



SPRING 1 2025



ALVELEY NEWSLETTER

www.alveleyprimary.co.uk

HEAD OF SCHOOL'S INTRODUCTION

Dear Parents/ Carers,

It is a pleasure to write the third newsletter of this academic year, highlighting some of the excellent learning and experiences that pupils have had during this Spring half term. We have had visitors bringing everything you can imagine, from papyrus scrolls to tawny owls, sarcophagi to snakes, beetles to Rosetta Stones, and many others besides. We finished the half term with our Valentines afternoon tea and breaktime shop, both of which were a real success.

Looking ahead to next half term, we will be travelling to Africa in Cedar class, enjoying some marvellous magic in Elm and navigating the world in Oak. I'm excited to continue to teach across different classes through the week and share the lovely learning taking place in every class.

I hope that you all have a restful and relaxing half term holiday, have a chance to recharge the batteries and spend some quality time together as a family.

I look forward to seeing you all on Monday 24th February

Mr Marsh



SCHOOL CALENDAR OVERVIEW

Spring 2 2025

Term Dates for Spring

- **24th Feb** - Return to school
- **11th April** - Break up for the Easter holidays

Dates to keep an eye out for:

- Trips and parent lunches/ workshops for this term.
- Sports Competitions

CLASSES



BEECH

Beech class have had a busy half term learning about 'Animals Around the World' and the Lunar New Year. We have enjoyed looking at different animal habitats and had great fun looking at some of these places on the google earth interactive map! Our visit from the animal man was a very exciting afternoon getting the chance to hold snakes, ghekos, a baby owl and meet a baby honey bear, while learning some interesting facts about them.

We discovered all the animals in the Chinese Zodiac and how they came to have a year named after them. After learning about Chinese New Year we held our own party with lots of Chinese food and our own dragon dance.

We have talked about different ways of communicating with people and enjoyed writing an 'old fashioned' letter to the residents of Bower Grange Nursing home, we are hoping for some replies so we can become penpals!

Looking forward to Spring 2 where we are learning all about Space!



ELM

This half term has been very busy in Elm, we have got up to lots of exciting things! We travelled back to Ancient Egypt with our topic 'Tomb Raiders'. We have produced lots of brilliant pieces of writing based on our topic such as diary entries and narratives. We have learnt all about mummification, which was definitely the class favourite area of Ancient Egypt! We had an exciting visit from Shrewsbury Museum, where the children got to be archaeologists exploring Egyptian artefacts. One member of our class actually went through the process of mummification! In science we have done lots of investigations looking at light and shadows.



CEDAR

Cedar have had a busy half term learning about Traditional Tales. Children have learnt a number of traditional tales, including 'Little Red Riding Hood' and 'Three Billy Goats Gruff.' In guided reading children have been learning about traditional tales from other cultures and alternative versions of typical traditional tales. In maths, children have been learning about addition and subtraction. In Design Technology children have been learning about fruit and vegetables. They used this knowledge to make a fruit smoothie of choice and then wrote instructions in Literacy on how to make a smoothie. This half term Cedar class had two exciting visitors. As part of their learning in History Mrs Flemming, a former teacher at Alveley, came to visit the class and showed them photos of the school in the past. The second visitor was Soyhab, an Iman at a local Mosque. He talked to the class about what it is like being a Muslim and told the children about different Muslim beliefs.

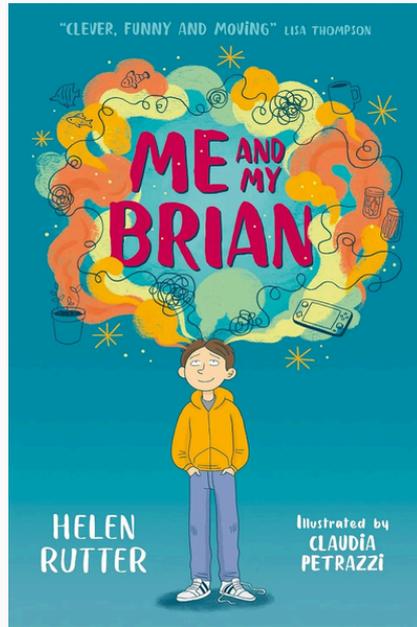
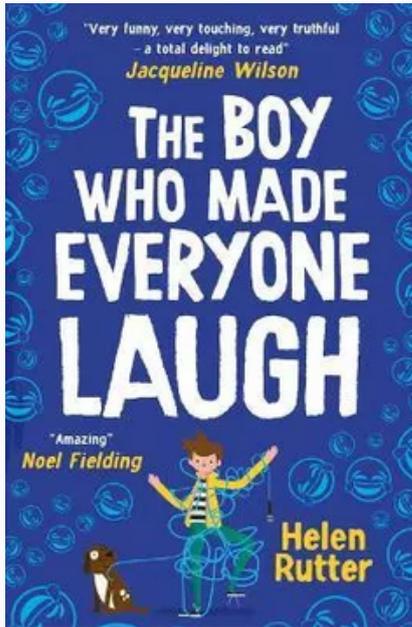


