



Alexandra

Primary School

Aspire, Perform, Succeed

Alexandra Primary School

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Thought for the Day:

"Happiness does not come from doing easy work, but from the afterglow of satisfaction that comes after the achievement of a difficult task that demanded our best."

~ Theodore Isaac Rubin

**Question of the Week:
If you could invent something that would make life easier for people, what would you invent?**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Over the past few weeks, the children have been incredibly busy. A great deal of learning has occurred with lots of fun along the way. World Book Day was well supported with children and staff promoting reading. We thoroughly enjoyed a visit from an illustrator. The Y5/6 netball team played really well at the finals of the competition held recently at The Heathland School. Y5 has a really good trip to Hampton Court Palace as part of their topic. A member of the public took the time to phone school to tell me our children had been very well behaved, polite and considerate – this is lovely to hear. And finally, school has been awarded the Eco-Schools Bronze Award as we have an active Eco committee and conducted an environmental review which has an action plan.

Nursery: We have begun our new topic of People Who Help Us. We are establishing a Doctors Surgery and Fire Station role play within Nursery. It would be helpful if you could talk to your child about a recent doctors visit or when you saw a fire engine. It would also be helpful to talk to your child about what you do for your job. In Maths we are focusing on the quantities of groups saying which group of objects has more, less or the same amounts. In Phonics we are concentrating on alliteration - ants on apples ate an aardvark. Encourage your child to make a silly sentence with you.

Reception: Reception has had a very busy but fun week. Our learning has revolved around the story "How to catch a Dragon" which is part of our fantasy story topic. In Maths our focus was on weighing and using the language "heavy", "heavier", "heaviest" and "light", "lighter", "lightest" and "balance". The children enjoyed World book day with the fun of dressing up and the visit by an illustrator. The finale of the week being the trip to Bekonscot which was enjoyed by all. The children's faces as they saw the intricate detail of the models was wonderful. The children were fascinated by the working model train and the model funfair and they loved the experience of being on a coach and having a picnic lunch with their friends. It was a wonderful day.

Year 1: This week for English, we have been focussing on a story called 'The cautious caterpillar'. This has lead on well from their knowledge of 'The very hungry caterpillar'. The children have been looking at the text, characters, settings and events. They have used their prediction and comprehensions skills too. In Maths this week the children have been exploring 3D shapes and identifying links to 2D shapes. They have also been learning about the properties and names. For RE this week the children having been learning about the importance of Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday for Christians. This week the children have celebrated their enthusiasm for reading through world book day. They even came face to face with an illustrator! It has been an exciting week for the children's learning!

Year 2: This week we have had great fun dressing up for World Book Day! We had some fantastic costumes and the children enjoyed talking about their characters and the books they were from. Everyone was excited to meet Sheena Dempsey, a children's book illustrator, who visited us and talked to us about how to draw heroes and villains. During the workshop the children created some amazing villain art work which they will bring home. We have been learning more about Australia and New Zealand as part of our 'Home and Away' topic. We learnt about some famous landmarks, both natural and man-made, from both countries. We also learnt about some very interesting animals from New Zealand. In Design Technology the children made 'Fairy Bread', a popular dish from Australia and New Zealand. Through doing this the children learnt to follow the instructions of a simple recipe.

Year 3: This week we have continued our learning about the amazing Roald Dahl and will be using our identified features of letters to write our own letters to the man himself. In Topic, we have used our historical skills to recall events about Howard Carter and the extraordinary discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb. In Maths, we have started our new topic of statistics and have been analysing and interpreting data from pictograms and bar graphs. We have also enjoyed dressing up for World Book Day and would like to thank the children and parents for their efforts.

Year 4: This week, we have developed their comprehension skills by scanning and skimming a text to find appropriate answers. In Maths, we have been adding and subtracting fractions. The children are looking forward to World Book Day on Thursday. We will be taking part in an illustration workshop and we will be taking part in various other fun activities that link to reading. Thank you to all parents who volunteered to read with their child for Thursday! In Geography, we have been locating countries in Asia and exploring physical features of countries.

Year 5: The highlight of our week was the Year 5 trip to Hampton Court Palace. Children enjoyed the workshop, hosted by Lady Alice, on 'Questioning the Past' in which they used replica historical artefacts and contemporary sources to find out how the past is constructed and to discuss bias. We explored the magnificent Tudor rooms, chapel and kitchens and contrasted them with the apartments created by William III and Mary. Children also enjoyed visiting the gardens surrounding the palace which were created by the two monarchs. We were delighted to be praised by members of the public for the exemplary behaviour shown by the children throughout our visit. We are sure that you, as are we, will be very proud of them.

Year 6: This week we have been focusing on the reasoning and problem solving strategies in Maths. We have been reviewing and further developing our understanding of mixed numbers and improper fractions. In English, our focus was on grammar and reading. We have been practising and reinforcing skills specifically targeting methods to answer SATs questions appropriately. In RE we started a unit on Christianity, looking at the life of Jesus. During topic we delved further into history, looking at Greek slavery. Children were asked to take on the role of a slave and write a diary entry on the day in the life of a slave during that time. In Science, we started our Light unit, where we have been looking at reflection and refraction.

Notices:

Parents have been sent an email with the date change in May 2019. School will be open to children on 2nd May. School will be closed for Inset day on Friday 24th May.

Year 6 parents, please remember to confirm your child's secondary school offer by Friday 15th March.

Parents, please remember that there is a great deal of useful information on the school website www.alexandra.hounslow.sch.uk. In the parents section we have put a link to Hounslow FSD website. Here there is information about services and support available for families in Hounslow

World Book Day 2019

As well as the book voucher, school has provided an imitation leather bookmark to all the children from Y2 to Y6. We hope they use them when reading at home or at school.

School Attendance:

Current whole school attendance is 96.6%.
 This week 6C achieved 100% attendance – excellent work.
 Please remember that term time leave will be unauthorised.



Key Dates for the term:

12 th February	Year 2 Scooter Training	8 th March	2B Class Assembly
12 th February	Y6 SATs Parents Meeting	12 th March	Parents Evening
15 th February	1I Class Assembly	15 th March	2W Class Assembly
Half Term	18th February – 22nd February		Red Nose Day
1 st March	3F Class Assembly	22 nd March	1B Class Assembly
		29 th March	1TB Class Assembly
7 th March	Parents Evening	5th April	Last day of the Spring Term School closes at 1.30pm





World Book day 2019 at APS!



On Thursday 7th March, we celebrated world book day by dressing up as characters from traditional tales in Early years and Key Stage 1 and Heroes and Villains in Key Stage 2. We had the pleasure of meeting Sheena Dempsey who made a special visit to our school to deliver workshops to children about her work as an illustrator. Sheena Dempsey is an Irish children's author and illustrator. ***Hungry Babies***, the sequel to Fearné Cotton's debut children's picture book ***Yoga Babies! Yoga Babies*** won in the Toddler Category at the Sheffield Children's Book Awards 2018. She is the illustrator of the ***Dave Pigeon*** series written by Swapna Haddow. Sheena was amazed at our wonderful costumes and said, "The children and teachers were utterly fantastic and so engaged and excited, and I loved it!" We learnt all about the process she goes through to produce her wonderful illustrations to support the books. The children have produced some brilliant artwork, which we will celebrate with a display. Their characters will now be used to produce some fantastic stories. Well done to everyone for their fantastic effort into making it an enjoyable and successful World Book day!

