# Atlantic Academy Primary Newsletter













## Developing Character, Confidence and Commitment

#### **Dear Parents**

What an amazing half term it has been; thank you for all your support over the past few weeks, it has certainly been a busy time.

It's wonderful to be able to pull together and reflect on all the events and activities that have been going on at Atlantic Academy Primary this half term.

We've had parents in to watch assemblies, visitors for guest events and even local groups who have visited our students and shared their interests and hobbies. We've seen our reception classes studying Heroes (both fictional and those who surround us), Key Stage 1 have been learning about the history of transport and the Great Fire of London. In Key Stage 2 the History topics have taken us from the Shang Dynasty, through to the Romans, Vikings and finally the Industrial Revolution. Every child has studied a class text; it's been a joy to see the shared love of reading though the school, do ask your child what they have been reading.

We hope you all have a wonderful half term, rest up and stay safe.

We will see you all on Monday 24th February.

Miss Heppell & The Primary Team.

## Friday 14th February

# **Diary Date**

#### February

17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> Half Term 24th Primary PPE Week 24<sup>th</sup> Open the Book Assembly (R-Y2) 26th Year 5 Swimming

2<sup>nd</sup> Year 5 Animate Me workshop

#### March

with Bournemouth University 3rd Year 5/6 Orienteering 3<sup>rd</sup> Year 6 Futures Workshop with **Bournemouth University** 5<sup>th</sup> World book day - Primary students to come to school dressed as a book character 9-13<sup>th</sup> British Science week 9th Planetarium Visit, Year 5 and Reception 9<sup>th</sup> Puncture Repair and Bicycle generator Activity (Bikeability) 9th Open the Book Assembly 9th Bikeability Level 2 Years 5/6 10th Year 6 Orienteering 11th Science Fair (after School) 12th Year 6 Jurassic Coast Workshop 13th Sports Relief Day 13th Year 4 Survival Sleepover 16<sup>th</sup> Year 5 RSPB Visit Lodmoor Park 17th Year 2/5 Fire and Rescue Service Visit 17th Year 5 / 6 Orienteering 18th Year 8 Big Bang Trip - Bovington Tank Museum 18-20<sup>th</sup> Scholastic Book fair 23<sup>rd</sup> Open the Book Assembly

24th Year 5 / 6 Orienteering

25<sup>th</sup> Reception Trip Dinosaur

27<sup>th</sup> Principals Drop in Session 30<sup>th</sup> **LKS2** Spring Performance

31st Year 3 Cake Sale

31st Orienteering Year 5 / 6

31st Year 1 and 2 UK Day Celebrations

#### April

1<sup>st</sup> Year 3 Class Assembly 3<sup>rd</sup> Reception and KS1 Easter Bonnet

#### **Princess Trust**

This half term we have been incredibly proud of 3 particular students who have been sponsored outside school to have their haircut and donate it to the Princess Trust - a charity who create wigs for children undergoing cancer treatment.

Lacey, Hermione and Alexis have all gone for the chop and raised money in doing so. Well done girls, we are incredibly proud of you all.





## **Environment Group**

Students in Atlantic's Environment Group have taken part in a huge litter pick across the school, now a bi-weekly event, created posters and are currently writing letters to Richard Drax to raise awareness of their campaign. This is part of their work towards achieving Plastic Free Schools Status from Surfers Against Sewage!



## **Attendance**

Primary Attendance this half term:

94.54%

Our Attendance Champions for Spring 1 is:

4B 96.85%

The year group with the best attendance is

Year 1 96.15%

#### **Number Stacks**

We have a new maths intervention program called Number Stacks, designed to focus on the small steps in maths and learning through maths games. Some children in Primary will access this resource each week, however if you'd like your own resource pack to do some extra maths with your child, they can be purchased directly from the Number Stacks website through the following link.





#### Curriculum

We've loved watching our students learn so much rich knowledge and content through their humanities topics over the past few terms. Listening to them discuss and debate their thoughts and opinions about current affairs is such a joy, it's great to see how our students can articulate their thoughts.

Here's a teaser of the topics that are coming up next half term.













#### **Sports**

We have had a wonderful term of P.E. and have been to several sports fixtures with many more planned for next term for several year groups.

**Reception** have been developing their skills with various sizes and types of balls; finding out how we can move them from throwing, hitting targets, to kicking to hitting them with bats, rackets and sticks.





