

Alexandra Primary School

Aspire, Perform, Succeed



News: 25th September 2020

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Message from the Head Teacher

Hello Parents and Carers,

Our children have been demonstrating APS values really clearly over the past few weeks. We have been talking to the children about the challenges we are all facing at the moment and the importance of communicating our worries and concerns, but also celebrating our achievements.

Classes have also been discussing their class charters as part of the UNICEF Rights Respecting agenda and through assemblies we have been looking at the importance of kindness and taking responsibility for our actions. We have also looked at how we work together as a team here at APS.

School will be using more communication via telephone, text and email. Please ensure we have at least two contacts and if you change any of these, update the school accordingly.

As school routines have settled, we have reviewed these. Thank you for the patience that you have shown at drop off and collection times. As we move further into the term it seems likely that the current procedures will remain for some time to come. We have asked for parents and carers to wear face coverings when on the school site, keep socially distant with each other and keep moving so as not to remain on the school site any longer than necessary. Please remember to use the information from the school website www.alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk and please leave extra time for your journey and be on time for collection. Video messages from me are posted regularly. These procedures are for your own safety.

We ask that only one parent or carer are on site and as our paths are quite narrow, we would appreciate no scooters and bikes at the moment. Pushchairs are ok, but please keep your children with you and leave the site as quickly as you can.

School attendance has been very positive, over 95% for most days and this is a great achievement.

You may want to discuss concerns and issues with class teachers and as face to face meetings are not possible just at the moment. There are a number of ways of doing this.

You can email the school – use office@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk or telephone 0208 5706 826 or use the Year Group Leader emails which can be used for general concerns or issues that you might have discussed at drop off or collection by the classroom door previously. The Year Group Leader may answer directly via email or ask a class teacher to phone you.

Year Group Leader Emails:

Nursery at Alexandra Primary School nursery@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk

Reception at Alexandra Primary School reception@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk

Year 1 at Alexandra Primary School year1@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk

Year 2 at Alexandra Primary School year2@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk

Year 3 at Alexandra Primary School year3@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk

Year 4 at Alexandra Primary School year4@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk

Year 5 at Alexandra Primary School year5@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk

Year 6 at Alexandra Primary School year6@alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk

The APS All stars email address should not be used at moment. Please use the office or Year Group Leader emails.

P.E. days have been advertised on the website. Children come to school dressed for PE and this is the same for sports clubs. No backpacks for the time being. Children can wear trainers on PE days.

Uniform – we are aware of supply chain issues and although the majority of children are attending in uniform, items can be ordered through ParentPay.

Homework is posted on the website every Tuesday. Reading is the key to the learning with reading books sent home weekly. We are using a range of web-based learning packages for English and Maths. There are also topic themed projects that build over a half term. All the information can be found at:

<https://www.alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk/index.php/curriculum-overview>

‘Stars of the week’ are being selected and parents should receive an emailed certificate. Please ask your child why they may have been selected.

Year 6 parents, please remember to complete your secondary transfer applications on line by 31st October. A link from our website can be found at:

<https://www.alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk/index.php/news>

And don't forget:

Next Tuesday is World Heart Day

Thought for the week:

***“Each morning we are born again.
What we do today
is what matters most.”***

Question of the week:

Would you rather be a fish or a bird? Why?

The Nursery team would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your child to Bumblebees and Ladybirds Nursery at APS. The children have been amazing at separating from their families and exploring our inside and outside Nursery environment. Please help us to develop your child's independence by encouraging them to place their water bottle in the correct colour caddy. We have focused our learning this week on experimenting with the different play resources and how to use them. We have introduced the visual timetable and set our expectations for choosing and carpet time. Children are learning how to line and tidy up. Please talk to your child about the good sitting, good looking, good listening and good talking that they do at school to maximise their learning. Please also ensure that all clothing (coats, jumpers, etc) is clearly labelled with your child's name. We have had a brilliant week getting to know your children and are looking forward to a happy and successful first school experience. Nursery had their first session of stay and play which went really well. The children enjoyed their time in school exploring the area and had fun playing and getting to know the adults in the Nursery.

The Reception children have settled well into their new routines. In Literacy, the children have started phonics lessons where they have been learning the phonemes s, a, t, p and the word I. They have also been listening carefully to hear the first letter sound in words and matching first letter sounds to objects.

In maths, the children have been learning to find and match objects. As part of our topic 'I am Unique' the children have been talking about different families and the children have created some wonderful pictures depicting their families.

Reception have been learning their routines and lots of nursery rhymes. They have been learning about germs and how to keep safe with good hand washing.



