

At Oasis Aspinal we...

Aspire, Aim high, Achieve



December 2018 | Issue 2

Welcome!



Dear Parents/Carers

What a wonderful, and very busy first term we have had. There has been some great progress already this year, and I have seen some outstanding pieces of learning. The children have worked so hard, and are very committed to their learning and extra-curricular activities. They are a real credit to you all. We have had an exceptional display of half term learning projects in the entrance hall, and I thank you for your continuous support. The Christmas productions and Carol concert have been a huge success. We have some very talented pupils at Oasis Academy Aspinal.

A reminder that we are on Twitter @oasisaspinal please do follow us as we tweet events that are happening in school and any reminders.

Thank you for your continued support. I hope you all have a very Merry Christmas. We look forward to welcoming you back at 8.50am on Monday 7th January 2019.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Best wishes
Mrs S. Ryan - Associate Principal



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Contact us anytime at...



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Nursery



Nursery have been busy this half term learning about opposites – heavy and light, light and dark, daytime and night time etc. They particularly enjoyed making a home for Spike the hedgehog, and taking part in creative activities linked to stories about owls.



Thank you to all those parents and grandparents who have supported our Active Families Bronze initiative. Hopefully you will all continue with the fun and games and accept our silver challenge over the next term. We will be running the sessions for more families after Christmas.



- This week the children enjoyed a visit from Santa, despite his busy schedule! He told them a story, posed for pictures and then left a little gift in advance (because they have been so good.)

We are getting excited about our Wiggly Nativity performance, and hope that our parents enjoy this special event too!

**Wishing you all a very happy Christmas!
from Miss Hardy & Mrs O'Brien.**



Reception

Ho, ho, ho!
Merry
Christmas



Wriggly Nativity

It was lovely to see so many of you at our Nativity performance. I'm sure that you were really impressed by the children – they were amazing!!!

They looked fantastic in their costumes- Thank you so much

Santa's Visit

WOW- I've never seen the class so quiet and still as when Santa arrived! They sat so well whilst waiting for their turn to go up and talk to him and give him their lists - there are some interesting requests this year - a Segway, Dalmatian dog (a real one) a padlock and a key and a lawnmower!!!!

Home Reading

I'd just like to say 'Thank You' for the amazing job you are doing at home supporting the children with their reading. EVERY child in the class has their book bag in school every day. It is obvious by their progress and your comments that they are having regular practise with their books and the key words at home – Well Done!

**Have a wonderful Christmas break and
Thank You for your continued support Miss
Bailey, Mrs Currie and Mrs O'Brien**

Year 1

What a super half term we have had in year 1. We have been practicing hard for our nativity and the results were amazing. What a fantastic show. Thank you for sending in our brilliant costumes. Father Christmas came to visit Year 1 and told a lovely story.

In English we have been busy writing letters to Santa. We also wrote instructions to rescue farmer duck from the horrible farmer. We have been working hard on our handwriting this half term.

We have really enjoyed learning about 2D and 3D shapes in Maths. We particularly enjoyed the shape songs. We have created our own wrapping paper for Christmas using our own repeated patterns. We have done some amazing number and place value

learning, and we have moved on to addition & subtraction.

For our topic lessons we took a journey back into the past to discover what toys used to be like. We then compared the old toys to the toys we have today. We loved getting to play with all of the different toys.

During our Science lessons we have been exploring everyday materials. We have tested which materials are best to make teddy a new umbrella. We also tested to see which materials were bendy, opaque and smooth.

We hope you all have a lovely Christmas and we cannot wait to welcome you back in the New Year.

From the Year 1 team.



Year 2

What an incredible start to year 2 we have had!

In English, we have been focussing on building independence within our writing. We have focussed on letter writing and read some funny stories about two silly boys who are always late for school. We have written some incredible letters to parents and teachers from the stories. We have then used all these skills to write a letter to the big man himself, Santa.

In Maths we have been focussing on using all our knowledge about numbers to help us with addition and subtraction. We have learnt lots of different strategies to help us complete these calculations.

In Science we started our plants topic. We have compared wild and garden plants. We then looked at flowers in great detail and drew some super illustrations with labels. We have begun to look at the life cycle of a plant, and this will continue after Christmas.



In Topic, we have finished our Great Fire of London topic which we enjoyed tremendously. Next half term we will start our new topic, Polar regions.

The children have tried hard this half term and started to understand how hard we have to try in Year 2.

We hope you have a fantastic break and enjoy the special time with your families. We will see you back in school on Monday 7th January 2018.



YEAR 3



The end of our first term is here and it has been fantastic! We started this half term with the Roman workshop. The children spent the day being Roman citizens, played Roman games and marched as a Roman soldier.

