

At Oasis Aspinal we...

# Aspire, Aim high, Achieve



February 2023 | Issue 22

Welcome!



Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you for your fantastic support again this half term. It has been a busy one, Year 5 have attended the Young Voices concert at the AO Arena. Year 6 have had BikeRight! in school teaching the children how to ride their bikes safely on the roads. Year 4 are doing brilliantly at swimming with lots more certificates being handed out this half term! We have also had some more Nursery children join us and they have settled in really well.

We hosted a visit from Whole Education in January, this involved leaders of other academy trusts visiting the academy to look at our curriculum. Our visitors were so impressed by what they saw!

We have also welcomed a new member of staff in Reception – Miss Dargan and a Social Work student – Miss Smith who is with us until the summer working with Mr Foster.

Please find the attendance information for each class. Thank you for your continued support on this.

A reminder parents evening is next half term please make sure you book an appointment to meet with your child's teacher.

A reminder we have also updated our school website ([www.oasisacademyaspinal.org](http://www.oasisacademyaspinal.org)). Please make sure you check MCAS as all letters will be attached to the app again this year rather than sent out.

**Have a lovely half term and we will see everyone back at school on Monday 27th February.**


Miss Sweeting

## This half terms attendance

Nursery	86.94%
Reception	93.99%
Year 1	93.52%
Year 2	93.80%
Year 3	93.98%
Year 4	96.37%
Year 5	95.16%
Year 6	91.18%
Whole School	94.04%



Contact us anytime at...

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 [www.oasisacademyaspinal.org](http://www.oasisacademyaspinal.org)

 @oasisaspinal

 [admin@oasisaspinal.org](mailto:admin@oasisaspinal.org)

**ASPIRE, AIM HIGH, ACHIEVE**

# NURSERY

What a fantastic, busy half term we have had in Nursery.

We can't believe we are half way through the school year already!

We have welcomed seven new friends to our class this half term, they have settled so well and the children have made them feel really welcome.

We had lots of fun learning about Chinese New Year. We made shape dragons and paper plate rabbits, made our own dragon and performed our own dragon dance and even had a go with chop sticks!

Our current topic 'People Who Help Us' is proving to be a big hit! We have shared lots of books about the professions of people who help us including 'Charlie the firefighter', made our own fire helmets and put out 'fire' with water, dressed up as postal workers and sorted the mail in the sorting office and played in our doctors role play area. We can't wait for our visit from Jonty and 'Betty The Ambulance' next week.

In Maths we have been learning about weight and mass and using balance scales to find out which objects are heavier and which are lighter. We have also been learning about the numbers 1 and 2.

In phonics we have focussed on instrumental sounds, body percussion and voice sounds. The children are making great progress tuning into sounds, listening and remembering and talking about different sounds.

Thank you for continued support  
Mrs Cragg, Mrs McDonald, Mrs O'Brien



# RECEPTION

I can't believe it is the end of another half term – we have been so busy!!

At the beginning of the term we learned all about Winter and the children did some amazing writing describing snowmen. This led us into a lovely project about 'Penguins' and we created some amazing fact files about Penguins.

The children have just finished a topic about 'Castles and Knights' where we have been learning about Kings and Queens – both present day and in the past. They can also describe the features of castles confidently.

In Maths this half term we have been continuing to learn number facts up to 10, we have been doubling numbers and have been learning about Capacity.

We continue to develop our cutting skills and have a weekly cutting challenge – some of our class have AMAZING scissor skills. I am looking forward to seeing the Homework Project and the 'Castles' that you will be making over the half term break with your child. Remember each child will receive a ticket that will be entered into a prize draw for completing the project

Have a wonderful holiday and Thank You for your continued support

Miss Bailey, Miss Okon & Miss Dargan



# Year 1



## English

This half term we have used the story of George and The Dragon by Chris Wormell as a stimulus for our writing. The children learned how to create an atmospheric setting, describe characters in detail, and how to add dialogue to make a story appealing to the reader.

## Maths

In maths we have practised a range of strategies for adding and subtracting within 20. First of all we practised our number pairs to 10 as this underpins lots of mental maths strategies. We then learned how to count on and back using a number line and compare totals to find which was more/less.