Shravan



Mishka



Samiullah

In Year 1, we have been creating self-portraits in our Art Lessons. They are now on display in our group area. They look amazing! We are very proud of how different each child's self-portrait looks. In English we have been making predictions about the stories we are reading in class and we have been using our fantastic acting skills to retell the story 'All Aboard for the Bobo Road'.



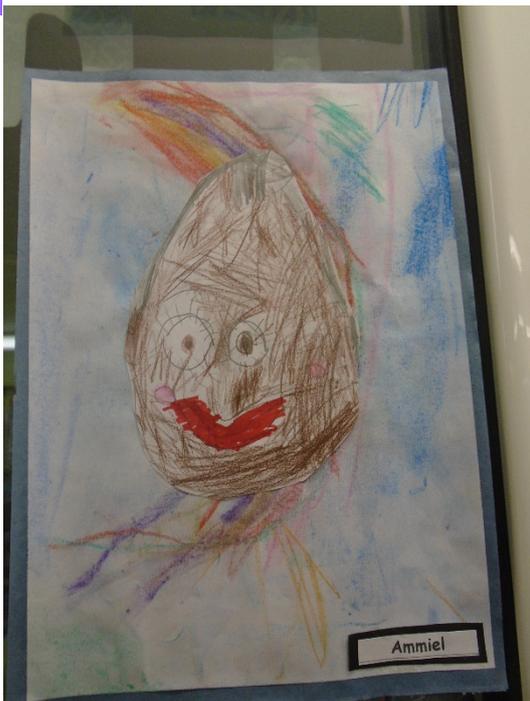
Acting in 1JB



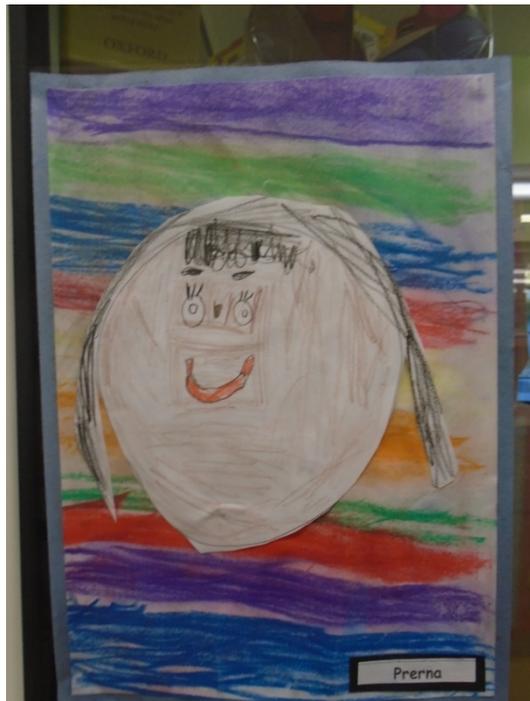
Karol



Riaan

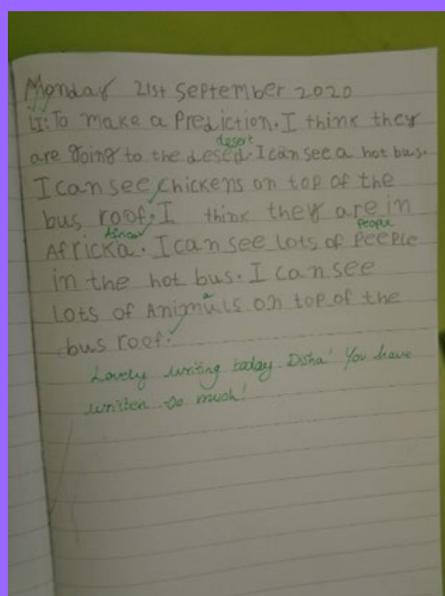
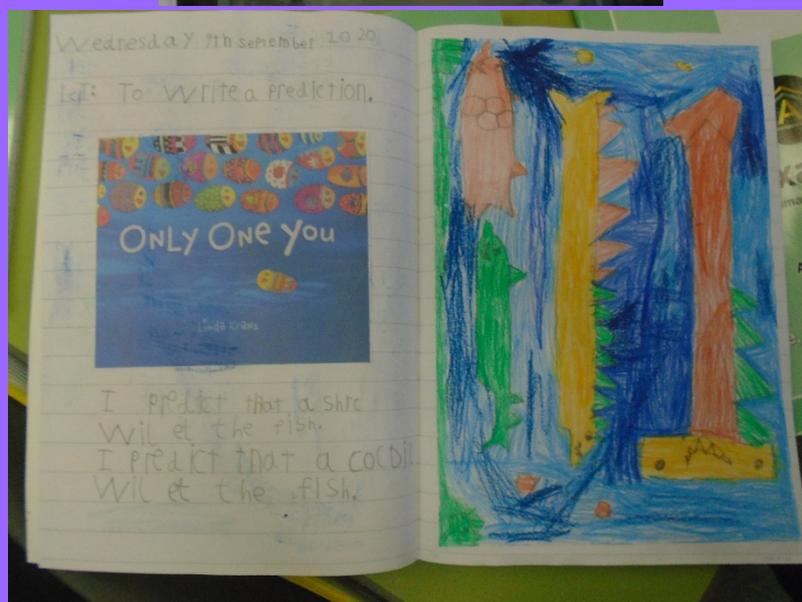