In Maths, we have mastered addition and subtraction, using mental and formal methods to calculate the answers. The children also used the inverse operation to check their answers. We moved onto multiplication and the children used their knowledge of multiplication to solve problems. This half term, the children have been competing against Key Stage 2 classes on Times table Rockstars. Year 3 were triumphant and have beaten every class! We have six

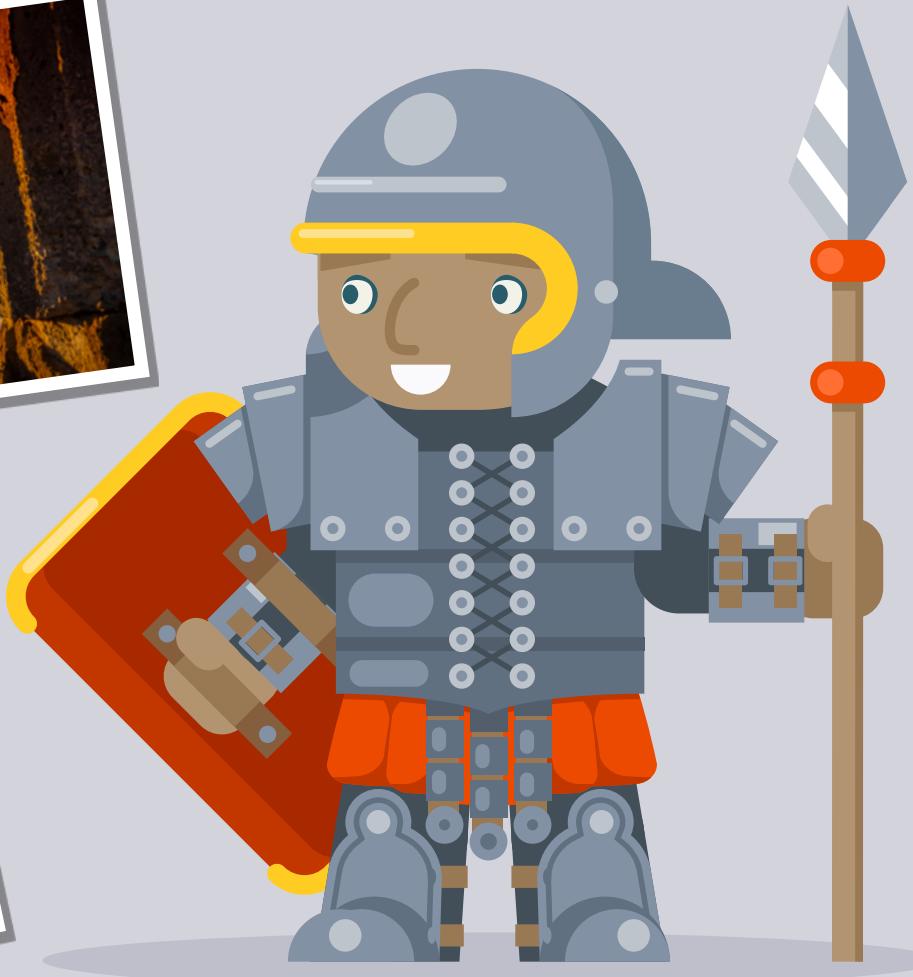
Year 3 children in the top 10 and we are super proud of them all.

In English, we wrote a newspaper report on The Mighty Mount Vesuvius Volcano erupting in Pompeii. The children became reporters and researched all the information needed for their report.

Thank you all for your continued support, helping with children's home learning and reading.

We hope you have a wonderful Christmas and we looking forward to seeing you all in 2019!

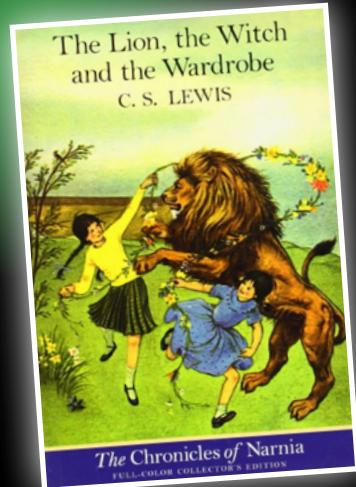
Miss Clayton and Mrs Robinson.



YEAR 4

Year 4 have settled in really well in their autumn term, showing enthusiasm in all aspects of school.

In Maths, we have been looking at measurements of different shapes. Learning about how to work out the length and perimeter of rectilinear shapes. During this, children carried out a variety of investigations and showed a great understanding and interest. As well, year 4 have been learning about multiplication and division. Learning about a variety of times table and division facts as a way to multiply and divide mentally. This has enabled the children to solve challenging problems involving multiplication and division.



