

At Oasis Aspinal we...

Aspire, Aim high, Achieve



February 2020 | Issue 9



Welcome!

Dear Parents/Carers

We have had a brilliant half term. It has been a very busy one again! Year 2 and Year 6 have had mock SATS tests and both classes have done very well. Year 6 have had a visit from a Mayan archaeologist and Year 3, Year 5 and Year 6 have had a visit from Reddy Lenge a computing specialist who has taught them coding and about robotics. EYFS have celebrated Chinese New Year and Year 1 are making fantastic progress with their phonics. Year 5 are continuing their brass lessons and are improving each week. The whole school have had lessons on Safer Internet Day around keeping themselves safe online.

Thank you to all the parents who have signed up to Class Dojo this is a great way for teachers to share messages with yourselves. If you haven't signed up yet please speak to your class teacher for more information.

Parents evening is being held on Tuesday 3rd March and Wednesday 4th March, letters will be sent out after half term for you to book an appointment with your class teacher.

Thank you to all the parents who have attended our reading sessions on Tuesday mornings. All parents/carers are welcome into school every Tuesday from 8.50-9.15am to read with their children.

We have changed our curriculum slightly this year, the long term plans can be found on our website: www.oasisacademyaspinal.org. We also have our school twitter account @OasisAspinal.

I hope you all have a fantastic February half term break!

Thank you all for your continued support. We look forward to seeing you back in school after half term on Monday 24th February.

**A Sweeting
Principal**

Attendance

Nursery	86.68%
Reception	92.56%
Year 1	96.05%
Year 2	96.48%
Year 3	96.73%
Year 4	95.56%
Year 5	97.68%
Year 6	95.89%

**WHOLE
SCHOOL
95.85%**

Contact us anytime at...



0161 223 0053



www.oasisacademyaspinal.org



@oasisaspinal



admin@oasisaspinal.org

ASPIRE, AIM HIGH, ACHIEVE

EYFS News



Family Winter Workshop

Thank you to all the parents that attended the 'Outdoor Adventure Morning' – it certainly was a cold morning! The children had a great time and they love it when you come and join in our activities with them at school.

Chinese New Year

Did you see our Chinese New Year experiences on the website? We spent two weeks finding out about the traditional customs and experiences that are celebrated around Chinese New Year. We incorporated the theme into all aspects of our learning, come and have a look in our Learning Journeys to see what we have been doing.

New Reading Books

We have had a big investment in our 'Reading Books' this year – the new books are brilliant. The children are enjoying reading them and I have noticed some very pleasing progress taking place already!!!

The books were very expensive so please remember to take care of them – a gentle reminder.....staff will check each book for any damage before your child brings it home- when they return it, it will be checked again and if we find that the book is damaged you will be charged for the replacement. We need to keep the books looking smart for as long as we can

Water Bottles

There are an increasing number of children that are arriving in school without a water bottle, it is important that your child has access to fresh drinking water throughout the day when they need it.

**Thank You for your continued support
Miss Bailey, Mrs Currie
and Mrs O'Brien**

Year 1



What a great Spring 1 half term we've had in Year 1! The children returned from the holidays full of enthusiasm!

In English, Year 1 have produced some lovely Winter poetry and are currently thoroughly enjoying our class text, Meerkat Mail, where we are writing letters to and from characters in the story. We have been doing lots of learning about numbers to 50 and have been looking at how we can use what we know to work our addition and subtraction calculations. The children have learnt lots about the continent of Africa and are beginning to classify animals and study life cycles in Science. We are also so proud of how hard the children continue to work in their phonics sessions and we are continuing to see some fantastic progress.

Our new delivery of reading books has been wonderful for Year 1. The children are now able to access a wide variety of texts and these books are really helping everyone to be confident and motivated readers.

Regular home reading is extremely important in order for the children to practise the many new skills they are acquiring in class – repetition and practise is vital. We ask that all parents and carers read with their child at least 3 times a week or it would be even better to read their school reading book daily. This needs to be at a quiet time, when your child is ready to share their story and when you are both sat together. Reading practise need only be 5-10 minutes at a time. Please record/sign in the reading record when you have read with your child- this forms an important picture around progress and demonstrates to your child how much you value that special reading time.

It's been fantastic to see an increasing number of parents at our weekly reading café. The children are always excited to see the adults in class and it is also a great opportunity to speak to a staff member if you would like some advice or support with the reading process.

