long Second Toe	✓	✓	
Attached Earlobe	✓	✓	
Right Handed	✓		✓
Allergies		✓	
Roll Your Tongue	✓		✓
Freckles		✓	
Can see Red and Green	✓		✓
Naturally Curly Hair		✓	
Cross Left Thumb Over Right	✓		✓
Cleft Chin		✓	✓

Our class data

Vulcan hand sign - IIII IIII IIII IIII
 Dimples - IIII III
 Long Second toe - IIII IIII
 Attached earlobe - IIII
 Right handed - IIII IIII IIII IIII IIII
 Allergies - IIII IIII
 Roll your tongue - IIII IIII IIII IIII IIII
 Freckles - IIII
 Can see red and green - IIII IIII IIII IIII IIII
 Cross left thumb over right - IIII IIII
 Cleft chin - IIII



Art - This term in Art, we will be exploring the work of William Morris. This week, we have zoomed into a piece of his natural work to see the use of shade and tone. Children used viewfinders to select a small area of the work that they found interesting and then replicated it in their own work.



At APS we talk about the values that underpin our school aims. Children at Alexandra aspire to be successful learners who enjoy learning through demonstrating the following values: Independence.

Alexandra children, staff, parents and carers work together to build independence. Learning to support yourself is fundamental for any success you ever hope to achieve. Children also feel self-worth whenever they get to accomplish things on their own. We become more confident in facing challenges, which is important in preparing children for life outside of Alexandra.

What are you reading at the moment and would you recommend it?

What skills have you practiced this week?

What knowledge did you learn and did you share it with anyone?

What are you looking forward to being able to do next week?

