

At Oasis Aspinal we...

# Aspire, Aim high, Achieve



May 2023 | Issue 24



# Welcome!

## Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you for your brilliant support again this half term. It has been a very busy one. The Year 6 children have sat their SATS tests, I am so proud of them, they have worked so hard this year, their attitude to learning has been so mature. The Year 2 children have also completed their SATS tests too in small groups, again they have all worked so hard.

Year 5 children have had Bikeability and Year 1 children have been learning to ride Balance bikes. Year 4 have continued their swimming lessons; I don't think we have ever had a class with so many certificates! The children are doing a fantastic job with their swimming lessons and making such good progress.

We have said goodbye to Miss Bruce who has retired after working at Aspinal for an amazing 22 years! We wish her all the best in her retirement and would like to thank her for her hard work whilst she has been here at Aspinal.

We have recruited Miss Bridgewood who will work in Year 2 replacing Miss Rebecca who left last half term. She will be starting after half term.

Next half term is also very busy, we have school trips, Summer Fair, X Factor and Sports Day. A letter was sent out last week with all these dates on and added to Class Dojo.

Please see the attendance information for each class. Thank you for your continued support on this. 46 children have managed to maintain 100% attendance since September. Well done - can you make it another

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 holiday and we will see everyone back at school on Monday 5th June.**

## Miss Sweeting

## This half terms attendance

Nursery	90.40%
Reception	94.10%
Year 1	93.80%
Year 2	94.10%
Year 3	94.10%
Year 4	95.90%
Year 5	95.70%
Year 6	91.50%
Whole School	94.20%



Contact us anytime at...



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**ASPIRE, AIM HIGH, ACHIEVE**

# NURSERY



Please apply high factor suncream to your child before school if we have warm sunny days.

As part of our 'Growing' topic we have enjoyed some lovely books in English this half term; 'The Enormous Turnip', 'The Enormous Watermelon' and 'The Little Red Hen'. The children have thoroughly enjoyed retelling the stories and making them come alive through role play.



In Maths we have been learning about 2D and 3D shape, comparing amounts and consolidating numbers to 5.

In phonics we have focussed on oral segmenting and blending (orally blending sounds to make words) this is an extremely important prerequisite skill for reading and writing and we will continue to work on this next half term. Keep an eye out for phonics activities to try at home on Class Dojo.

As the weather improves, we will be spending lots of time in our wonderful outdoor area, with this in mind please ensure your child brings a bottle of water and a sun hat to school and apply sun cream at home in the morning before school.

We have an exciting final half term of the year planned with lots of lovely treats for our little super stars including our Teddy Bears Picnic and Fun Day, we can't wait!

We hope you all have a lovely half term,

Mrs McDonald, Mrs Cragg and Mrs O'Brien

A gentle reminder to ensure that your child always has spare clothes in school (underwear, socks, leggings/joggers and t-shirt) and that sharing books need to come into school to be changed on Fridays.



# RECEPTION



Please apply high factor  
suncream to your child  
before school if we have  
warm sunny days.

This half term we have been learning all about 'Plants and Growing'  
We have been able to complete some fantastic writing through this topic: labelling models,  
writing information that we have found out and creating some super sentences too.

In maths we have learning about 3D shapes and continuing developing our confidence with  
number facts to 10

The children have made amazing progress with their phonics this half term and they are using  
this knowledge in their independent writing too.

We had great fun celebrating the Kings Coronation – we made posters, flags, played  
traditional games and enjoyed a Coronation themed party tea.

Please ensure that your child has their water bottle in school EVERY day

Just one more half term to go – how quickly the year has passed!!

Thank you for your continued support

Miss Bailey, Miss Okon, Miss Dargan



# Year 1

## English

This half term we used 'The Jolly Postman' by Alan Ahlberg as a stimulus for our writing. We read lots of different letters written by well-known characters, then wrote a letter of our own as if we were the Big Bad Wolf. It was a letter of apology to Grandma, obviously, for being so bad! Now the children understand how to construct a simple letter.

## Maths

In maths we have been deepening our understanding of Measurement through our units Length & Height and Weight & Volume.

