

EYFS

Amber

Amber class enjoyed their PE lesson this week as we got outside onto the field. We decided to play our own version of rounders with a HUGE ball, learning how to follow rules, listen to safety instructions and work together as a team



Ruby

We have been preparing for our very own 'Bug Ball'. The children created their minibeast costumes, wrote invitations, and even made their own party food!

KS1

Opal

This week in PSHE, we talked about being a good friend and how we all have invisible buckets that we can fill with kind and considerate ideas. Ask us what we can do to be a good friend.



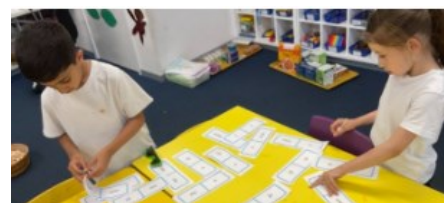
Jade

In English, we have been using our drama skills to act and retell the story of Grandma's Seaside Bloomers!



Pearl

This week Pearl class have been working hard practising all their spellings. We practised in lots of fun ways and the children really enjoyed it.



Lower KS 2

Topaz

In PE, in Topaz class, we worked on our jumping skills. We worked on standing jumps, hops and are working our way up to have all the skills to perform the triple jump.



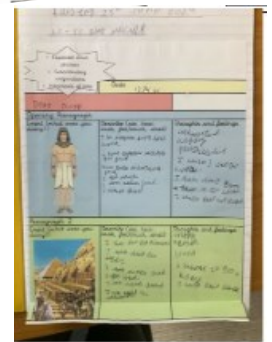
Citrine

During a team resilient effort week of assessments, in PSHE, we have discussed different emotions to support our well-being. We created a 'jar of emotions' with colour and used synonyms.



Emerald

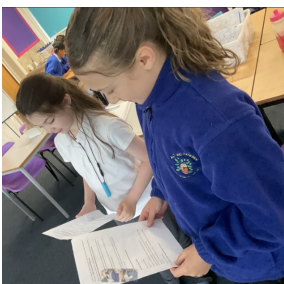
In English, we have been working on creating a diary entry for an Egyptian slave. We thought about what life would have been like and about their thoughts and feelings.



Upper KS2

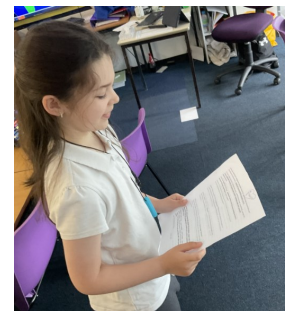
Amethyst

This week in P.E, the children in Amethyst class have been learning some new dance moves by incorporating stretching into their dance flows. It was lovely to see their confidence in this session. Well done, Amethyst!



Tanzanite

We have been preparing for our Shakespeare Festival performance, where we have been rehearsing and moving away from our scripts getting ourselves ready for our final performance.



Sapphire

We have been using the drama technique of hot seating to explore the characters of Victor Frankenstein and the creature in preparation for writing a balanced argument in the coming weeks.



Star of the Week

Well done to this weeks stars of the week.

Amber	Minsa	For being resilient and coming to school happy and trying every single day.
Ruby	Daniel	For trying really hard with his writing.
Opal	Haya	For superb effort in all her end of unit maths assessments. Keep up the great work!!!
Jade	Kingsley	For his resilience in reading, meaning that he smashed his recognition of the year 2 common exception words!
Pearl	Tayana	For being an amazing role model all of the time.
Topaz	Sofia	A fantastic effort in assessment week and results to show good progress.
Citrine	Ayaan	For his brilliantly improved attitude and participation.
Emerald	Kaylen	For an excellent effort all week!
Amethyst	Corey-Lee	For making incredible progress in maths this year.
	Gabriel	For being such a positive member of the class.
Tanzanite	Gracie	For incredible effort during her reading this week.
Sapphire	Rehman and Christian	Working well together in their new team. Some great discussion especially during the hot seating.



Principal's Reading Champions: Saman, Isla (Ruby), Zara, Haris, Fatima B, Inaya A, Jeriel, Halima, Zain, Ahad,



Principal's Award:

Flame – for having impeccable manners and for always doing the right thing.

Kiara – making good choices and being on time every single day.

Coffee Morning

Coffee mornings will take place every Tuesday morning at 9:00am in the KS2 hall. Everyone is welcome to attend. Here is the agenda for this half term..... please come and join us!



2/7/24 – TOG Mind

9/7/24 - Mindfulness – colouring

16/7/24 – Oldham library

23/7/24– Review & Party!!!

Word of the Week ...



polite humble

thoughtful

well-mannered

gracious

appreciate

courteous



What do you predict our word of the week is today?

