



St Alban & St Stephen Catholic Primary School & Nursery Weekly Newsletter



Friday 10th June 2022

Gospel Assembly



In our EYFS and Key Stage 1 assembly this week, we thought about air. It is all around us, but we can't really see or touch it. However, when we use air to blow up a balloon, we can see that proof that air has been there all along and that it can have a powerful effect!

This is a bit like the Holy Spirit. We can't normally see the Holy Spirit, but we can see the Holy Spirit working in our lives and in the lives of the people around us.



Go Forth:

Jesus promised his disciples that God would send them a special helper, the Holy Spirit. On the day of Pentecost, the disciples received the gift of the Holy Spirit, with amazing results!

How will we show others the power of the Holy Spirit working through us?

The Secret of Black Rock in EYFS

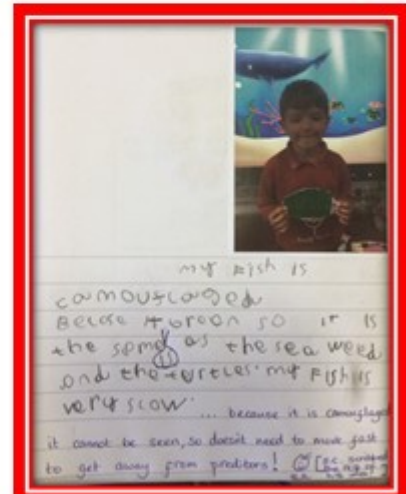
EYFS have loved exploring the whole school text, *The Secret of Black Rock*, by Joe Todd-Stanton. This is an excellent story for the children's imagination and has a very important message about looking after our environment.

The Reception children firstly designed their own sea-creature and then thought about how their creature would move and whether it would be camouflaged or brightly coloured. The children wrote about or dictated their sea-creature description, or wrote a story about Black Rock.

The Nursery children drew a picture of their interpretation of the story. They were inspired by the illustrations from the book and created their own unique, colourful drawings! The children recalled key events in the story and some even expanded their ideas into alternative endings.

This book-based project has incorporated knowledge of the natural world, creativity - using different media, as well as drama and singing- and has also developed some excellent literacy skills, encouraging children to use their phonic knowledge and imagination.



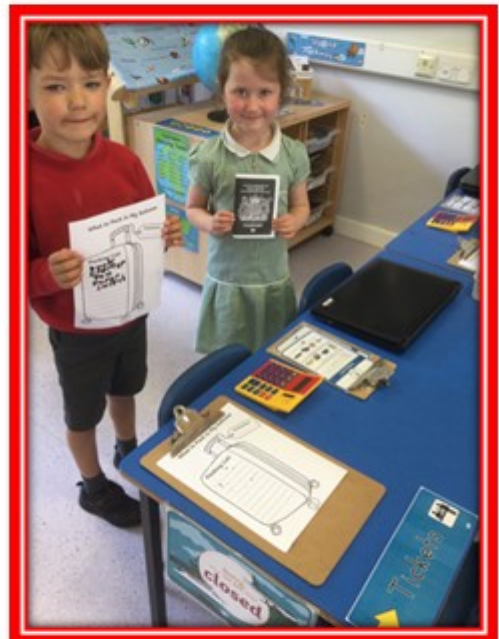


At the Seaside ...

EYFS have been so excited about their new and final topic, *At The Seaside*.

Our Role Play areas have embraced the seaside theme, with sandpits and beach huts in one classroom, a Travel Agent and aeroplane check-in in another and finally, a full-size Pirate Ship, complete with a mast in another classroom!

The EYFS team are busy organising our celebratory trip to the seaside, which will be on Wednesday 29th June for children in Nursery, RC and RM. The children are really looking forward to their visit and can't wait to make lots of sandcastles at the beach!



School Superstars

Congratulations to Liam, who has been selected to swim in the 50m breaststroke event and 25m freestyle medley for the St Albans District team, following the inter-school gala last half term. The event is on Friday 24th June in Watford. Liam has been training extremely hard along with his team, and we wish them all the best. Watch this space for more news of Liam's super swimming!



Visiting the School Library

All classes have been greatly enjoying their weekly Library visits. This week Nursery and Reception visited the school library for the first time. It was so exciting for the children to walk along the Alban Way to the Upper Site and explore the Library in person.

Please enjoy the Library books together at home and ensure that the Library book is in your child's book bag on their library day, so that they can choose a new book from the Library each week. Thank you to our school librarian, Mrs Keaty for making the children's library visits so enjoyable!



Dates for your Diary

We are looking forward to welcoming parents into school for some of the celebrations and events below.

16.06.22 1.45 pm (SSAS Church) KS1 and KS2 SSAS Celebration Mass for the School Amalgamation

17.06.22 3.30 pm SSAS Festival organised by the PTA

20.06.22 (Lower Site) EYFS and Key Stage 1 Sports Day (*details to follow*)

24.06.22 (Upper Site) Key Stage 2 Sports Day (*details to follow*)

01.07.22 at 9.15 (Lower Hall) Year 1 family curriculum assembly. Year 1 parents and carers are welcome to attend.

St Albans Music School String Music Making Day

We are delighted to invite all young violinists, violists, cellists and double bassists to attend our wonderful Strings Music Making Day on **Tuesday 28th June**. Pupils will develop their instrumental skills, learn to play together better as a group, develop confidence and make new friends on the day! There will be a performance at the end of the day for parents, to show you what we've been learning!

Day	Tuesday 28 th June 9:30am – 2:30pm
Concert for Parents	2:30 – 3:00pm
Location	St Albans Music School c/o Townsend School High Oaks St Albans AL3 6DR
Cost	£24.30
Age Range	Primary School
Bring with you	Your instrument (no music) Packed Lunch Drinks for the day
Attire	Own Clothes
Sign-Up Link	https://sams-strings-day.eventbrite.co.uk/
Further Enquiries	Stalbansmusicenquiries@hertfordshire.gov.uk



ONLINE UNDERSTANDING SPECIFIC MATHS DIFFICULTIES

Date: Friday 17th June 2022

Time: 10am - 11.30am

Cost: Free - For Parent/Carers

This workshop is presented by Susan Brooks who is a Chartered Educational Psychologist and an Associate Fellow of the British Psychological Society.



The aims of the session are for participants to:

- Gain further information about specific maths difficulties including dyscalculia
- To have more information about the profile of strengths and areas where support is likely to be needed.
- Take away some strategies to support Children and Young People.



Please use the Eventbrite link below to reserve your place:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/understanding-specific-math-difficulties-dyscalculia-tickets-299490723817>

Limited Places Available

training@spaceherts.org.uk



events@spaceherts.org.uk

www.spaceherts.org.uk

Free Parent Workshops and Sessions



SPACE EXCLUSIVE

SPACE to Play Saturday 18th June 2022 9.15AM - 11.15AM

£6 (plus eventbrite booking fee)

A2/7, 156 St Albans Rd, Sandridge, St Albans AL4 9LP



SPACE are delighted to be working in conjunction with DJ's Play Jungle - St Albans, and are pleased to offer this SPACE exclusive soft play session for children with additional needs.

This event is suitable for children aged 12 and under.



Please use the Eventbrite link below to request your place:
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/space-to-play-tickets-342132095307>

Limited Places Available

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