Year 1 continue to really enjoy their PE lessons and are demonstrating excellent skill development in lots of areas. We will soon be lucky enough to have several weeks of Football training sessions on a Thursday afternoon. We kindly ask that ALL children have their PE kit in school. This stays on their peg and gets sent home for washing at each holiday.

We would like to say a big thank you and good luck to our trainee teacher, Miss Senior, as she now finishes her final placement here at Oasis Aspinall.

**Thank you for your continued support,
Mrs Cragg, Mrs McDonald & Miss Stringer**



YEAR 2

Half way through the year....

In English, we have writing for purpose linking it to our geography topic (Life of an Inuit). The children have produced a beautiful non-chronological report on polar bears, which they brought home to share with you. We have then written an emotional poem based on an illustration from Leaf and inspired by Michael Rosen's Dinnertime poem. The children have absolutely loved the poetry and have been amazed at how incredible they own writing sounds!

In Maths, we have been focussing on multiplication and division and moved onto money. The children have seen how important learning their multiplication tables is; it has been great that they can see how useful they are in other areas of maths such as money. We have had many light bulbs going off this half term and many of children's jigsaw puzzles clicking into place, which is a lovely thing to see. We still need to revisit our bonds and times tables constantly to get these facts as automatic as possible. So keep up all that practising at home.

In Science, we have looked at living things and their habitats. Children have understood what life processes are involved in being classified as living, what a habitat is and what it must provide for a plant or animal, what a micro-habitat it and finally begun to understand how food chains work.

In Geography, we have learnt about how our life is different to an Inuit from the Arctic Circle, firstly, we have labelled continents and oceans from around the world and looked at global climates. The children have become extremely good at using thermometers. We have then compared temperatures in the Arctic Circle to that of Manchester where we live.

The children have tried hard this half term, including practising for our SATs, which they all tried incredibly hard on. I am hoping you all have a lovely break with your families and get plenty of rest because we have lots of learning to do when we get back!

Thank you for your continued support, Miss Cairns & Mrs Reding.



YEAR 3

The end of another half term is here and it has been fantastic. The children continue to grow and impress us with their effort.

We started the term with our new history topic Ancient Egypt. Thank you to everybody that shared artefacts for our display. It looked fantastic and Egypt came to life in the classroom. The children have been learning about where in history the ancient Egyptians were and learn some key events of Egyptian history. They have enjoyed learning about the pyramids and Pharaohs. The children communicated their learning to others by writing fact files and made Facebook profiles for Tutankhamen.

During English, the children read and compared the original Cinderella to the Egyptian Cinderella. Through dramatic performance, the children retold the story and developed a good understanding of the characters. After, we wrote persuasive letters to the servant girls asking them to stop being unkind to Rhodopis the Egyptian Cinderella.

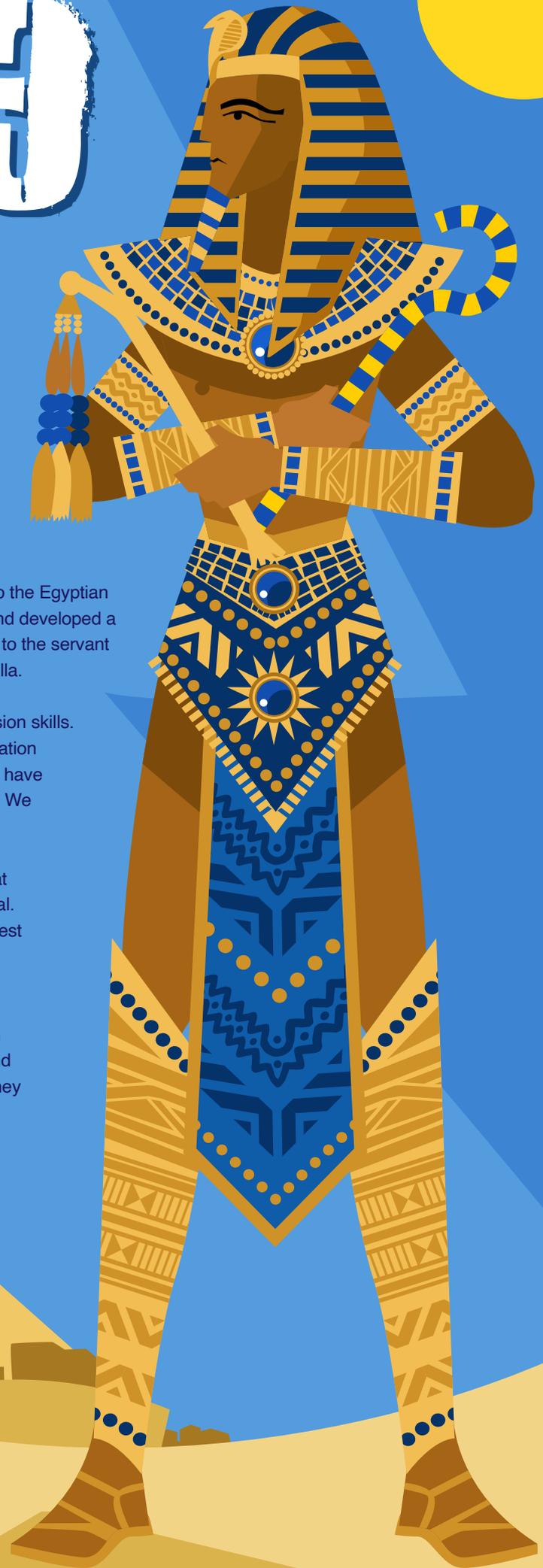
In Maths, the children have been developing their multiplication and division skills. They have used what they know to partition numbers and solve multiplication and division problems. After this, the children started looking at time. We have explored am and pm and the children read and ordered times in the day. We have started to look at twenty-four hour clocks.

