

At Oasis Aspinal we...

Aspire, Aim high, Achieve

Welcome!



May 2021 | Issue 13



Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you for your amazing support again this half term. The children have now completed their first full term in school since Autumn term. They have been amazing and have worked really hard. Your support has been really appreciated by all the staff.

The children are enjoying using their iPads in lessons. They are used in lessons each day to aid learning so must be brought into school each day fully charged.

Year 1 are loving their new classroom. The Early Years classroom will be ready next, hopefully in late June before the rest of the school is completed. Daily updates are put onto the school Twitter account (@oasisaspinal) and Facebook account (**Oasis Academy Aspinal**) if you wish to see daily photographs of the progress.

Our Family Support Worker, Clancey Chronnell who is funded by School Home Support, is working in school on Mondays and Tuesdays. If you need any support from Clancey please click the link to the website to find out more about the work School Home Support do: www.schoolhomesupport.org.uk/how-we-help/children-and-families/information-for-families/

Please find the attendance information for each class this year so far (not including lockdown periods). Thank you for your continued support on this, children have missed a lot of school with the two school closures, and we want to make sure everyone is in school now every day. Children who have been absent relating to COVID are not counted as missing any days from school.

A reminder we have also updated our school website (www.oasisacademyaspinal.org). Please make sure you check MCAS and have the app set, so you receive notifications when new information is added to it. All letters will be attached to the app this year rather than sent out.

Have a lovely half term break and we look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 7th June.

Miss Sweeting

This half terms attendance

Nursery - **83.91%**

Reception - **95.74%**

Year 1 - **94.28%**

Year 2 - **97.51%**

Year 3 - **96.24%**

Year 4 - **95.80%**

Year 5 - **96.45%**

Year 6 - **96.06%**

Whole School - **96.08%**



Contact us anytime at...



0161 223 0053



www.oasisacademyaspinal.org



@oasisaspinal



admin@oasisaspinal.org

ASPIRE, AIM HIGH, ACHIEVE

Early Years Foundation

Stage

Mini Beasts

This half term we have been learning all about Mini beasts - we especially enjoyed the 'Bug Hunt' that we did outside.

We have been able to complete some fantastic writing through this topic: labelling models, writing information that we have found out and creating stories.

In maths we have been learning about 'doubling, halving and sharing' and learning to tell the time. They are becoming very confident with o'clock and half past - no excuses for being late now!!

Home Learning Project

During the holiday I would like each child to make a clock. You can use whatever you like to create an individual design. When discussing this earlier with the children they are planning some very elaborate designs - box models, wooden clocks somebody would even like to make a clock out of a cake!!!

I can't wait to see your creations - bring them into school after the holiday so that they can be put on display!!

Water Bottles

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

Sun cream

Please apply high factor sun cream to your child before school if we have warm sunny days. (Fingers crossed!!!)