This half term has been all about Narnia and what an adventure it has been! We stepped into the magical cupboard and wrote fantastic setting descriptions, focusing more specifically on expanded noun phrases. Following on from our imaginative, interesting and exciting descriptions, children have begun to write a newspaper report about Mr Tumnus who was arrested by the White Witch. It is evident from all children's work that they can adapt their writing to fit the writing style needed depending on the purpose of the text.

In topic we have carried on our learning about the Tudors. Year 4 went on their trip to Bramall Hall where they learnt all about the Tudors and got to have a real experience of the Tudor life. They did drawings, built walls, dressed up as a Tudor, learnt a dance routine and even got to role play a banquet how both the poor and rich Tudors would have experienced it. This has been a fantastic topic and each week year 4 showed excitement and interest in the lessons.

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 learnt how animals are split into 'vertebrates' and 'invertebrates' and begun to consider the differences between living things within these classifications.

I would like to thank all parents for their support and hope that you continue to engage and support your children with their home reading and homework throughout the year. If you have any further questions please feel free to ring school and leave a message or catch me in the playground before or after school. I hope everyone has a fantastic break and I look forward to seeing what January will bring.

**Thanks
Miss Dale**

MR TUMNUS



ASLAN



YEAR 5

It has been another exciting half term in Year 5. The children have been engrossed in creative writing, solving tricky problems in Maths as well as getting their hands on clay to make their favourite Viking weapons.

English

In English the children have been reading an amazing book called 'Viking Boy'. Packed with action, this exciting story is a fascinating insight into the world of Vikings. From this the children inferred meaning and used the text to justify their explanations. Currently, the children are in the process of producing a diary entry from the main character's perspective.

Maths

In Maths the children have been multiplying and dividing whole numbers and decimal numbers by 10, 100 and 1000. They didn't just stop at learning the skill but went on to reasoning and problem solving tasks too. In addition to this, the children have been learning about area and perimeter of rectangles. They have been able to use this knowledge to tackle challenging problems related to compound shapes. Currently, the children are exploring statistics. They are able to read and interpreting line graphs with confidence.

Science

In Science we have been carrying on with our learning about the Sun, Earth and Moon. This half term the children have really enjoyed writing their newspaper report about the discovery of a fictitious planet. They used their knowledge of planets to plan and devise their own writing. As well as writing the newspaper reports, the children have been learning about day and night time in different parts of the world. Recently, the children have been engrossed in phases of the moon- they found waning and waxing Gibbous rather challenging.

Topic

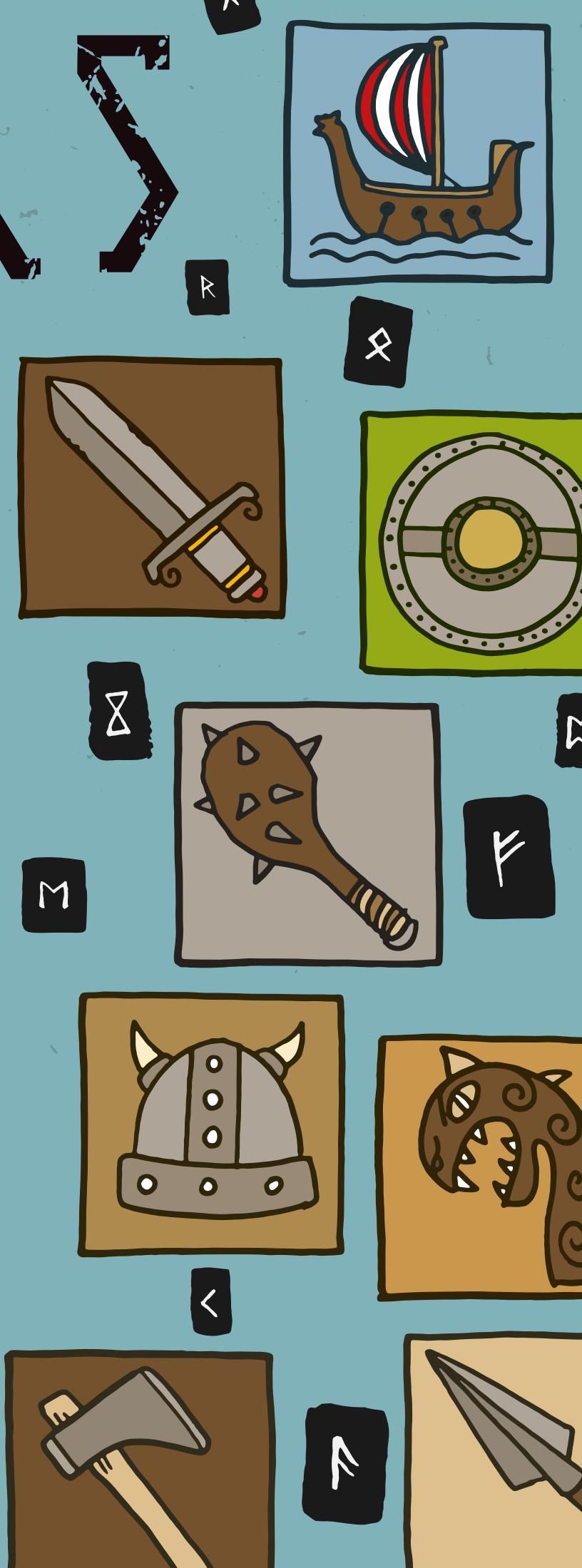
In Topic the children have continued with their learning about the Vikings. They were absorbed in the Viking's lifestyle where they researched about their homes, food, clothes, as well as, crime and punishment. After learning about the battle of Lindisfarne the children used clay to mould Viking weapons of their choice and used Runes (Viking alphabet) to name their weapon.