## Science

We have really enjoyed learning about plants this half term. We planted a sunflower seed so that we could see how they germinate and grow and kept a weekly record of the changes that we observed. We also learned about parts of a plant, and what their unique function is. More recently we learned about trees and how they can be sorted into groups of deciduous and evergreen, and how most trees are suited to their locality.



**THE JOLLY POSTMAN**

## History/Geography

In History we learned about outstanding women who have paved the way for others to have equal access to sports events, earn equal prize money and challenge outdated perceptions about male dominance. Have a look on Showbie to find out more about Billie Jean King, Venus Williams and Katherine Switzer.

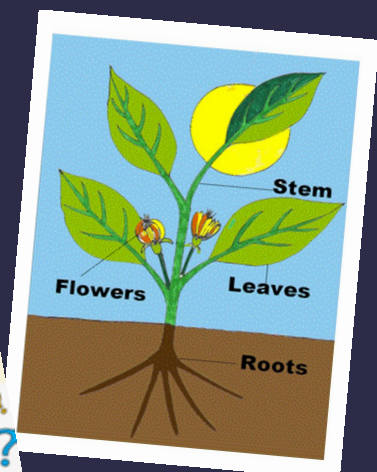
In Geography we strengthened our knowledge of the United Kingdom by learning about the seas surrounding the UK. We also learned the compass points North, South, East and West.

## Reading

This half term we have been blessed with new reading resources. Now we can send two books home – one for developing phonic skills and the other for tricky word practice. It is important that parents record each time they have read and use the comprehension questions at the back of the book to make sure that children have understood what they have read. We encourage children to read a book more than once to build fluency and confidence.

Wishing you all a lovely half term break

Miss Hardy and Miss Stringer



# Year 2

This half term has flown and yet we have crammed so much learning in.

Firstly, I want to celebrate how fantastic each and every child has been during our SATs assessments. Every single child worked incredibly hard and took each one in their stride. Shining like the stars they are.

In English, the children have been writing a persuasive letter to convince our chairs to come back! After reading the day the crayons quit, the chairs realised they weren't happy and quit too. But the children have worked so hard on their persuasive letters that thankfully they have returned! It has been a joy to watch all the children thinking about how to make their writing the very best; checking their spellings and considering their grammar. The writing this half term has been very entertaining and a joy to read.






In Maths, the children have completed units on tally charts and we were impressed with how quickly the children became experts. Then, we moved onto fractions and even though this was a trickier topic, the children used all their division knowledge and grew increasingly confident in this topic.

Reading has been a huge focus this half term since we introduced our new phonic books and what a success they have been. The children have been very engaged with reading and I can tell they have been practising those trickier spellings too. The fantastic aspect of this practise is we can see a big improvement in spelling within the children's writing so please keep up with this.

In our building an inclusive world theme, the children have learnt about some incredible moments in history. Listening to some incredible stories of Jessie Owens, Tommy Smith and John Carlos winning at the olympics despite being faced with discrimination beforehand. The children have learnt how everybody is valued and actually being different is something we should celebrate rather than discriminate against. In Geography, linking to our Olympics knowledge, the children mapped olympic events to continents of the world. They learnt which hosts may be the hottest or coldest dependent upon their location to the equator or the poles.

Our Art topic this half term has been sculpture. The children used inspiration from Miro to create paper and wire sculptures. We also carved our own medal sculptures out of clay to create our own olympic medal. I am sure you have been just as impressed as us, as these have been coming home. We definitely have a few aspiring artists in Year 2. We hope you all have a restful break, as there is one jam packed half term left before we become juniors. Please keep an eye out on dojo and MCAS for all our important events coming in Summer 2.

Thank you for your continued support,  
Miss Cairns, Miss Morrison and Mr Hogan

Fruit	Tally
apple 	I 6
strawberry 	II 7
banana 	III 8
orange 	4
grapes 	5



# Year 3

What a busy and productive half-term Year Three has had!

So many children have made amazing progress, especially with their reading and mathematical abilities.

In Maths, our main theme has been fractions. The children have shown resilience when applying strategies to solve difficult fraction questions.

In English, we have read the book 'Into The Forest' and the children have produced some fantastic independent stories of their own, based on this fictional story. They are consistently demonstrating Year Three writing expectations, including effective use of speech marks, fronted adverbials and varied sentence types!