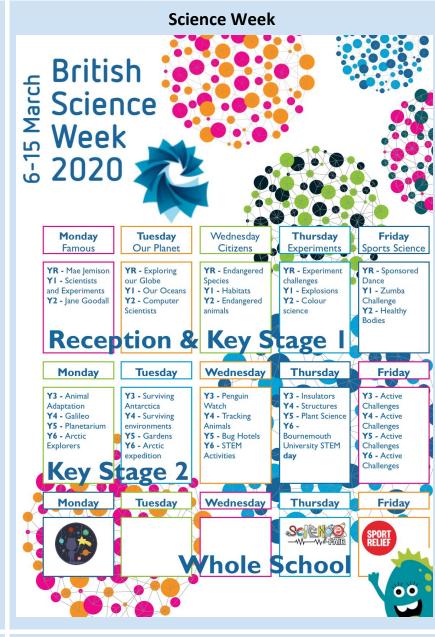
#### **British Values Awards**

This year we have introduced our British Values awards at Atlantic Academy. We've been privileged to award these prestigious awards to many students.



All these students have demonstrated: a sense of democracy; rule of law; tolerance of different faiths and cultures; mutual respect; and individual liberty. We are looking forward to presenting more awards next half term. If you think you have seen a student demonstrating these qualities please do let us know.





## **Relax Kids**

By using positive affirmations, relaxation, breathing and exercise, Year 6 built up a range of coping strategies to help them face future challenges with a sense of wellbeing and resilience.



## **Academy Vision and Mission**

By providing an outstanding all through provision we will transform the lives of all of our students; inspiring them to have the confidence, character and commitment to realise their full potential.



## Our students' work and displays

We have some wonderful displays celebrating the students' work at Atlantic Academy.









## **Sports - Key Stage One**

**Yr1** have completed a unit of dance, focusing on clowns and their movements, from: juggling; tight-rope walking; throwing pies and falling down. Their group dances showcasing all they had learnt was a delight to watch!

**Yr2a** have also completed a unit of dance with Miss O'Reilly, they have been exploring how to express themselves to represent colours and seasons - the feedback from the children was lovely to hear.

**Yr2b** learnt the importance of communication in sport, whether it be teamwork, tactics or individual sports. We started with football dribbling races and progressed on to bench ball and basketball games to showcase their ball skills and teamwork.

Should your child wish to continue outside of school in any of the sports they have been learning and practicing in P.E., from dancing to rugby to netball to Rookies then please get in touch. We are currently working on a Sports Clubs information letter, where you will be able to find all the latest sports/recreational club information for activities outside of school.

#### **E-Safety Day**

This term saw internet safety day, helping us to learn how to stay safe online for internet safety day. All of our lessons were based on a class text guiding us in ways to stay safe online. If you would like more information about E Safety day, how to keep your children safe online and age appropriate games, please do follow this link.









## **Year 5 Viking Day and Assembly**

This term Year 5 have been learning all about the vicious Vikings. They held an assembly to share some of their learning. They acted out the saga of Beowulf.





They also challenged each other to a battle at the end of Viking Day. Each class accepted the challenge to be the noisiest Vikings.





During a special Viking Sports P.E. lesson, the children raced Viking long boats (gym mats), took part in a spear and stone throwing competition (javelins and beanbags), had a sprinting race as the Vikings used to and an archery contest.

#### **Reception Super Hero day**

Our reception classes have been learning about Heroes of all shapes and sizes this half term. To kick off their new topic they held a super heroes day; it was wonderful to see the amazing costumes and efforts from the classes.







#### **World Book Day**

dress up as their favourite character for a book. We can't wait to share the exciting events for the day with you.



## **Model Steam Group**

World Book day is coming! Children are invited to As part of year 6's work on the Industrial Revolution, members of the Weymouth and District Model Engineering Society visited with examples of their miniature steam engines. The sound and smell from these amazing models, together with the knowledge of Mr Senior and Mr Greenacre, made this an altogether fantastic experience.



## **Spring into life Assemblies**





Oddments Theatre visited Atlantic this half term and adapted the classic story Pilgrim's Progress for the children. The production is based on the novel of the same name by John Bunyan, first published 340 years ago!

If you are not familiar with the story, it is an allegory for the Christian life - it follows a man called Christian who has a difficult journey to go on and teaches us how important it is to choose our friends and who we listen to wisely. The children really enjoyed the assembly and can't wait to see the team again in the future.

## **Aspirations Social Media**

Aspirations Trust have launched a new Facebook page, which you can follow here, you can also follow them on <u>Twitter</u>. Fantastic news from all of the Aspirations Academies can be found on this page.