School Lunches

Please click on the link

[27608840 \(theharmonytrust.org\)](https://www.theharmonytrust.org) to view a



letter about changes to the cost of school lunches.

Transition

Current Year 6 children who will be transitioning to a mainstream Oldham school will visit their new school on Thursday 4th and Friday 6th July. Children will make their own way to the appropriate school ready for the start of the day.

Current Year 6 children who will be transitioning to a Tameside school will have received communication about times and dates for their transition.

Transition for children in Reception – Year 5 will take place on Thursday 4th July. Children will go to their usual class on arrival and will be dismissed from their usual class at the end of the day. During the day, children will meet their new teacher and spend time working in their new class.



Year 3 & 4 Singing Showcase

Emerald, Citrine and Topaz classes will be leading a Singing Showcase at 14:30 on Tuesday 16th July. Year 3 & 4 families are very welcome to attend this exciting event. Please arrive at 14:20 to take your seat as the showcase will start at 14:30 prompt.



Shakespeare Festival

Tanzanite class will be participating in the Shakespeare Festival on Thursday 11th July. The class will spend the day at Middleton Arena rehearsing for their performance in the evening. Tanzanite families can attend the performance and further details about tickets will be sent soon.



We are sure that it will be a fabulous opportunity – don't miss it!

Year 6 End of Year Show & Trip

Year 6 children have worked incredibly hard to raise funds for an end of year trip. They have chosen to go to the cinema for a special screening with treats! The trip will take place on Wednesday 17th July and further details will follow. The end of year show will take place at 13:00 on Tuesday 23rd July. Families are welcome to attend the show – please arrive at 12:50 to take your seats.

YEAR 6



Summer Fair

Our wonderful summer fair will take place on Monday 22nd July from 3:30pm onwards. If you have any donations of high-quality used toys or books, please send these into school. We hope to raise lots of money for school funds – we will see you there!

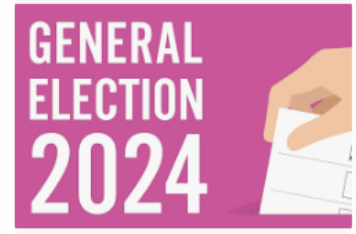
Reception Graduation

Our marvellous Reception children will be having a graduation ceremony at 14:30 on Tuesday 23rd July. Reception families are invited to attend... don't forget to bring your tissues!



General Election

Alt Academy will be used as a Polling Station on Thursday 4th July. The school grounds and vicinity are expected to be very busy. Please be mindful of this at drop off and collection, leaving the grounds promptly to keep footfall flowing. There will be some operational changes to the organisation of the school day as follows:



- The kitchen will be providing packed lunches for all children who have a school lunch, including children who have a special diet arrangement.
- Entrance in the morning and on collection will be via the car park gates.
- Breakfast club will be in the KS1 hall.
- KS2 will be dismissed at home time from the school field.
- Entrance to the office will be restricted – please pass messages to school leaders on the gate at the beginning and end of the school day.
- If you need to access the school grounds during the day, you will need to phone the office on 0161 260 0622 as the gates will remain locked.



Dates for your diary

4th July – General Election – school is open but alternative arrangements for start and end of day will be in place

4TH July – Meet the new teacher day in school

4th & 5th July – Year 6 Transition Day

9th July – End of Year Reports – Parent’s Evening to collect and discuss

11th July – Tanzanite class Shakespeare Festival

15th July - EYFS new starters Stay & Play (reception children) at 14:30

16th July – Year 3 & 4 singing showcase with Mrs Preen at 14:30

17th July - EYFS new starters Stay & Play (nursery children) at 14:30

17th July – Year 6 End of Year Trip

19th July - EYFS new starters Stay & Play (reception children) at 14:30

22nd July – Summer Fair after school

23rd July – Year 6 End of Year Show at 13:00

23rd July – Reception graduation at 14:30

5th September – Start of the Autumn Term 5th September – Start of the Autumn Term



Crossing Patrol

We are currently experiencing intermittent levels of school crossing patrol outside Alt Academy. This means, that there will be some sessions where there is not a crossing patrol on site. Whilst staff on duty can support a child crossing the road if they appear to be in danger, this support is not consistently available and is not to be relied upon. Please support your children to be safe on the crossing. If your child walks to and from school alone, please discuss road safety with them.

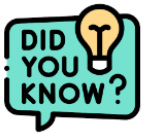


Healthy Schools

Thank you for your support in ensuring that we can be a healthy school. We are committed to the benefits of a healthy diet for our children – we invest over £10 000 from our school budget into breakfast club every year so that every child can have a healthy start to the day. Our lunches are also packed with nutrition and often have lots of ‘hidden vegetables’ included!



