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NEWSLETTER – 19th October 2018

It really has been a great half term, full of exciting learning and new opportunities. Today the children have enjoyed a thought-provoking R.E. Day, exploring different concepts in each year group. We hold 'R.E. Days' each half term as we block our R.E. lessons; this means that the children do not have 45 minutes of R.E. every week, but instead the six week allocation is blocked together in one full day. This has been recommended by Hampshire County Council as it enables children to think more deeply about a particular concept, in relation to a specific religion, but also in relation to themselves and the wider world.

We are really excited to share that after half term we will be launching a new programme called 'HeartSmart' throughout our school. HeartSmart is a creative new approach that we will be using to help build emotional health and resilience in our children. It equips them with foundational principles and skills that will improve their mental health, relationships and academic achievement. As a school we recognise the value of educating the heart alongside educating the mind and HeartSmart is a great tool to do just that. We are hosting a launch assembly on **Tuesday 30th October** at 2:45pm and would love for you to come and find out more too – even Boris the Robot will be there!

Thank you, everyone, for meeting with teachers this week to share your child's progress and learning so far; the teachers enjoyed meeting you and are already planning how to best support your children as we start next half term.

Mosaic Madness!

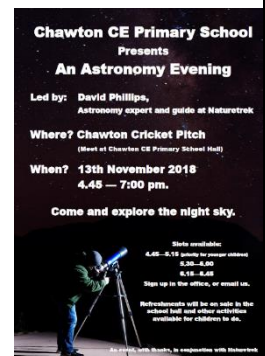
We are really excited that on 6th, 7th and 8th November, David from Mosaic Madness is coming into school to work with all our children to design, create and make a large mosaic for our school!

Once we return from half term all children will have an opportunity to create their own design for our school, which will include our school name, logo and values. These designs will then be whittled down and combined into one final design by David and some children on Tuesday 6th November. All day on Wednesday 7th November, and some of Thursday 8th, David will then work with small groups of children to enable each individual child in our school to place some tiles into the design.

To ensure that the days run as smoothly as possible, we would love for a couple of parents to come in and help on Wednesday 7th November and Thursday 8th November (i.e. running to get next group of pupils, helping clear up, assisting children with mosaicking). If you are able to help for either day, or part of a day, please let the school office know and Miss Tilley will get in contact prior to the project starting.

Astronomy Evening

Please look at the attached flier, and posters around school, inviting your child to our astronomy evening on 13th November. If you would like to sign up for a slot please speak to the school office or email our school. It is shaping up to be 'out of this world'!



Sport

Well done to Archie and Austin, who represented our school at the Alton Sports Partnership's Table Tennis tournament. They demonstrated some great skills, as well as super sportsmanship; we are very proud of them. We have attached the Alton Primary Schools Competition Calendar for this year to the newsletter – please do have a look through at what else will be on offer this year. You will also see how busy the calendar is! We will continue to send out letters 2 or 3 weeks ahead of each event, rather than in bulk, to try and keep it manageable!

New Caretaker!

We are thrilled to announce that we have appointed Mr Jim Lancaster as our new Caretaker! Mr Lancaster will work 3:30 – 5:30pm each day to keep our school site safe and well-maintained. I am sure you will all make him feel very welcome if you are still around after school.

Christmas Shoebox Appeal – a message to from Four Marks & Medstead Rotary

Unfortunately Rotary of Four Marks and Medstead will not be participating in the District Rotary programme this year, but instead would like to recommend the Shoebox Appeal of Operation Christmas Child which is also being supported by Canon Ed at St Andrew's Medstead.

We feel it is important to maintain the momentum of the shoebox appeal for future years and believe that for many families it is an opportunity for families, and in particular children, to think of the true meaning of Christmas before the commercial onslaught begins.

We are happy to pick up your boxes and get them to the depot as normal. We'll collect them after 10am on 14th November.

Full details of the Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal can be found on the website below

<https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

Please note that they are hoping for a donation of £5 per box which is a steep increase on the £1 taped to the boxes requested in previous years. It would be great pity, but understandable, if this stopped families getting involved and we would encourage those families to stick the £1 coin on the outside of the boxes as usual and Rotary will cover the difference.

Phil Talbot
 President, Four Marks and Medstead Rotary

Notices

Dinner payments – Dinner money statements for accounts in arrears have been sent home this week. **Your child's account must be in credit when they return after half term. If it is not then your child must bring a packed lunch.** If you are having trouble paying for meals or think you might be eligible for free school meals, please speak to Miss Tilley or Mrs Morton.

Attachments

Jacket potato menu
 Astronomy Evening
 Alton School Primary Competition Calendar
 Governor's Letter

House Points

	FALCONS	EAGLES	HAWKS
PREVIOUS YEAR TOTAL	812	893	832
WEEK TOTAL	121	136	152
NEW YEAR TOTAL	933	1029	984

w/c 29.10.18	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning			School photos Violin lesson		Guitar lessons
Lunchtime		Book Club	Choir		Dance Club
Afternoon		2:45pm Heartsmart launch assembly – parents invited	Choir		
After School	CM Sports Football Club			3:15 – 4:00pm STEM Club 4:00 – 5:00pm Alton Sports Basketball Training	PH Sports Basketball Club

Dates for your diaries: Please note that for the majority of these events further details will be sent nearer the time. We will ensure that new dates, or any changed due to unforeseen circumstances, are in red.