## Science

We have learned so much about Space this half term, particularly about astronauts and the important role they play in developing our future. We completed a timeline of important events in space which included significant women and people of colour. Ask anyone in Year 1 about Valentina Tereshkova, Helen Sharman and Mae Jemison!! Or ask them "Who were Laika and Albert?" You will be impressed with their knowledge.

## History

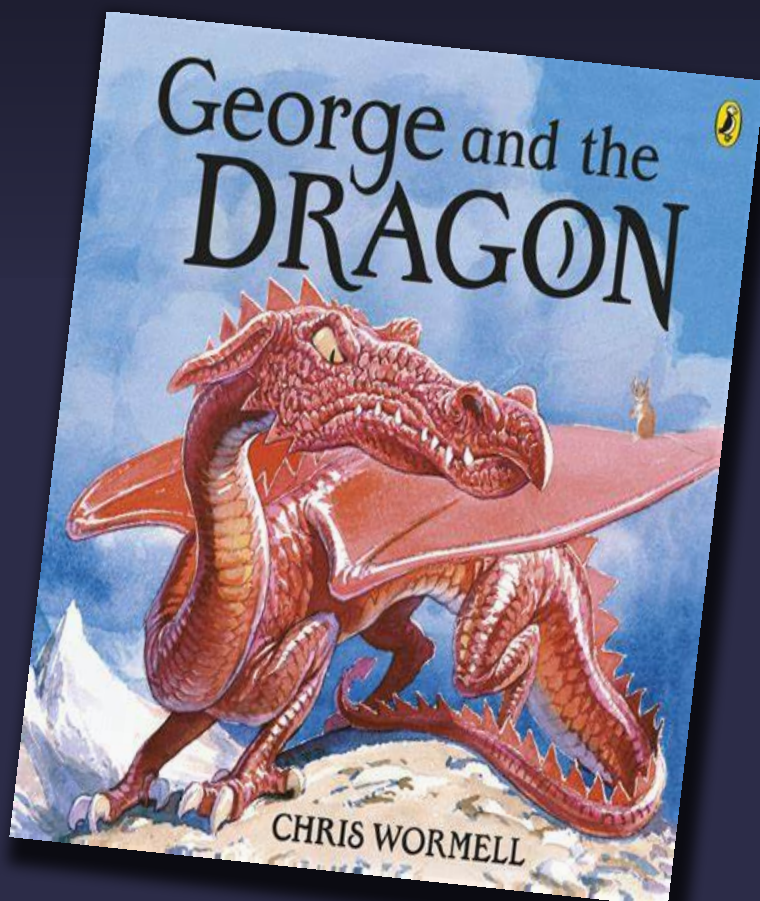
In History we learned about Kings and Queens from Victoria to the present day. We placed them on a timeline and learned the difference between the monarch and the prime minister in terms of who has the most power and how they receive it.

## Geography

In Geography we learned about the difference between aerial views, maps and plans and when we might choose each one to show the location of a place or object. We looked at an aerial view of the school, a map of the local area, and a plan of a child's bedroom.

**Reading is always high on our agenda and it is clear that those children who read regularly benefit in many ways. They build a wider vocabulary, are able to compose stories of their own and are much better at spelling irregular words. Please make sure that you read with your child at least three times a week and record it on the Boomreader app. Don't forget to read a story to your child yourself at bedtime too! You are the best model and it's such a lovely way to end a busy day. Well done to those parents who manage this, despite their busy schedule.**

**Miss Hardy, Mrs Stringer.**



# Year 2

What a jam packed half term we have had! The children returned after the Christmas break so grown up and determined to learn. It has been a pleasure to see.