OAK

This half term, we explored Space Explorers and loved learning about the wonders of space! A highlight was our trip to the National Space Centre, where we saw real rockets, learned about astronauts, and visited England's largest planetarium. In Literacy, we're writing our own books for the Shropshire Bookfest, inspired by stories from Helen Rutter, whose January visit sparked our creativity. In Art, our theme is Make Our Voices Heard. We explored street art, sketched clear messages, and used techniques like chiaroscuro, mark making, and Mayan symbols to add light and meaning to our drawings.

AUTHORS GALORE!

This half term, we have been very lucky to have been visited by 2 authors; local author Naomi Hutton and Helen Rutter, nationally acclaimed author who has won the Waterstones 'author of the month' award. Both spent a significant amount of time pupils. Helen did a whole afternoon with Oak, talking about the process of writing books and leading a writing workshop. Naomi shared her book with EYFS and Key Stage 1, who had the opportunity to ask lots of questions and enjoy her reading her book.



AROUND SCHOOL



Open the Book Assemblies



Fire Brigade Visit



Looking at the history of our school with Mrs Fleming, ex-teacher



Visit from Sohayb, Imam of the Craven Arms Islamic Centre



Smoothie Making in Cedar



School nurse visit, discussing how we can keep ourselves healthy

LITTLE SQUIRRELS NURSERY

NURSERY TIMINGS

Morning Sessions

8.45-11.45AM

Afternoon Sessions

12.15-3.15PM

OUR LEARNING THIS HALF TERM

What a fabulous half term looking at transport! We started our half term with a visit from a farmer who brought his tractor, we talked about why he needed a tractor as his mode of transport to help him with his days on the farm. We then went on the local service bus with some of our adults to visit Bridgnorth Library. During our term we have looked at cars, aeroplanes, trucks, lorries, helicopters, bicycles and recently discovered the witches broom! 'And whoosh! They were gone!'

We celebrated Chinese new year, making music in our forest school whilst the Chinese dragon danced!

We have had fun in our aeroplane role play, making passports and checking in with luggage for our flights, where flight attendants service us in flight food.

As our half term has come to an end we have had a very exciting visit from our local Fire service, who brought their mode of transport, all children had a sit in the fire truck and experimented with the fire hoses to put out 'fires'.

This week Miss Hutton, an author, visited us with a story of her sons travel via rowing boat across the world.

We look forward to next half term and our adventures in our farm topic.



JOIN OUR NURSERY!

Each day, children have adult led activities, including a daily phonics lesson delivered to all children. Following their adult led learning, children work with a teacher to complete scaffolded activities. While some children are completing work with their teacher, others engage in child initiated learning, supported by other adults.

To maximise learning opportunities, children have daily access to both an indoor and outdoor classroom, where independence and choice are encouraged. All areas of the EYFS framework, including reading, writing and mathematics are planned coherently across all ages and activities and opportunities are appropriately adapted to meet each child's needs, deepening and extending their understanding. Within the carefully planned environment, stimulus and enhanced provision is used to excite, capture and motivate the children and provide learning opportunities.

If you are interested to know more, please contact our School Office.