## **Times Table Badges**

Students in years 2-4 have been working hard to achieve their times table badges this half term. Bronze silver and gold badges have been awarded to students who have achieved their year group expectations.

## **NSPCC Speak out, Stay Safe**

Speak out Stay Safe aims to equip a generation of children with the knowledge and understanding they need to stay safe from abuse and neglect. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a trusted adult or Childline.



#### **Sports KS2**

Yr3 have been inspired by The Six Nations and are getting to grips with tag rugby, learning all the skills involved to play: evasive and defensive running; directional play and correct handling skills. Culminating in mini matches this week to show how much they had learned and progressed.

Yr4 have learned that netball is no longer just a girls sport! They are now experts in: the four types of passes; running into space; passing and moving; footwork as well as shooting and defending. This week, we put all the skills together in short round-robin matches with selected players captaining their teams. We had great fun cheering each other on!

Yr6 have embarked on a fitness unit, learning the importance of regular whole-body exercise through circuit training. Using

the playground's urban gym equipment, they have been taught how to execute exercises effectively and methodically. We have also shown the children how body resistance exercises use little or no equipment so can be done anywhere, from tricep dips, to step-ups, to planking.



This week, as a reward for their hard work in lessons, a multi sports session was enjoyed; playing handball, netball, unihoc and futsal.

#### Menus

Next term's menus can now be found on our website. The Kitchen team aims to deliver healthy, nutritious meals for the students in our school.



## **Talk for Writing**

At Atlantic Academy we want to inspire the children's love of Literacy by developing their skills in order to become thoughtful readers and creative writers. Our mission is to enable children to immerse themselves fully into a text. Every child has the potential to be creative writers and confident readers. In Key Stage 1 we use talk for writing which allows children to be able to embrace literature in its many forms.

Here are some examples of a Story Map from Year 1 and some writing produced by our Key Stage 1 children.



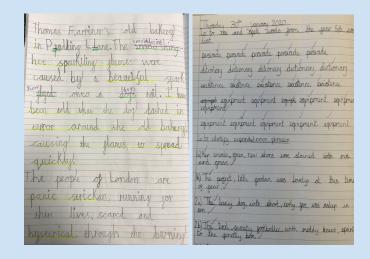
#### **Enrichment Clubs**

This term has seen a great range of activities offered for our Enrichment sessions. Look out for our next Enrichment offer where we have 24 activities offering a minimum of 459 places!



#### **Presentation Awards**

Students at Atlantic have been working hard to ensure their presentation is to the very best of their ability. This term we have introduced a new award for presentation in each class. Students work is selected and displayed through our digital screen, we will also tweet out the work for you all to see. We are proud of the quality of our children's work, here is a selection of work that has been celebrated this half term. We can't wait to see more!



## **Year 5 Swimming**

Swimming lessons have been fantastic - the progress made by the swimmers has been outstanding. The national curriculum states that every child should be able to swim 25m by the time they finish primary school. Striving towards this goal are over half the year group who can already competently do this.



These children have enjoyed an introduction to Rookie Lifeguard, a RLSS programme aimed at training 8 to 12-year-olds to not only self-rescue but assist another person in the water should they need it.

## Meet our Atlantic Academy Fish!

In amongst the business of the last few months Reception have welcomed two new friends. We are pleased to introduce Pom Pom (foreground of picture) and Aurora (sneaking in behind), two very small fish with very big personalities.



If they aren't causing havoc by pulling up their weed or chasing each other around the tank, then they'll be flinging rocks around the floor. We have so enjoyed having the responsibility of remembering to feed and clean them as well as being able to watch them explore their little world. We have learned how important it is to care for pets and how we can help them stay fit and healthy.

With a big thanks to Andy Price at The Veteran's Hub in Wyke for helping to get them here, we wouldn't have been able to do it without you!

## **Baking Bread in Year 2**

As part of Year 2's work on The Great Fire of London, we became Thomas Farriner (the baker who owned the bakery on Pudding Lane where the Great Fire started) and baked our own delicious bread.

The children loved following an old 17th century recipe. It also inspired some great recipe writing too.







#### **Accelerated Reader**

So far this year at Atlantic Academy, we have read **5,145** books!

That's a whopping 39,849,594 words!



#### Safer Schools Visit Year 5

The safer schools team visited Year 5 this week to build on their work on Internet safety. Their work was to support our students to understand the concept of 'identity' and 'freedom of expression' when they are online. The team also focussed on describing issues online that might make themselves or others feel sad, worried or uncomfortable and explain when and how to seek help.