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

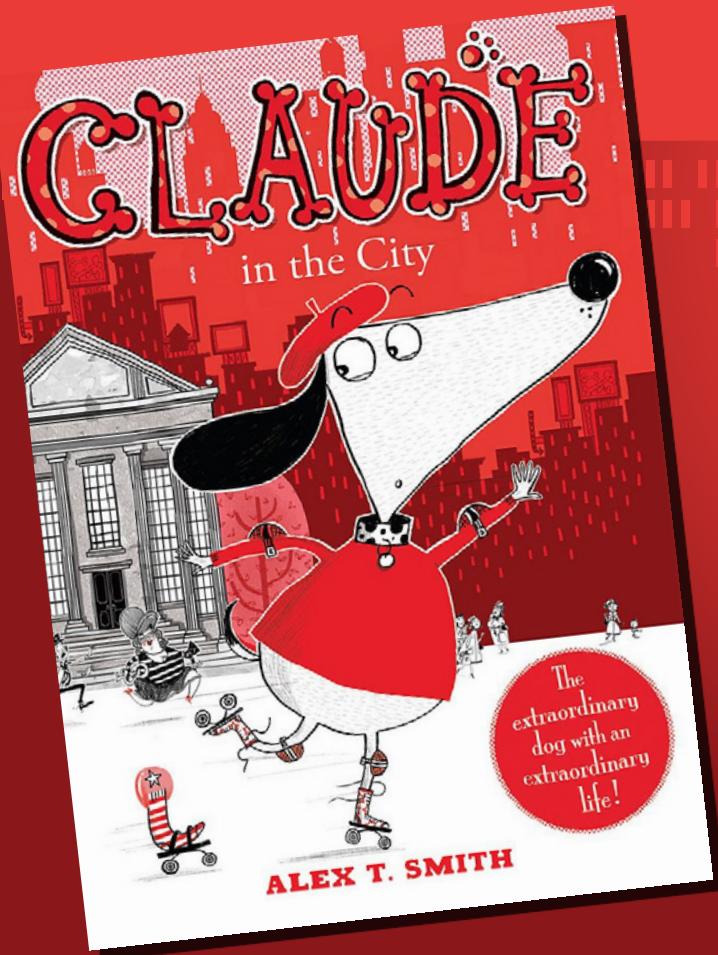


YEAR 1

What a half-term we have had! We are now comfortably in our new classroom and it's great! It's light, airy and has plenty of storage. The children have settled in brilliantly and work hard to keep our new room tidy and organised. We have also enjoyed getting used to our new iPads and the children have been superstars in looking after these and remembering to bring them to school every day. We have also been lucky enough to welcome another new friend, Auden, who has settled brilliantly and been made to feel so welcome by our lovely class. Miss Gohari continues to be a brilliant addition to our team and we are lucky to have her until the end of June. It's been a whirlwind of a half-term as we have quickly settled into some old and some new routines in order to maximise learning and fun. Have a look at what we have been up to!

ENGLISH

In English, we have been focusing on the book, 'Claude in the City' by Alex T. Smith. This is a story about Claude the dog and the adventures and mischief he gets up to in the city. The children have completed many vocabulary-rich weeks of poetry writing, postcard writing and leaflet writing linked by the theme of the city and typical city features.



PHONICS AND READING

Children have worked exceptionally hard in this area. Year 1 is a key age phase for securing the ability to decode text and develop comprehension skills and we have used every available opportunity to review and embed phonemes and the ability to blend these through twice daily phonics sessions, daily guided reading sessions, intervention groups for children that have needed extra support and groups for those children who have become secure readers and now need opportunities to develop their skills as increasingly motivated and independent readers. We have been lucky enough to now have the Reading Eggs app for our iPads which is a fantastic resource that has the ability to provide lessons tailored to your individual child and their reading needs. We ask that your child completes 1-2 lessons per week to improve their keyword recognition, phonic ability and sentence construction. Plus, children are able to enjoy a brand new book at the end of each lesson. Please do not use this as a replacement for reading home books but use in addition to. We ask that all parents read 3-4 times per week with their child and log this in the reading record to help support and secure progress worked so hard for in school.

MATHS

In Maths, we have been reviewing and continuing to embed key Year 1 objectives around addition, subtraction and counting in 2's, 5's and 10's. The children have been working hard to improve mental calculation strategies, recall of key facts and have explored ways to begin to make how they solve equations more efficient e.g. by making 10, using known number bonds to help add teen numbers etc.

GEOGRAPHY

The children have thoroughly enjoyed finding out about the features of a city, with a particular focus on Edinburgh and Cape Town to compare and contrast.

SCIENCE

The children have been learning about materials and their properties, describing and comparing different materials and thinking about why certain materials are used to make specific objects.

ART AND DESIGN

The children have really enjoyed designing and creating their own split pin puppets, they were delighted to bring their puppets to life as they moved the arms and legs.

As you can see, we have been very busy. We are so proud of our Year 1 superstars and how they have adapted to a fast-paced half-term. We can't believe that after the holiday it's the final half-term of Year 1! We wish everyone a lovely half-term break and hope the children have a well-deserved rest.

Mrs Cragg, Mrs McDonald, Miss Stringer & Miss Gohari

Year 2

How quick has this half term flown by? We have all worked hard this half term to try and rebuild the momentum in the room, keep engaged and focus throughout the entire day and we are happy to say we have settled back into the rhythm of school life once again.