Term Dates 2024/ 25

August 2024							September 2024							October 2024							November 2024							December 2024						
M	5	12	19	26	M	2	9	16	23	30	M	7	14	21	28	M	4	11	18	25	M	2	9	16	23	30								
T	6	13	20	27	T	3	10	17	24		T	1	8	15	22	T	5	12	19	26	T	3	10	17	24	31								
W	7	14	21	28	W	4	11	18	25		W	2	9	16	23	W	6	13	20	27	W	4	11	18	25									
Th	1	8	15	22	Th	5	12	19	26		Th	3	10	17	24	Th	7	14	21	28	Th	5	12	19	26									
F	2	9	16	23	F	6	13	20	27		F	4	11	18	25	F	1	8	15	22	F	6	13	20	27									
S	3	10	17	24	S	7	14	21	28		S	5	12	19	26	S	2	9	16	23	S	7	14	21	28									
Su	4	11	18	25	Su	1	8	15	22	29	Su	6	13	20	27	Su	3	10	17	24	Su	1	8	15	22	29								
January 2025							February 2025							March 2025							April 2025							May 2025						
M	6	13	20	27	M	3	10	17	24	M	3	10	17	24	M	7	14	21	28	M	5	12	19	26	M	5	12	19	26					
T	7	14	21	28	T	4	11	18	25	T	4	11	18	25	T	1	8	15	22	T	6	13	20	27	T	6	13	20	27					
W	1	8	15	22	W	5	12	19	26	W	5	12	19	26	W	2	9	16	23	W	3	10	17	24	W	7	14	21	28					
Th	2	9	16	23	Th	6	13	20	27	Th	6	13	20	27	Th	3	10	17	24	Th	4	11	18	25	Th	1	8	15	22	29				
F	3	10	17	24	F	7	14	21	28	F	7	14	21	28	F	4	11	18	25	F	4	11	18	25	F	2	9	16	23	30				
S	4	11	18	25	S	1	8	15	22	S	1	8	15	22	S	5	12	19	26	S	5	12	19	26	S	3	10	17	24	31				
Su	5	12	19	26	Su	2	9	16	23	Su	2	9	16	23	Su	6	13	20	27	Su	6	13	20	27	Su	4	11	18	25	1				
June 2025							July 2025							August 2025																				
M	2	9	16	23	30	M	7	14	21	28	M	4	11	18	25																			
T	3	10	17	24		T	1	8	15	22	29	T	5	12	19	26																		
W	4	11	18	25		W	2	9	16	23	30	W	6	13	20	27																		
Th	5	12	19	26		Th	3	10	17	24	31	Th	7	14	21	28																		
F	6	13	20	27		F	4	11	18	25		F	1	8	15	22	29																	
S	7	14	21	28		S	5	12	19	26		S	2	9	16	23	30																	
Su	8	15	22	29		Su	6	13	20	27		Su	3	10	17	24	31																	

2024/2025

School Day	190
School Holiday	
UK Bank Holiday	
PD day	5

*disaggregated

Autumn	1 st Half	37 days
Autumn	2 nd Half	35 days
Spring	1 st Half	24 days
Spring	2 nd Half	25 days
Summer	1 st Half	34 days
Summer	2 nd Half	35 days
	Total	190 days

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL

If you have concerns for the safety of a child outside of school, or at a time of year when school is not in session, please look at our [school website links here](#) for how to report it.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and we deeply value the collaboration between home and school in keeping everyone safe.

SUPPORTING LEARNING AT HOME

Several parents at Parents' Evening asked how best to support learning while at home. We hope that reading and spellings are practised through the week, daily where possible. However there are a few other resources that you might find useful. All of these are either free to use or ones which your child already has a login. Please contact school if you don't have this login and we can provide it:

- www.ttrockstars.com (for supporting times table knowledge)
- www.mathsbot.com/primary/ks2 (Year 6 arithmetic practise- really good resource!)
- www.mathsframe.co.uk (great maths resources, particularly the Year 4 times table check game)
- www.letterjoin.co.uk



FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Please scan the QR code above to see if you might be eligible for free school meals. Not only does this give support for school meals, it also allows us to support with the paying of school trips and other experiences, as well as helping with uniform, forest school, PE kit and other clothing.



SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL!

Easy Fundraising is a free and easy app that you can download and sign up to. Every time you shop online, a small amount of money is donated to school (by the company, NOT you!). While it will cost you nothing to support us this way, it might make all the difference to the projects that I'm keen to develop in the future. Go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friends-of-alveley-school to support us!