During Science lessons, we have been learning about light. We looked at reflective material and investigated which was the most reflective material. Using this information, the children designed new book bags using the best material to help keep children safe on their journey to and from school.

We had a visit from Computing Reddy, their aim is to enhance children's learning through technology and we had a fantastic session. The children learnt the language of coding, problem solved, worked collaboratively and build resilience through a coding activity. It was great fun and we hope they come back soon.

Thank you again for your continued support. Don't forget to stay up to date with all the academy news via our Twitter page and look out for notifications on class dojo.

**Enjoy your half term break!
Miss Clayton and Miss Morrison**



YEAR 4

Year 4 have had an amazing start to the New Year.

CHINA

In Maths, we have carried on learning about multiplication and division. Recalling and using multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12 x 12. During this, children have been learning how to multiply and divide mentally by recognising and using factor pairs. This has enabled the class to multiply and divide two-digit and three-digit numbers by a one digit number using formal written layout.

Our topic focus this term is China, which is why in English our focus has been all about creating persuasive leaflets and writing a letter persuading someone to move there. Year 4 have done all their own research to gain more knowledge about China and what to expect if you went there. The work the class have produced has been amazing, they have learnt about all the different persuasive techniques and used them in their work. The children used imagination, detail, description and creativity to make their writing come to life!

In topic we have had a geography focus, learning all about China. In lessons children have begun to understand human and physical geography. Comparing famous landmarks in China to England and beginning to understand the various differences between the two. It has been a very enjoyable topic, learning both some fun facts about China and even Mandarin!

Finally, in science our new unit is 'animals including humans'. This unit has focused on the digestive system in humans and animals and the functions of teeth. The children have learnt about herbivores, carnivores and omnivores in the context of teeth, digestion and the food chain.

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.

Thanks - Miss Dale



GEOGRAPHY



FUN FACTS



LANDMARKS



YEARS

What a wonderful start to the spring term!

Our first English text this half term was 'The adventures of Odysseus' by Hugh Lupton and Daniel Morden. We explored the weird and wonderful world of Greek myths and followed Odysseus on his journey back to Ithaca. The second text we studied this half term was 'Who Let The Gods Out?' by Maz Evans (which is one of our recommended reads). Elliot has a troubled life but his brush with the gods and the Zodiac Council proved an exciting read for the children.

In maths, we have been developing our knowledge of multiplication and division, using formal methods. We have also begun looking at looking at fractions and decimals – the children have worked hard at comparing and ordering fractions and persevered when they found it tricky.