Sharing Worship:

(Sharing our half term value)
 09.11.18 – Sharing Worship
 18.01.19 – Sharing Worship
 08.03.19 – Sharing worship
 03.05.19 – Sharing worship
 14.06.19 – Sharing worship

Sharing Assemblies:

(Certificates, achievements and some of our learning)
 23.11.18 – Sharing Assembly
 01.02.19 – Sharing worship
 22.03.19 – Sharing worship
 23.05.19 – Sharing worship

Class Assemblies:

(Sharing topic learning from the half term)
 19.12.18 – Maple/Beech
 20.12.18 – Yew/Sycamore
 13.02.19 – Yew/Sycamore
 14.02.19 – Maple/Beech
 03.04.19 – Maple/Beech
 04.04.19 – Year 4 East Meon Assembly
 24.04.19 – Calshot Parent Assembly
 15.05.19 – Oak Class Assembly
 08.07.19 – Maple/Beech
 11.07.19 – Yew/Sycamore

Theme Weeks:

12.11.18 – Anti-Bullying Week (Mrs Mason leading)
 19.11.18 – Science Week (Mrs Ross leading)
 04.02.19 – Safer Internet Week (Miss Spencer leading)
 25.02.19 – Chawton Week – History focus (Mrs Andrews leading)
 04.03.19 – Book Week (Miss Blandford leading)
 20.05.19 – Technology/STEM Week (Mrs Ross leading)

Open Classrooms (3:15 – 4:00pm):

(A chance to share your child's learning in their classroom with them)
 06.12.18
 06.02.19
 09.05.19
 20.06.19

Music Assemblies (2:45pm):

(Choirs and peripatetic musicians will perform to everyone)
 04.12.18
 25.03.19
 16.07.19

Inset Days:

07.01.19
 24.05.19
 03.06.19

Autumn 2

31.10.18 – School photos (portraits)
 08.11.18 – School Nurse – flu immunisations (YR-Y5)
 09.11.18 – Sharing Worship 2.45pm
 11.10.18 – Think Safe for YR6 (Alton Maltings) 12:00 – 2.30pm
 12.11.18 – Anti-Bullying Week (Mrs Mason leading)
 13.11.18 – Prospective Parents Tour – 1:30pm
 19.11.18 – Science Week (Mrs Ross leading)
 20.11.18 – National Takeover Day, EHDC for Year 6 pupils – 1:00 – 3:00pm
 23.11.18 – Sharing Assembly 2.45pm
 27.11.18 – Prospective Parents Tour – 9:30am
 04.12.18 – Music Assembly to parents – 2:45pm
 06.12.18 – Open Classrooms 3:15 – 4:00pm
 07.12.18 – Guitar Assembly 9am, Parents welcome
 07.12.18 – CSSG Christmas Fair – 3:15 – 5:00pm
 12.12.18 – 2:00pm Nativity (Year R, Year 1 & Year 2) to parents
 13.12.18 – 2:00pm Nativity (Year R, Year 1 & Year 2) to parents
 14.12.18 – Year 6 Ice-Skating Trip
 17.12.18 – R.E. Day
 18.12.18 – Christmas Jumper Day
 18.12.18 – Christmas Parties
 18.12.18 – Christmas Dinner
 19.12.18 – Class Assembly Maple/Beech
 19.12.18 – Carol Service – 5:30pm – St Nicholas Church
 20.12.18 – Class Assembly Yew/Sycamore 2.45pm
 21.12.18 – Christmas Service 9:30am – St Nicholas Church

Other key dates:

01.03.19 – Women’s World Day of Prayer – Yr6 girls
07.03.19 – World Book day
27.03.19 – Easter play to parents 5:30pm
28.03.19 – Easter Play to parents 2:00pm
01.04.19 – 04.04.19 – Calshot
01.04.19 – 03.04.19 – East Meon
05.04.19 – Easter Service – 2:30pm and collection from church.
22.04.19 – BANK HOLIDAY
24.04.19 – KS2 SATs Meeting 3:15-3:45pm – Esme
25.04.19 – KS1 SATs Meeting 3:15 – 3:45pm – Kirsty
06.05.19 – BANK HOLIDAY
13.05.18 – SATS Week (Year 6)
14.05.19 – Class Photos
10.06.19 – Phonics testing (Year 1)
21.06.19 – CSSG Summer Fair
25.06.19 – Sports Day – 1:15pm on field
28.06.19 – Race for Life – 2:00pm
02.07.19 – Reserve Sports Day
16.07.19 – Year 6 production – 6:30pm
17.07.19 – Year 6 production – 6:30pm
22.07.19 – Year 6 Leavers’ Assembly – 2:00pm
22.07.19 – Year 6 Leavers’ BBQ
23.07.19 – Leavers’ service – 9:30am