In Maths, we have revisited learning from earlier in the year and we have explored number and place value, working on a number line and addition and subtraction facts. We have continued to develop our understanding of linking known facts and pupils have benefited from revisiting this learning.

In English, the children have enjoyed investigating the 'Rapunzel' book and conducted thorough explorations of fairy tales, increasing their questioning, prediction and inference skills. Similarly, pupils have also begun to use commas to separate items in a list and build up their statement skills through examining our new 'Hedgehog' book.

In Topic, we have discussed seas and coasts and the characteristics of British seas and beaches. We have also identified the seven continents and five oceans of the world on a map, alongside increasing our understanding of human and physical features through our observational and questioning skills.

In Science, the children have learnt about the importance of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and maintaining good hygiene. We have also built up our knowledge of how to keep our body and mind healthy and happy, whilst also exploring coughs, sneezes and germ spreading.

It has been lovely having our class full again and learning and growing as a team, celebrating strengths and working on our areas of improvement. Please keep up the super reading at home, using the iPads to expand knowledge, learn and grow.

Thank you for your continued support and communication this half term. We hope that you all have a joyful and safe break.

Miss Cairns, Miss Buckley and Miss Morrison



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 our half term with our new geography topic 'Why do we need to protect the rainforest?' The children enjoyed the topic and learnt about the climate, the different layers of vegetation, different tribes that live in the forest and why the rainforests are under threat and what can be done to prevent further destruction.

In science, we have been looking at forces and magnets. We learnt about pushes and pulls and the children carried out an investigation into the effects different surfaces have on a moving object. We looked at magnetic forces and we will continue this topic after half term.

In English, the children looked at the text 'Into the Forest'. We used roll play to become the characters within the text and wrote fantastic play scripts following Red's journey to Grandma's house. Later, we looked at the Iceland advert 'There's a Rang-Tan in my Bedroom'. It was clear the children were shocked to discover the devastation caused by people using Dirty Palm Oil. Their writing expressed their emotions and thoughts on the subject and brought a tear to my eye. We learnt about Greta Thunberg and wrote our own speeches to Miss Sweeting. The children wanted to ensure our school does not use products containing palm oil and expressed their thoughts and the facts and figures in a fantastic persuasive speech.

During maths, the children revised different calculation strategies and used them to solve word problems. We then looked at length and perimeter. They are able to calculate the perimeter of regular shapes in mixed units. Later, the children learnt about mass and capacity and were able to calculate in the intervals on a scale and read it accurately.

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

Thank you
Miss Clayton & Mrs Dale

Rainforest

Tribes

Vegetation



YEAR 4

Can you believe it? Another half term coming to an end! I am so proud of the continuous effort, energy and thrive Year 4 bring into the classroom. Every day, I am watching each one of them progress, grow and learn.

We have absolutely LOVED English! We started the half term by reading 'I WAS A RAT' by Philip Pullman. Gathering information, making inferences and predictions about the character... Was he really a rat before being a boy? As Year 4 loved hearing the story, learning more, and more about Roger, they were able to complete some exceptional pieces of work ranging from setting descriptions, diary entries, persuasive letters and even a debate! As the half term gradually came to an end, Year 4 have had the opportunity to read one of my favourite picture books, 'Journey' by Aaron Becker. It is a wonderful story about a girl going on an adventure purely through her imagination. It has allowed Year 4 to be creative and imaginative themselves and write their very own narrative.

Throughout maths, we have had lots and lots going on. Recapping both place value and addition and subtraction, as well as finishing our fractions unit and starting area and perimeter. Year 4 have learnt and used a variety of strategies and when it comes to maths they are fantastic at using their capitalising skills. I am proud to see how far Year 4 have come and how hard they try in each lesson.