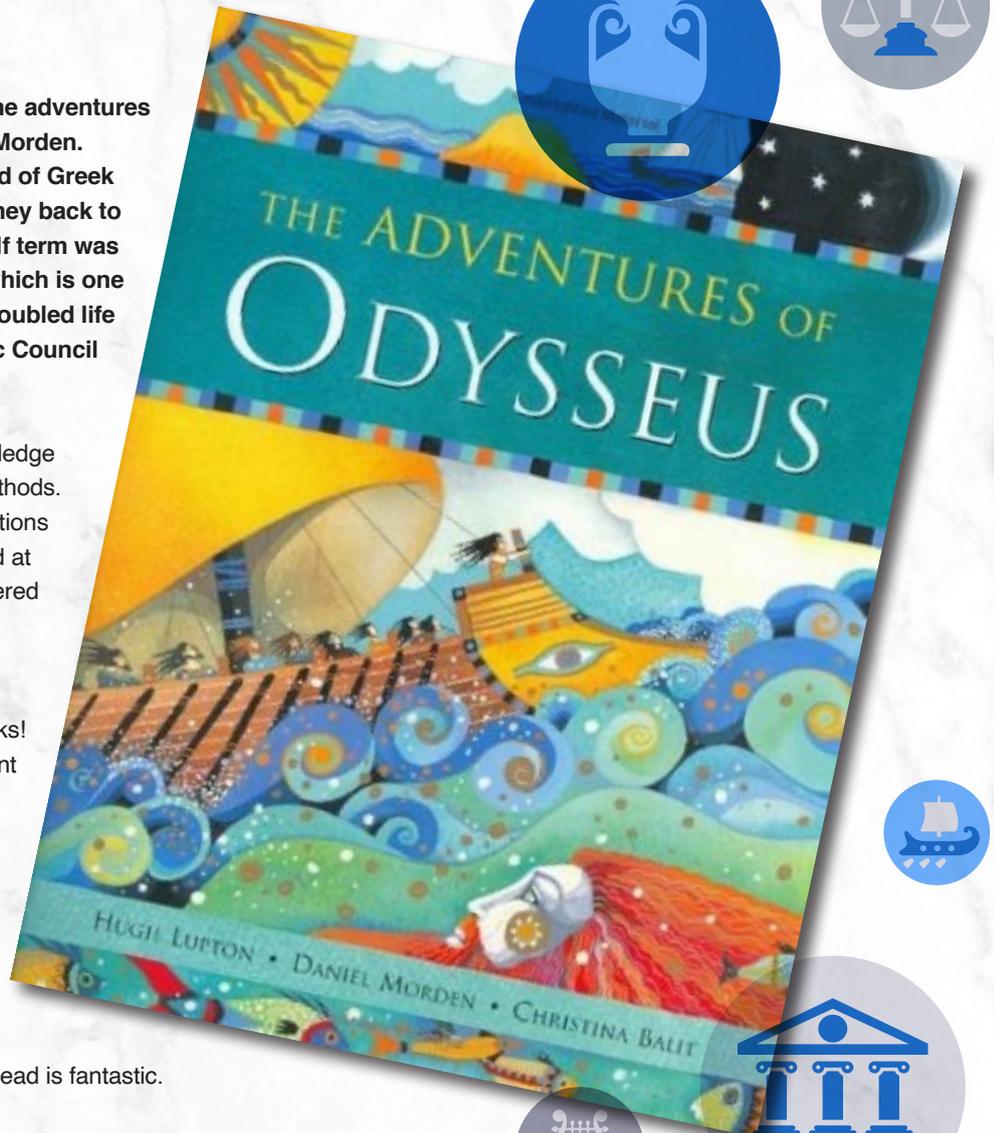
This half term we have been historians and explored knowledge around the Ancient Greeks! The children have gained knowledge in Ancient Greek life, including, democracy, sports, the Battle of Marathon, the Greek gods and the Trojan War. We have been incredibly impressed with how the children have been linking ideas and interpretations, across all subjects, to knowledge gained whilst studying Ancient Greece. In addition to this, the art work children have done at home based on some of the Greek myths we have read is fantastic.

Our science topic this half term has been 'Living Things and Their Habitats'. They have developed knowledge gained in Year 4, and have a deeper understanding of the life cycle of plants. We have looked at the life cycle of mammals and the work of Jane Goodall and children now understanding the process of complete and incomplete metamorphosis.

In other areas of the curriculum, the children have been developing their own computer programme that controls or simulates a physical action. During our art lessons, the children have explored frieze patterns and other Ancient Greek art and created their own Ancient Greek style tiles.

We are all looking forward to continuing this great start after the half-term break. Enjoy your holiday Year 5.