Ammiel



Perna

Self-portraits from Year 1 children



Fantastic predictions from Disha and Idris 1C

Year 2:



In English the children have been showing us their memory and acting skills by recreating the story of 'The Day the Crayons Quit'.

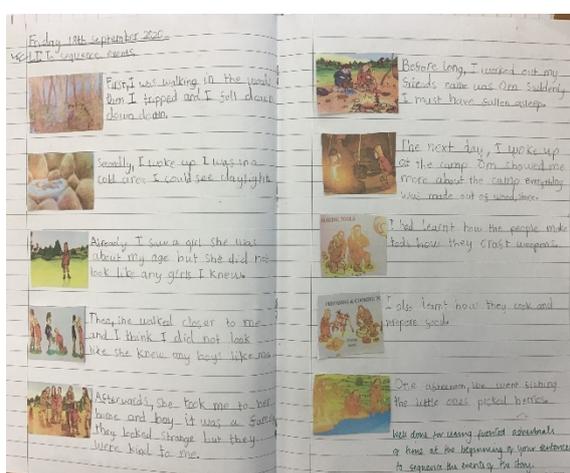
They did a terrific job at showing us the emotions that the crayons were feeling and could explain the reasons why they felt that way.

In Maths we have continued learning about partitioning numbers up to 100, however, we are now making a mixture of different combinations for the same number. For example, 65 can be 60 and 5, 50 and 15 or 40 and 25.

Ask your children all about their great work!



In Year 3 this week:

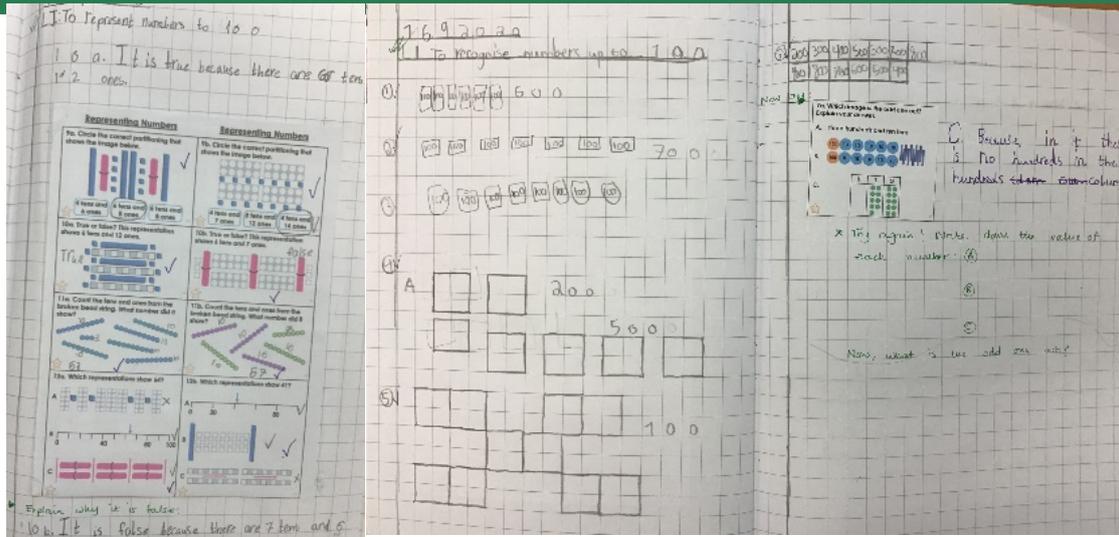


English: In English this week, Year 3 have stepped back into the Stone Age with our class book, 'Stone Age Boy', which tells of a boy's adventure in Stone Age times. We used adverbials of time to help us sequence events and tried to create suspense using descriptive language.

Topic: In History, we shared any facts or ideas that we already have about the Stone Age. After that, we generated questions to investigate throughout our topic this Autumn term. We ordered

events chronologically on a timeline and began to understand just how long ago the Stone Age was!