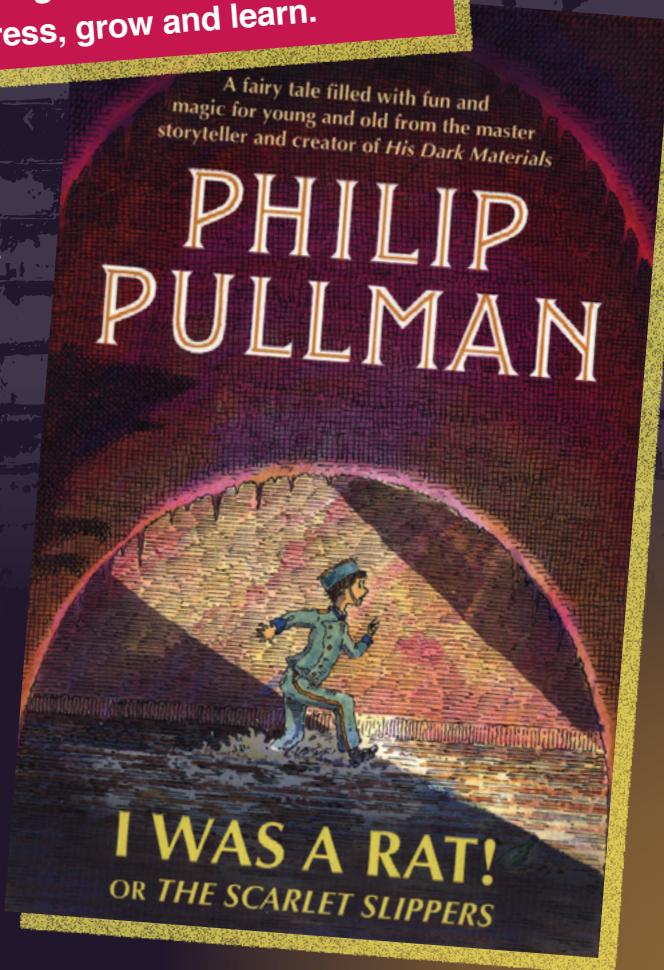
A class full of scientists! In science, we started a unit 'Animals Including Humans' which followed on really nicely from 'Living Things and their Habitats.' We have looked into animals, what they eat and constructed our own food chains. Following this, we looked more closely into humans. What types of teeth we have, each of their functions and our digestive system. In topic, we have learnt everything and anything about the River Nile! Year 4 carried out research, revised and looked closely at maps of the Nile. Year 4 have produced some wonderful pieces of work, which even includes a holiday leaflet!

I am so proud of Year 4, despite the pandemic, Year 4 have continuously been positive and enthusiastic within the classroom.

Thanks to all the children for all their hard work and parents/carers for your continuous support!

See you next half term, for our final half term!

Miss Dale



YEAR 5

What a fantastic start to the summer term! Year 5 have worked incredibly hard.

Our first English text this half term was *Floodland* by Marcus Sedgwick. The dystopian story tells of a future devastated by floods. The children really enjoyed using the text to make links with our geography unit. The second text we studied this half term was *The Princess' Blankets* by Carol Ann Duffy. The children used the text to help plan and write their own narrative.

In maths, we have been developing our knowledge of fractions; we have learnt how to add and subtract fractions including fractions greater than 1. We have been multiplying fractions and converting between mixed number and improper fractions. We have also began looking at decimals. It has been great to see the children making excellent progress in maths.

This half term we have been geographers and explored the knowledge and skills needed to decide which is the most dangerous natural disaster! Children have studied climates across the world; extreme weather conditions; earthquakes and volcanoes. It has been brilliant to see everyone engaged and finding facts during their independent reading sessions to add to our working wall.

During our science sessions, we have carried out many investigations into different materials. We have tested the transparency, magnetism, thermal conductivity, and electrical conductivity of different materials. We also investigated different methods of separating materials which the children really enjoyed.

In other areas of the curriculum, we have been looking at Christianity in RE. We have been developing our own computer games in our computing sessions. In addition to this, the children have been continuing to learn how to play brass instruments during their music lessons.

We are all looking forward to continuing this great start after the half-term break.

**Enjoy your holiday Year 5.
Miss Webster and Miss Myatt**



YEAR 6

Happy half term again! It seems like 5 minutes ago we broke up for Easter! This last term is flying by!