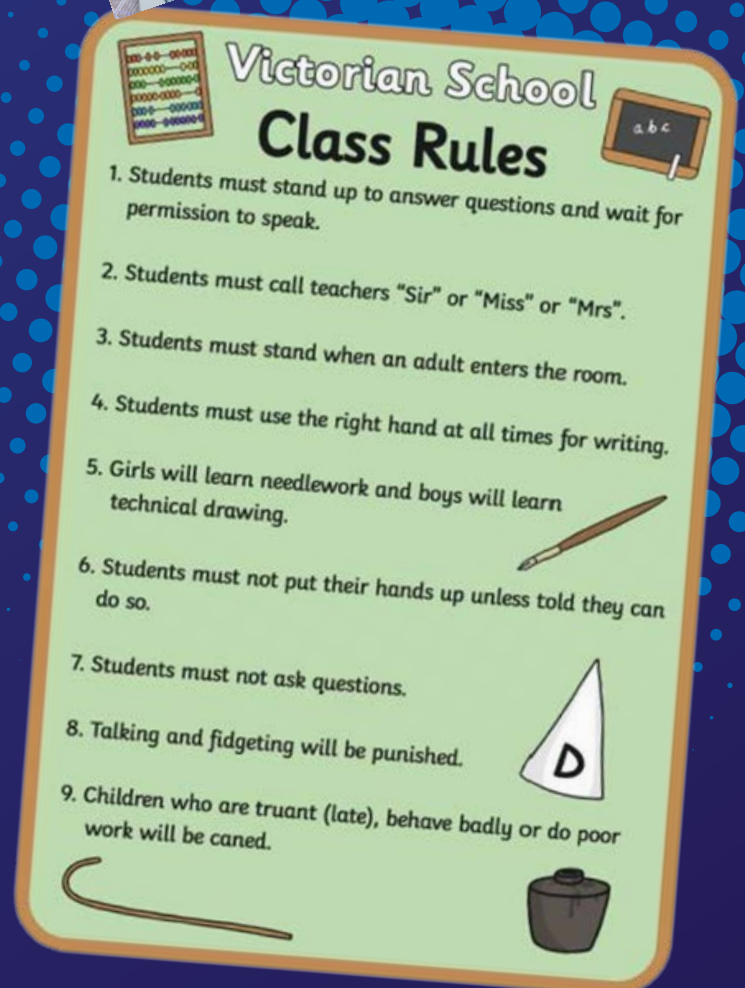
In English, the children have written a journey narrative. Taking their animal characters away from a crazy, chaotic family to try and find a new home. Only to realise, there is no place like home. They tried hard to ensure their writing is presented beautifully in their books. We have stepped up the grammar included in their sentences, and they have rose to the challenge. Their writing is making huge leaps.

In Maths, we have worked hard on the topic of money. Many of the children struggled to recognise coins when we began. However, now they are confident in recognising coins, counting coins, making amounts, and finding change. Everyone had to use resilience and perseverance, as this proved to be a tricky topic for many but they got there and I am so proud of their hard work.

In our heritage and culture theme, children further embedded their knowledge of Victorian life in History. They have learnt about Victorian clothes, toys and school life and became experts at comparing the similarities and differences to modern life. In DT, the children made moving picture books that rich Victorian children may have had. In Art, we made thaumatropes and zoetropes, which proved a lot of fun. In Music, the children have explored Victorian songs and games as well as learning to use the xylophone.

We hope you all have a restful break and can't wait for Spring 2.

Thank you for your continued help and support.  
Miss Cairns, Miss Morrison and Miss Rebecca



# Year 3

The children have made vast amounts of progress this half term! Their high levels of resilience and determination have enabled many children to move up book bands, increase their scores in Socrative quizzes and greatly improve their writing style and technique.

We studied the text 'Leon and the Place Between' and the children used this to help them write their individual stories. We have been delighted with how the children have expressed themselves, by exploring their unique visions of what magical fictional stories look like.



In Maths, we have focused on using different strategies to help us master our times tables and division problems. We have noticed an increase in the scores the children have achieved in multiplication checks, Sumdog challenges and Socrative quizzes. Thank you for your patience and continued support to help them complete home learning tasks.

The children have thrived on exploring the life and work of our 'Super Scientists'. This topic has enabled the children to study a wide range of amazing professionals and help them see that they can all achieve greatness.

Your honesty, regular feedback, and continued support are greatly appreciated.

Mr Purcell and Miss Turner



# Year 4

What another incredible term finished and once again, Year 4 have all amazed me with their hard work and dedication to learning.