This half term, our theme has been 'Building an Inclusive World'. We focused on the history, geography, and significance of the Paralympic Games. We learned about how and why the Paralympic Games began and how this has had a positive impact on our world today. The children have shown high levels of maturity when discussing their research about famous Paralympians. Recently, we looked at different stadium designs and the children even created their own mini Paralympic stadiums!

Have a great half term

Mr Purcell and Miss Turner



# Year 4

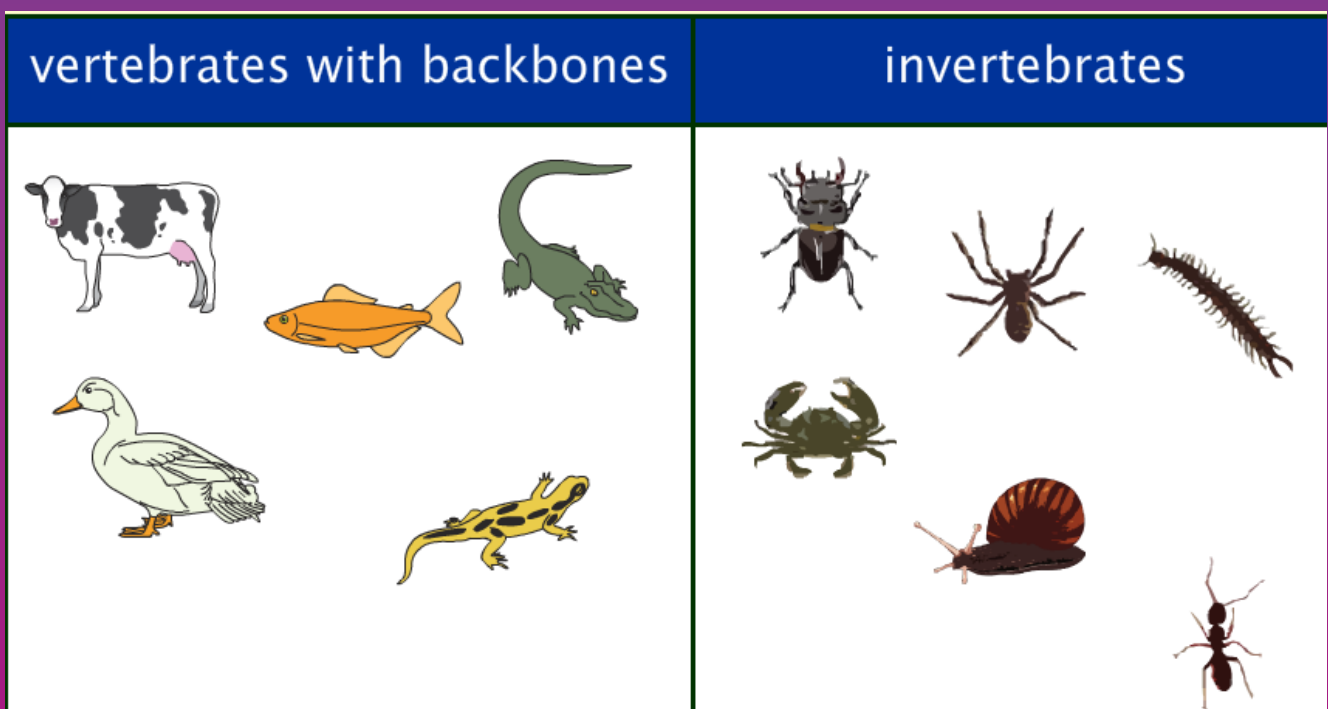
Another amazing half-term finished! We have been working very hard on our times tables this half-term, getting ready for the Multiplication Check. The speed and confidence of everyone has really impressed me! The class challenge and push themselves, showing both determination and motivation. As well, in class we have been learning about both fractions and then decimals. Year 4 linked their learning with previous knowledge from other units and have blossomed in all the lessons.

The enigmatic 'Lob' has been our book focus this half-term. Year 4 have thrived with the mystery and the unknowing. Once again, the class have blown me away with their incredible pieces of writing! The class have become much more independent when using their writing lenses and can pick and choose which vocabulary would make their written work more powerful.