This half term has been jam packed with more new learning and I can see the children being pushed and challenged in new ways.

In maths this half term we have covered Algebra - which is always the favourite! The children have tackled it really well and have begun to understand the idea of replacing missing numbers with letters instead. They have also begun to move onto measures and looking at metric and imperial conversions.

In English, we started reading a new book "If you find this...." About a boy searching for heirlooms to save his family home. However, when we started to look at an example letter from Miss Sweeting about getting rid of break times, the children became very passionate and wanted to discuss all the reasons they needed their breaks! The children delved into their knowledge of the UNICEF Rights of children to back up their argument and used some incredible formal language! Some of the children were so proud they wanted to share their work on their portfolios!

Our science this half term saw us finishing off our healthy bodies topic and discussing the positive impact exercise has on our bodies and also the negative impacts of smoking and drinking alcohol. We have just started a new topic of electricity, which we will be continuing next half term too.

In topic lessons, we have been covering Geography all about mountains. The children have learnt to identify them on maps; learnt the different names for parts of the mountain; looked at the climates of some of the world's most famous mountains; and discussed the impact of tourism. They have even drawn some beautiful mountain artwork with Miss Hardy in their art lessons.

In PE we have begun to learn how to play Rounders and work as a team to achieve the best outcomes. There have been some children who have been really surprised with themselves and have hit the ball really accurately.

Next half term we are looking to the end of the year and the children's primary school journey. We will be looking to discuss and get them well prepared for high school. In the post, you will be receiving correspondence from high schools about the transition days. On these days, children go straight from home to high school and must wear their Aspinal uniform.

I hope you have a lovely half term and look forward to enjoying the last 6 weeks with the children on their Aspinal journey!

Miss Hughes
and Mrs
Robinson.

KEY DATE

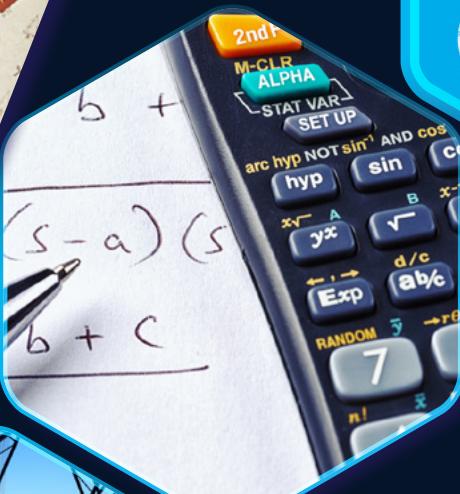
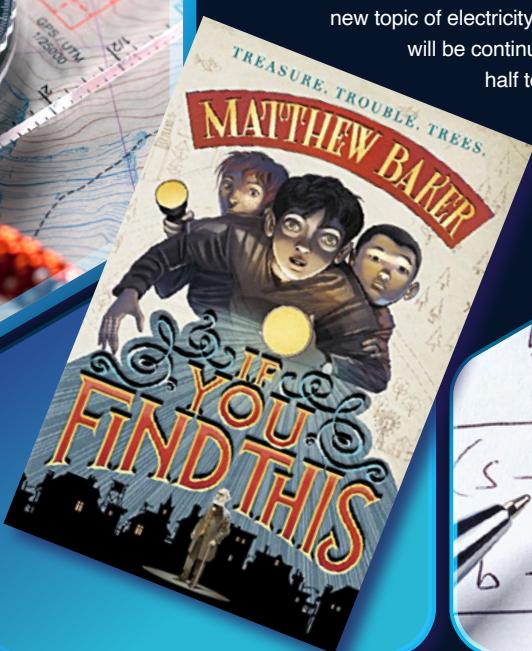
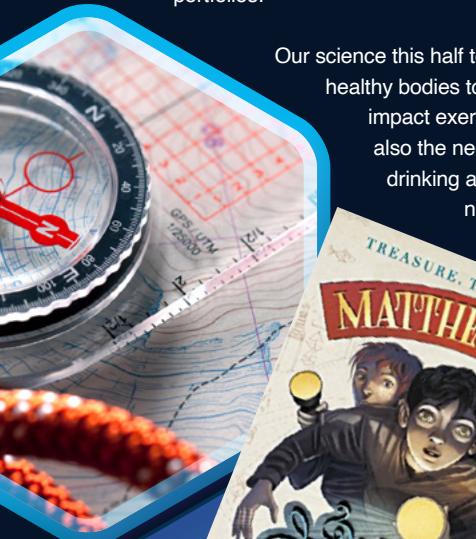
Year 6 Prom
Tues 13th July