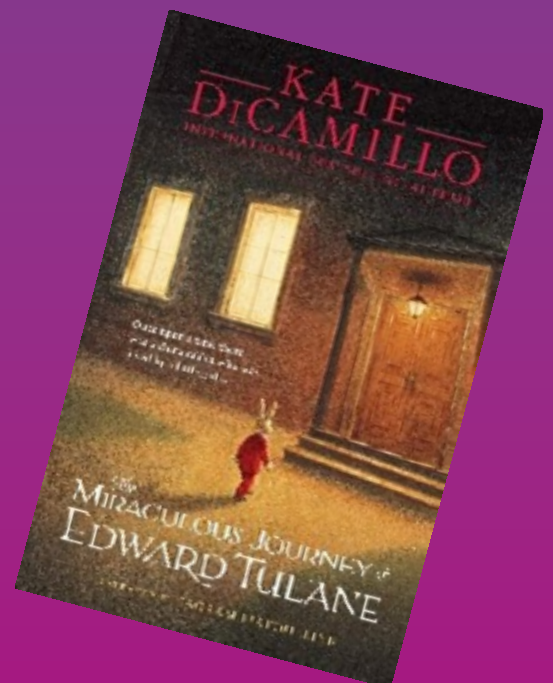
Throughout this half term, Year 4 have been working on their multiplication and division. Looking at various ways in which equations can be tackled, using both written methods and pictorial representations. It has been amazing to see how independent each one has become for their own learning by finding and using resources that they know will help support them.

The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane has been our book focus for this half-term. Year 4 absolutely LOVED this book and thoroughly enjoyed finding out about the journey of the posh, well-dressed rabbit, Edward! Using the book to support their writing, Year 4 produced an incredible narrative of a posh, toy animal of their choice... telling readers about the journey they ended up on! After that, Year 4 wrote incredible journals of one of the terrible days that came from the journey as they put themselves in the shoes of the toy animal.

In science, our new unit was 'Sustainability'. Throughout this unit, Year 4 learnt about recycling and global warming and how recycling can help to live a sustainable lifestyle. Year 4 enjoyed learning about the 'life cycle assessment' as it gave them plenty of opportunities to look at various everyday and decide which was the more sustainable option, some answers which took them by surprise. Toward the end of the unit, Year 4 used their iPads to create incredible brochures which gave clear explanations of climate change.

Thank you so much for your continued support and enjoy your half-term!

Miss Clayton & Miss Sweeting



# Year 5

**Despite the January cold weather, what an exciting half term it has been for Year 5!**

**Our trip to Young Voices at the AO Arena was an unforgettable experience for all! The children represented themselves and the school very well.**

**We have been learning all about the Vikings in our Heritage and Culture theme! In art, we have sketched some Viking warriors and made them out of clay! We have been learning all about the Normans, Vikings and Anglo-Saxons in our History lessons with Ms Reed and many of the children have been inspired to draw their own Viking warriors and bring them in to put on display in the classroom. Did you know that Vikings didn't actually wear horns on their helmets! Well we do now!**

**In PE this half term we have been developing our control and hand eye co-ordination in tennis. The children have learnt how to swing using their forehand, back hand and volley. This is something that can be practiced and developed further at home or in the park too over half term and can be fun to do together.**

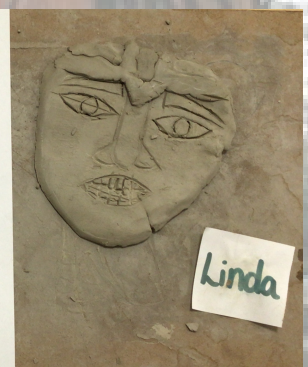
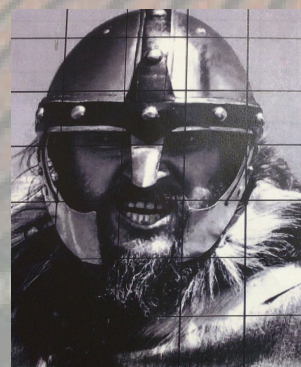
**The staff in Year 5 are so impressed this half term with how the children have approached and tackled their fractions unit in maths- as we all know fractions can be a challenge! We have been learning to change the denominators in order to compare, order, add and subtract fractions! The more we practice the better we get!**

