



# West Alvington C of E Academy

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Families,

This week, I had the pleasure of speaking with our KS2 learners about their history lessons. Their enthusiasm for the topic of the Romans was truly inspiring, and the quality of their work was exceptional — well done to all!

Next week is shaping up to be a busy and exciting one in school. Here are some key dates and events to keep in mind:

## Harvest Festival – Wednesday 1st October

Families are warmly invited to join us at the church for our Harvest Festival service. At the end of the service, you will be welcome to sign the register and take your children directly from the church. Any children who are not collected will return to school with the staff where they can be collected as normal. If you have any questions regarding this arrangement, please do let us know.

In preparation for our festival, we kindly ask for non-perishable food donations to support The Kingsbridge Food Bank — thank you for your generosity.

## Census Day – Thursday 2nd October

Thursday is Census Day, which is a very important day for us in terms of school funding. We kindly ask for full attendance to help us make the most of this opportunity. To start the day with some sporty fun, we will be having a Ping Pong challenge and breakfast from 8:30am. We'd love to see you there!

## Residential Meeting – Thursday 2nd October

Parents of Year 5 & 6 learners are invited to attend a meeting about the upcoming River Dart Residential. Join us in Oak Class at 3:30pm to find out more.

## Forest School – Wednesday 8th October

We're looking for two parent volunteers to support Oak Class Forest School from 9:00am to 12:00pm. If you're able to help, please let Mrs Lowe know — your support makes a big difference!

Finally, we are hoping to become more active on our social media site. Stay connected with us on our West Alvington Facebook page for updates, photos, and more.

<https://www.facebook.com/share/1EKbbNJZyQ/>

Warm regards,

**Dates for the Diary**

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October- Harvest Festival at All Saints @ 2:30pm

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October - Forest School Oak & Chestnut

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October- Year 6 Junior Life Skills

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October- Forest School Hazel & Chestnut

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October- Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October- HALF TERM**

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November- NON-PUPIL DAY**

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November- Forest School Oak & Chestnut

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November- Forest School Hazel & Chestnut

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December- Forest School Oak & Chestnut

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Last day of Autumn term

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December- Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December- CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS**

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January – NON-PUPIL DAY**

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January- First day of Spring term

## Chestnut

Welcome everyone to a new term in Chestnut. We have been busy exploring our environments and talking about the change in seasons as we fall into Autumn. This week we had a fabulous time exploring the woods and painting using sponges with autumn colours.



## Hazel

As we continue to investigate our senses in science, we conducted a smell investigation. The children had to sniff different scents and work out what they were and if it was a strong smell or a weak smell. We then played a sound game where we listened to different sounds and tried to recognise them.

In history, we had fun looking at the photos of the children as they have changed over time. The children loved reminiscing about their lives and achievements.

We are planning a trip to Cookworthy museum as part of our history learning on 15<sup>th</sup> October. We will walk down after lunch and the children will need to be collected from the museum at 2.45. I will send out more information when we have finalised it.

We have also booked tickets for the theatre to see Raymond Briggs: Father Christmas at the Theatre Royal in Plymouth on 16/12/25. We will send out more information soon.



## Oak

*This week in Oak Class, we've been diving into the fascinating world of the Romans! Using our chronology skills, the children have explored the Roman reign, which spanned over 1,000 years, working hard to place key events in historical order.*

*In Maths, we've been sharpening our rounding skills: Years 3 and 4 have practised rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100, and 1,000. Years 5 and 6 have taken it further, rounding to the nearest 10,000, 100,000, and even 1,000,000!*

*In English, we've been using our DERIC skills (Decode, Explain, Retrieve, Interpret, and Choice) to analyse our class texts: Years 3 and 4 are reading *Escape from Pompeii*, exploring the dramatic events of the volcanic eruption. Years 5 and 6 are delving into *Empire's End*, uncovering the story of Roman Britain through rich historical narrative. It's been a week full of discovery, discussion, and deep thinking—well done, Oak Class!*

**Have a lovely weekend!**

## Stars of the Week

Hazel's star of the week goes to Michael for his Flash Back 4 work in maths.

Oak's star(s) of the week goes to Year 6 for their amazing SATs Practise! Well done!

Chestnut's star of the week goes to Thea for perseverance in all tasks she endeavours to complete. Fabulous!



## Values of the Week

In Hazel, Henry for showing the value of respect during forest school.

In Oak, Rupert for consistently showing our school value of Friendship. Well done!



## Attendance

Our attendance target is 98%

Our whole school attendance is currently 95.3%

Class attendance is currently:

Hazel Attendance 99%     Oak Attendance 94.6%

### Home Learning – Hazel

Please read 3 times a week, books are still changed on a Thursday.

Reading – please ensure adults sign the reading diary

### Home Learning – Oak

Home learning consists of reading, spellings, Maths and curriculum themed projects.

#### Reading

Reading is key to everything your child will do in school. At West Alvington, we want our children to be confident readers with a love of books. Your support with reading is essential. Children are expected to read at least four times a week with a



parent. Please record the name of the book your child has read and the pages they have read and remind the children to bring their reading diaries into school every day.

### **Home Learning**

*Spellings – Statutory Spellings x 10*

*Year 3 & 4 – To create a bionic hand*

*Year 5 & 6 – To research an endangered animal*