Miss Webster and Mrs Ridland





YEAR 6

Welcome back and what a busy 6 weeks it has been!

This half term in maths, the children have been learning more about fractions and percentages. They have learnt how to find a percentage of an amount. The children have continued to grow in confidence with their arithmetic skills too.

In English, the children have watched an animation clip called Alma. They have learnt how to use similes and metaphors to build powerful descriptions. They have developed their skills of using speech punctuation to build into telling the story of her disappearance. Many of the children are building the necessary skills to create pieces of writing that are of a high standard now and will continue to build on these next half term too.

In topic we have learnt about the Ancient Mayans - which has been a very exciting journey for us all. We have found out about where they were from, which build on our understanding from earlier on about The Americas. We have looked at how their city states were built; their beliefs and religions; and how they farmed. We have thoroughly enjoyed having Dr Diane Davies who is an expert Mayan archaeologist in to our classroom. She brought some amazing artefacts and showed us some videos of the Maya people who still exist today.

Our science topic has taught us a lot this half term about who we are and where we come from. We have looked at why we are often told we look like our parents. We studied inherited and adapted traits. We took part in an experiment to test which beak would help the finches of the Galapagos survive better.

There are lots more exciting trips and visits planned for the coming terms this year so please keep a look out for letters and notifications on class dojo.

Miss Hughes



**Thank you for the donations towards the end of year Prom!
We currently have £80.60!
This is brilliant! Keep sending in your donations!**





Community MATTERS

Valentine Disco

Thank you to all children who attended our annual Valentines Disco.

You may be aware that there is a only a small amount of profit after buying refreshments and prizes so this year we supplemented our efforts with a non-uniform day. This will help to meet the cost of educational visits in school, which have become increasingly expensive to provide. As you are aware, external visitors often offer additional resources and expertise, that can have a real impact on children's learning.

We thank you for your support with this, and appreciate your payments via parent pay in our bid to become a cashless school. This saves money from banking charges, which can then be passed back directly to the school.



Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 11th February was Safer Internet Day and the theme this year is 'Working Together For a Better Internet', designed to empower young people to take control of their digital lives. All classes learned about keeping safe online, where to access support when needed, and how to use privacy settings to maintain their personal details securely.



Oasis Academy Aspsal Pledge - Building Culture Capital.

Have you seen our Aspsal Pledge in the Entrance Hall? We have identified 100 activities that we hope our children can experience during their primary years. Tell us what you think...



SAFEGUARDING WEEK

Teaching our children how to keep safe is of the highest priority so we will be holding a Safeguarding Week on the week commencing March 2nd.

Each class will be taking a closer look at one area and sharing their learning at the end of the week.

Rec - Who Helps Us?

Y1 - Keeping Safe Around Animals

Y2 - Keeping Safe Near the Road

Y3 - Keeping Safe in the Home

Y4 - Keeping Safe Near Water

Y5 - Substance Use & Misuse

Y6 - Keeping Safe Near Railways

IMPORTANT

TERM DATES

2019 - 2020

Please see below for the term dates for the remainder of the year.

		Bank Holiday				School Closed Bank Holiday	
		School Holidays				School Closed	
		Teacher Training				School Closed	
January	6	7	8	9	10	1	
2019	13	14	15	16	17	5	
	20	21	22	23	24	5	
	27	28	29	30	31	5	
February	3	4	5	6	7	5	
	10	11	12	13	14	5	
	17	18	19	20	21	5	
	24	25	26	27	28	Spring Half Term	
March	2	3	4	5	6	5	
	9	10	11	12	13	5	
	16	17	18	19	20	5	
	23	24	25	26	27	5	
April	30	31	1	2	3	5	
	6	7	8	9	10	5	
	13	14	15	16	17	Easter Holidays	
	20	21	22	23	24	Easter Holidays	
May	27	28	29	30	1	5	
	4	5	6	7	8	5	
	11	12	13	14	15	4	
	18	19	20	21	22	5	
	25	26	27	28	29	5	
June	1	2	3	4	5	5	
	8	9	10	11	12	Summer Half Term	
	15	16	17	18	19	5	
	22	23	24	25	26	5	
July	29	30	1	2	3	5	
	6	7	8	9	10	5	
	13	14	15	16	17	5	
	20	21	22	23	24	5	
						Summer Holidays	



ASPIRE, AIM HIGH, ACHIEVE