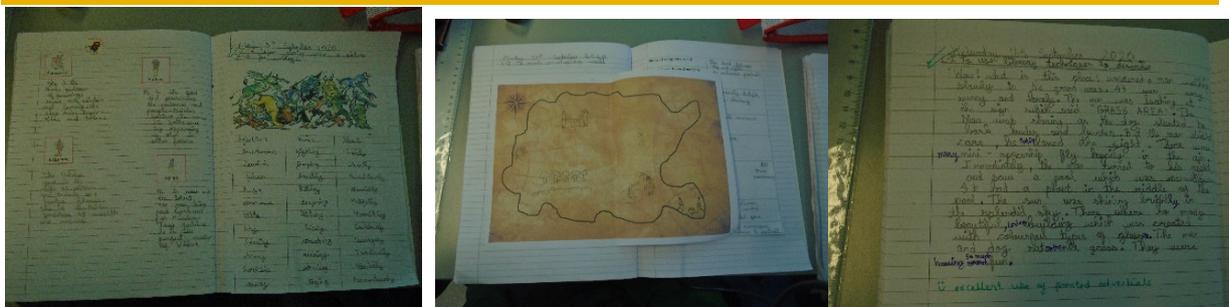
Maths: This week, Year 3 have continued to revise and develop our knowledge of number and place value. We have been exploring a variety of ways of representing numbers up to 1000.



Spanish: We were introduced to the Spanish alphabet and practised saying some of the new sounds that we will be using as we begin to explore the language.

Music: Guided by Mrs. Funnell, our music specialist, we started to explore a piece of music by Steve Reich called Music for 18 Musicians. This is a very rhythmic piece of music, which uses lots of simple repetitive ideas and sounds that we can imagine could be the sound of the Stone Age.

In English, Year 4 have been continuing to read our class novel, 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe', which is a story set in an imaginary world. It is quite a challenging book so we have been doing a lot of work on vocabulary, to ensure we fully visualise the setting, as C.S Lewis intended. Inspired by this, we have been creating our own imaginary settings and depicted these as a map (all the famous stories set in imaginary worlds such as 'The Hobbit', 'The Chronicles of Narnia' and 'The Northern lights', provide maps to help the reader navigate the events of the story). We then transferred our vocabulary skills to the production of a vivid, descriptive paragraph of our settings.



Topic: In Geography, we used maps to help us identify the location of the polar regions and their characteristics. It was interesting to note that in the Northern Hemisphere, there are more habitable areas for plants and animals than in the polar regions of the Southern Hemisphere.



Topic

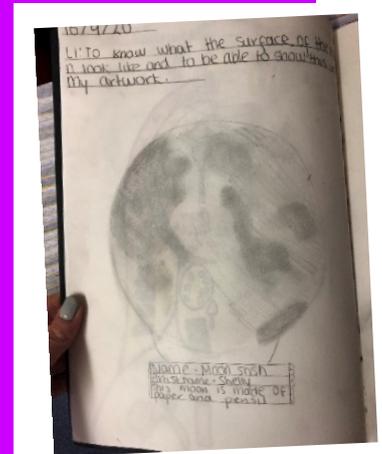
In Geography, we have been continuing our learning on 'Extreme Earth'. We have recalled facts about how a volcano is formed and identified names of the parts of a volcano. We have researched a volcano using an iPad and will use this information to create a non-chronological report.

Music

In music we have been listening and appraising the piece 'Mars' from Holst's Planet Suite. We have used instruments to re-create the piece of music.

Art

To continue our cross curricular learning, in Art, we discussed the texture of the surface of the moon. We used our sketching techniques to convey these textures and shading to portray the difference in light and dark.