How you can help at home

At Oasis Academy Aspinal we value the home-school partnership in building successful futures for all our children. Therefore, I would like to urge you to read daily with your child and ask thought provoking questions. Please encourage your child to learn their times tables using their Times Table Rock Stars.

Best Wishes

Mrs Malik & Miss Myatt



YEAR 6

THE AMAZING AMERICA'S

Wow! What a busy half term we have had! We have had a student teacher - Miss Dennehy join us, and we have enjoyed our Harvest celebration and some anti-bullying work!

In maths, the children have begun to grasp decimals and fractions and have learnt how to change fractions into equivalents and played get your cards right! We have also moved onto measures and begun to understand and convert length, capacity and weight.

In English, we have thoroughly enjoyed our author read book- Holes by Louis Sachar- and have based lots of our work around this! They have written a diary of Stanley's first day at juvenile camp and then written a persuasive brochure to make the camp seem lovely!

Our topic, The Amazing America's, continued and the children have looked into some of the historical aspects such as Cowboys and Indians. We have learnt what clothes cowboys wore and how they live. We have also researched information about different types of Indian tribes and studied how they lived. We have also discovered what the tallest landmarks in America are and drew a bar chart to show!

In science, the children moved onto learning about light and how we see things. We have made some important discoveries such as the fact that light is made up of all colours of the spectrum; and that light travels in straight lines!

There have been some booster sessions for maths taking place in school time this half term and we will be starting some English boosters after the Christmas break!

We hope you all have a lovely and well-deserved break!

All the best for the New Year!

Miss Hughes

**PROM
DONATIONS**

Thank you for the donations towards the end of year Prom!
We currently have £82.57!
This is brilliant! Keep sending in your 20p's!

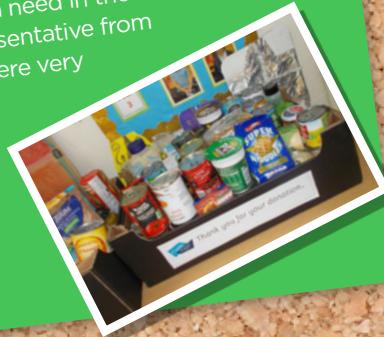




Community MATTERS

Harvest Collection

Thank you for your kind donations ahead of the KS2 Harvest assembly. We collected six boxes like the one illustrated – filled with food and toiletries for families in need in the local area. The boxes were collected by a representative from the Trussell Trust Foodbank. They were very grateful, as they had just received a call from Central Manchester Foodbank who were desperately short of supplies. They said that their prayers had been answered! Thank you Oasis Academy Aspinal.



ACTIVE FAMILIES

This half term we have been running a new initiative called Active Families. Over 10 families have taken part in 6 sessions designed to raise levels of activity for children and their families. Families in the Nursery class had fun in school with balloons, balls, hoops, skipping ropes and chalk, before taking equipment home to practise at the weekend. We will be running Active Families again in the Spring Term for 10 more families. Look out for the flyer with next term's after school club sign-up sheet. It's a great way for children of all ages to have fun with their grown-up. All equipment is provided....any couch potatoes are particularly welcome!!



Inspire - a day of remembrance

In November, Classes at Oasis Academy Aspinal took part in an initiative called INSPIRE which encourages children to become peacemakers of the future. Year 6 attended a Remembrance service at Gorton Cemetery, and Year 5 joined other Oasis academies at Manchester Cathedral to give thanks for those who risk their lives in times of conflict. Other classes joined them in a minute silence in school, then took part in class based activities to strengthen their understanding of a peaceful future for all.

We learned that animals can demonstrate extreme bravery too! Year 2 learned about a carrier pigeon, who saved many lives during the war and was awarded the Dickin medal for bravery from the PDSA. We loved having a special hero in school, Bryn, who has worked tirelessly as a search and rescue dog. His handler, Steve, brought him into school to show us his medal for bravery. Bryn has found many casualties in catastrophic situations eg an earthquake in India and a tsunami in Japan, as well as working on disasters closer to home.