In science, we have been looking at living things and their habitats. In this unit children explored a variety of ways to identify, sort, group and classify living things. They have learned how animals are split into 'vertebrates' and 'invertebrates' and begun to consider the differences between living things within these classifications. Very much looking forward to our school trip to Blackpool Zoo where we can put what we have learnt into reality!

Thank you to all pupils and grown-ups for your continued efforts and support. Hope you all have a fantastic break!

Miss Clayton & Miss Sweeting



# Year 5

**I cannot believe how fast this year has gone! One more half term left in Year 5!**

**This half term in maths, we have worked on our understanding of decimals. We have understood the place value of the columns; understood how decimals relate to fractions and percentages; and finally understood how to add and subtract decimals, ensuring that the digits are lined up accurately. During our starters we have been timing ourselves and most of the children are now able to complete each question in under 1 minute. This is really going to support them going into Year 6!**

**Our topic this half term has been Building an inclusive World. We have been learning in PSHE, Art, History and Geography about the Suffragette movement around the world and its impact on our life today. The children have really enjoyed learning about the woman who campaigned for Women's Votes. In our DT lessons, the children have continued building on their sewing skills and have made a rosette badge in purple and green to represent the women's right movement. At times they really had to persevere when their needle came undone!**

**Our Science this half term has focussed around the human life cycle and has included lessons looking at puberty and the various transformations that we go through in our life time. The children have asked lots of very mature and sensible questions regarding puberty and this has linked nicely into our PSHE where we have spoken some more about the topic of body changes. If you wish to send your child into school with deodorant for PE lessons then please ensure that it is not a spray as we have children with asthma. Thank you.**

**At the start of this half term, many children were given their pens to use as their handwriting was beautiful and joined. In our English lessons, we have read and enjoyed the book 'Journey to Jo'Burg'. The children have learnt about how segregation was prominent in South Africa. They have written their own ending to the story by predicting what might happen based on the event we read so far. Lots of the children have learnt to use additional phrases to add more detail in their sentences and they are starting to sound much more sophisticated!**

**Our school trip is coming next half term so please do make sure that you have returned the slip and paid on MCAS. Similar to last year, the children will be preparing a 'Showasis' for you to show off all of the amazing learning they have achieved this year! I look forward to seeing you all there to share in the children's achievements!**

**We hope you enjoy your half term break!**

**Miss Hughes and Mrs Robinson.**



The background of the entire page is a movie poster for 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone'. At the top, a banner reads 'YEAR ONE'. Below it, the title 'HARRY POTTER' is written in a large, stylized font, with 'THE PHILOSOPHER'S STONE' underneath. The central image shows Harry Potter with his glasses and lightning bolt scar, looking forward. To his left is Albus Dumbledore with his long white beard, and to his right is Sirius Black. At the bottom, other characters like Hermione Granger and Sirius Black are visible. In the bottom right corner, there are two film rating logos: a blue 'PG' logo from the British Board of Film Classification and a yellow 'PG' logo from the Australian Classification Board.

# YEAR ONE

# HARRY POTTER

## THE PHILOSOPHER'S STONE™

# YEAR 6

**This half term the children have worked incredibly hard during the build-up to the SATs. During SATs week, the children were committed to doing their absolute best and consistently gave 100%! We could not be prouder of them. Well done Year 6!**

**Our English lessons have been centred around exploring the book 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. The children have written their own non-chronological reports based on the magical creatures in the text. It has been great to see the effort they have put in and the quality of their work.**

**In maths, the children have been developing their skills in using and interpreting data. We have been analysing pie charts, line graphs and finding the mean of grouped data.**

**Our theme this half term has been Building an Inclusive World. The children have studied China's political history and the human and physical geography characteristics of China. We have also been working on creating a lighthouse sculpture during our art lessons.**

**In other areas of the curriculum, we have been putting our practical skills to the test in science. The children have carried out scientific investigations into: 'Which biscuit is best for dunking into a cup of tea?' And 'Which chocolate bar is the unhealthiest?'**

**Once again, well done for all your hard work this half term Year 6!**

**Miss Webster and Miss Myatt**



# Community MATTERS

We have continued to collect surplus products from Aldi and Sainsbury! 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.



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 3pm -3:30pm.



Next half term we have the summer fair, we would appreciate if any of the parents would kindly give up some of their time to help us prepare! We will hold special Tea and Toast sessions leading up to this.