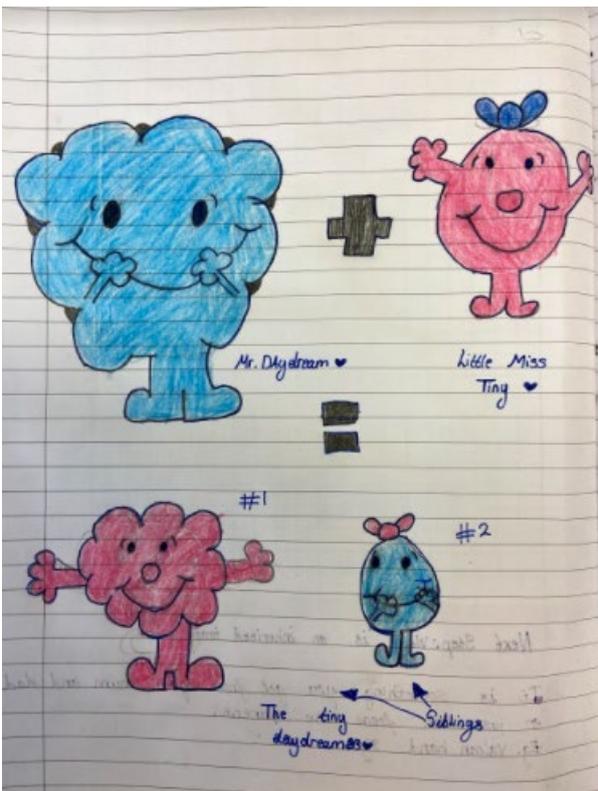
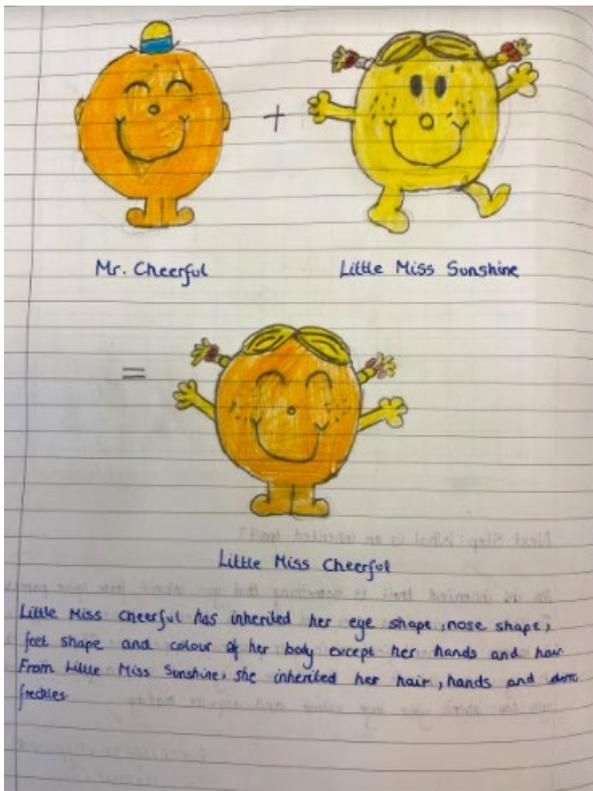
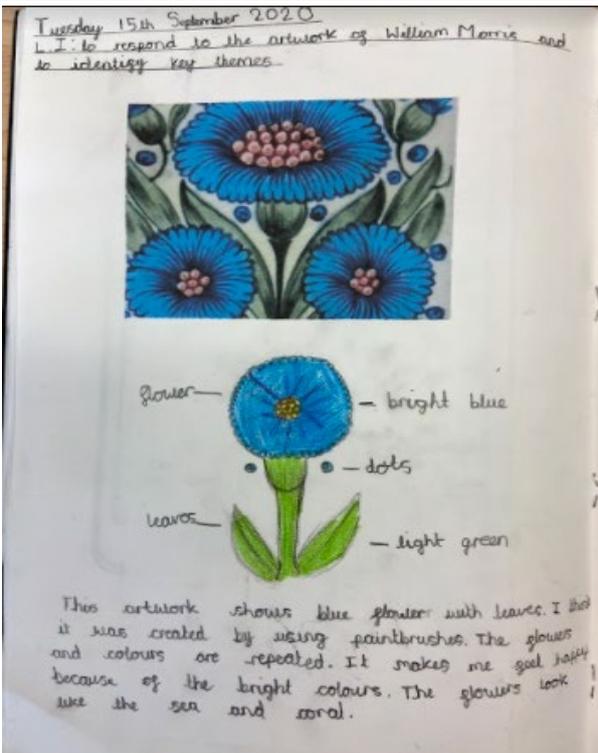


Year 6

The children have shown a great willingness to challenge themselves this week throughout the curriculum. We have reviewed and built on our understanding of rounding and negative numbers.

In English, we have explored a variety of Victorian poems to identify language features. We have also explored the various types of verbs and adjectives. The children have also learnt about the positive and negative impacts of the Industrial Revolution during the Victorian era in Topic and explored the meaning of adaptation and inheritance in Science.

We have also looked into understanding anger in PSHE and the Noble Eightfold Path of Buddhism in RE. Year 6 students have also been introduced to the artist, William Morris – exploring his artwork and the themes he uses.



A week full of learning, challenges and fun. I hope it went well for you.

Enjoy a great weekend, do some reading, relax, rest, recover and we will do some more next week.