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RIGHTS
RESPECTING
SCHOOLS





Community MATTERS

RSE Parent Consultation 2021

Thank you to all our parents who contributed to our RSE survey. We were really encouraged by your support for our revised curriculum, which we know matches the new government guidance and addresses our local health priorities.

Having looked at the I-Matter RSE overview for all year groups, here are some of the key outcomes from your Parent Survey.

3. Do you think these lessons will teach your children how to protect themselves and keep themselves safe effectively?

[More Details](#)

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

6
1
4



7. Do you consider it appropriate to teach pupils in Y6 about how babies are made as part of the human reproduction life cycle?

[More Details](#)

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

9
1
1



8. Due to higher than national presentations of Female Genital Mutilation in Greater Manchester, school considers it appropriate to teach pupils about FGM in KS2 in line with DfE recommendations. Do you agree?

[More Details](#)

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

6
1
4



RSE Parent Consultation 2021

9. Having looked at the RSE overview, do you think that there are enough opportunities to learn about keeping safe, making and maintaining strong, happy relationships and maintaining good health and hygiene?

[More Details](#)



Pupils in Year 5 and 6 were consulted on the content of their RSE curriculum earlier this term and are really looking forward to taking part in the lessons this week. This is what they said.

4. In Year 6 you will have a lesson on 'How a Baby is Made'. Do you think it is appropriate to learn about reproduction and the human life cycle in Year 6?

[More Details](#)



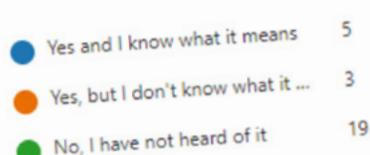
7. Research has shown that 1 in 4 girls start their periods before they have the opportunity to learn about it. We plan to teach children about puberty and periods in Year Five. Do you think that this lesson is

[More Details](#)



9. Have you ever heard of the term FGM? Please tick the sentence that matches your understanding.

[More Details](#)



RSE Parent Consultation 2021

10. Do you think these lessons will help you to protect yourself and keep yourself safe effectively?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

13
4
10



We will be evaluating our lessons in each year group at the end of the unit and look forward to receiving feedback from pupils once they have taken part in the lessons. We hope that parents have taken the opportunity to view the lesson overviews, and feel confident to talk to their children openly as and when questions arise. If parents are at all unsure about how to respond, please feel free to contact your child's class teacher for advice.

MST Review

Last week some pupils in Key Stage 2 met a lead professional from the Monitoring Standards Team to discuss the PSHE curriculum here at OA Aspinall, as part of our annual review. She was extremely impressed with their collective response, and wrote

"The discussion with the four pupils from Years 5 and 6 demonstrated very clearly how well the academy prepares pupils in the journey to be compassionate and valuable members of society."

Thank you to Nikola, Kohen, Omotola and Nixon who represented our school so well during that discussion.

VOICEBOX

This year we have registered to take part in the Voicebox Primary Campaigns.

There are two campaigns. The first campaign is Drowning Prevention Week, which takes place during the week of 19th-26th June. This is an important campaign to highlight to pupils in Manchester, given the ongoing restrictions in place with limited access to swimming pools and the possibility of unusually warm weather like we had last year. The second theme launches the Big Health Challenge.

This is an annual competition, which this year will be virtual. Every student involved gets a Certificate of Participation and one school will win the Big Health Challenge Primary Trophy!

Let's hope it's ours!!!



Community MATTERS



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Community MATTERS

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