**At the moment, about half of the class are completing their homework on Showbie. Just a reminder- homework is set EVERY Friday during the half term and it is due in by Wednesday. Please feel free to ask your child to show you- they should be completing one "worksheet" activity as well as a games based task on the Sumdog app.**

**I am looking forward to seeing all of you again at Parents evening after half term! Don't forget to book your appointment on MCAS! Now is a vital part of the year and the conversations and support that we can both offer each other is extremely important to us.**

**We wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable half term break!**

**Miss Hughes and Mrs Robinson.**





# Year 6

LETTERS  
FROM THE

## LIGHTHOUSE

Our theme this half term has been Heritage and Culture. The children have investigated World War 2 and what life was like during this era. We have explored the book 'Letters from the Lighthouse' by Emma Carroll. The book is centred around two siblings who are evacuated to the Devonshire coast to escape German bombs. The children wrote formal letters persuading parents of WW2 children to evacuate their children immediately. It has been incredible to see the effort they have put in and the quality of their work.

In geography, we have used maps to compare Britain in the pre-industrial and post-industrial age. The topic was further extended to our music lessons where we looked at how different groups of people experienced music in the 1700s – 1900s. The progress the children have made in maths is phenomenal. Recently, they have been working on position and direction. They have developed their knowledge of coordinates and the four quadrants and applied this to reasoning and problems solving questions.

In other areas of the curriculum, our science lessons have been based on evolution and inheritance. The children began by exploring the work of Charles Darwin and how he developed the theory of evolution. We then went on to look at characteristics that are inherited from our parents and those that are acquired. What a fantastic start to the new year! Well done Year 6.

Miss Webster and Miss Myatt

'Like Michael Morpurgo and Philip Pullman, Carroll . . . knows she can keep her listeners in thrall.' *Telegraph*



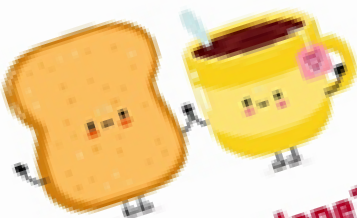
# Community MATTERS

Robyn can also help your extended families and the wider community with advice & support. She can be contacted on [robyn.harrington@oasisaspinal.org](mailto:robyn.harrington@oasisaspinal.org)

Our weekly book sales have been very successful and have helped us raise funds for our Community Hub! The book sale will continue into next half term every Tuesday.

If anybody needs to access our foodbank, please inform a member of staff in person or via Dojo we will be discreet, and Robyn will be in touch to arrange collection.

## Tea & Toast



**School run done?**  
Join Robyn And Clancey for Tea and Toast on a Monday morning!

Oasis Aspalnal Hub, Broadstone Road, Warrington



## Parent Drop-in



**Every Friday 9am - 11am**

Need a chat?  
Pop in to our parent drop-in session!  
If we can't help you we will know somebody that can

All parents welcome

Oasis Aspalnal Hub, Broadstone Road, Warrington





# Pupil Voice

Welcome to our new page brought to you by the pupils themselves. As you already know, our school is a Rights Respecting School and we always include the thoughts and opinions of our children in our development plan.

This year we have shifted the focus slightly so that we learn about our rights, and also the rights of others and what that means in a global sense. In short, we exercise our right school, and consider the rights of others and what we can do if their rights are not being met.



At our first meeting this year, we discussed Article 12 which says that children have a right for their voices to be heard. We looked at ways that we can share our opinions in school through partner work, Circle Time, class discussions, quizzes and questionnaires, digital padlets and the wellbeing check in. We also have the Academy Council who meet every half term to share their views on our 9 Habits and daily routines.

At Christmas we discussed Article 38 which says that every child has the right to be protected from war and armed conflict. This raised some interesting themes around compassion and empathy. The children were very mature and informed about how children in countries like Ukraine and Syria might be feeling at Christmas time and how their right to education and a safe place to live would not be met. They understood that many would be living in fear and discomfort. We discussed what children in these countries would need most, and how their needs were different to the things that we 'want' for Christmas.