Remember – packed lunches and snacks need to be healthy choices. Please don't send chocolate bars, cakes, sweets and fizzy or sugary drinks to school. If you come along to breakfast club, please enjoy the free breakfast – keep the crisps, biscuits and unhealthy choices for another time!



Did you know....

Evidence suggests that if children have a healthy and balanced diet, the effects are far-reaching. They include:

- Improved school achievement
- Improved concentration, attention and behaviour
- Increasing future wages by up to 50%
- Reducing poverty in later life by 33%
- Making women 10% more likely to run their own business





Eco Warriors! Well done to our wonderful Year 3 & 4 children who have been spending their break time looking after our environment. They collected three bags full of rubbish Don't forget... rubbish belongs in the bin!



Swimming – Emerald Class

Due to transition activities in school on Thursday 4th July, swimming will not take place on this date. Swimming will take place as normal on 11th July and 18th July.



Attendance



MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD IS IN SCHOOL EVERY DAY.

Overall attendance year to date – 93.3%

Weekly winners – Well done to: -

Amber – 95.4%

Citrine – 96.9%

Our target is 96%



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about GROUP CHATS

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On messaging apps, social media and online games, group chats are among the most popular ways that young people engage with their peers online. Involving three or more individuals, these groups allow users to send messages, images and videos to everyone in one place. While they can be great for connecting with others, there are several risks posed by these tools.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

BULLYING

Teens are often trying to find their place in their social group. Unfortunately, group chats can sometimes lend themselves to unkind comments being shared freely, putting people down to make their peers laugh – often creating a vicious circle that encourages others to join in. Being bullied so publicly – in front of friends and acquaintances – can also amplify the hurt, embarrassment and anxiety that the victim feels.

EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION

This common issue with group chats can happen in several ways: for instance, starting a new group, but deliberately excluding a certain child. Likewise, the chat may take place on an app which one person doesn't have access to, meaning they can't be involved. A child can also feel isolated when a group chat is used to discuss events that exclude them – for example, sharing photos from a day out that they didn't attend.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some discussions in group chats may include inappropriate words, swearing and unsuitable images or videos. These could be viewed by a child if they are part of that group, whether they actively engage in it or not. Some apps have features that cause messages to disappear after they're viewed, so children may be unable to report something they've seen, as it can only be viewed once or for a short time.

SHARING GROUP CONTENT

Group chats can feel more private and protected, allowing children to share inside jokes and video calls with a smaller group of friends. It's important to remember that while the chat's content is private between those in the group, individual users can easily share material with others outside of the group, or screenshot what's been posted. The risk of something a child intended as private becoming public is higher if there are strangers in the chat.

UNKNOWN MEMBERS

Within larger group chats, it's more likely for children to communicate with people they don't know. These strangers may be friends of the host, but not necessarily friendly towards everyone present. It's wise for young people to avoid sharing personal details and remember that they have no control over what others do with the material they send into the chat.

NOTIFICATIONS AND FOMO

A drawback of large group chats is the sheer number of notifications they tend to generate. Every time someone sends a message, each member's device will be 'pinged' with an alert. This could result in hundreds of notifications a day. This is often highly distracting, and young people's fear of missing out (FOMO) can cause increased screen time as they try to keep up with the conversation.

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Advice for Parents & Carers

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CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS

Group chats can become an arena for young people to compete for social status. This could cause them to do or say things on impulse which could upset others. Help children consider how people might feel if they behave in this way. If the child does upset someone, encourage them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake.

GIVE SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Group chats are an excellent way for children to connect and feel like they belong. However, remind them that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded, instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their feelings and empower them by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. You can also encourage children to speak up if they witness others being picked on.

BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If a child is in a chat where inappropriate content is being shared, advise them to block whoever sent the material, report that person to the host app or platform and exit the group. If any of this content could put a minor at risk, contact the police. Emphasise that it's OK for children to simply leave any group chat that makes them feel uncomfortable.

PRACTISE SAFE SHARING

In any online communication, it's vital for young people to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Ensure children understand the importance of not revealing identifiable details like their address, their school, or photos that they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they can't be certain where it might end up and how it might be used.

AVOID INVITING STRANGERS

Sadly, many individuals online hide their identity to gain a child's trust and serve their own ends – for example, to gather information on them, to exchange inappropriate content or to coax them into doing things they aren't comfortable with. Ensure the child understands why they shouldn't add people they don't know to a group chat – and why they should never accept a group chat invitation from a stranger.

SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Having a device bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be an irritating distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to children that they can still be part of the group chat while disabling notifications – and that it would be healthier for them to do so, avoiding a situation where they could feel pressured to respond.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Sources: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/11-18/lets-talk-about/so-called-online/group-chats/> <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/chat-apps/>

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