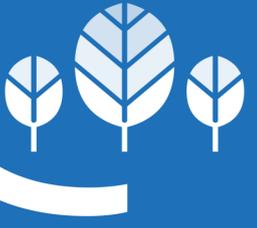


TOGETHER

THE ACRE HALL NEWSLETTER



23th October 2020

Please note school re opens after half

term on Monday 2nd November

Website: www.acrehall.trafford.sch.uk Twitter: @AcreHall

Email: admin@acrehall.trafford.sch.uk

Phone: 0161 748 4356

Parking

Again this week we have received an email asking us to remind parents not to block pavements meaning pedestrians can not pass safely. Please keep to sensible and safe places to park or, better still, walk to school whenever you can. Large cars parked on the narrow pavements cause a real hazard when pedestrians have to walk in the road to get past.

Evolve Meal Ordering System

We have had a very positive response to this and more parents have asked for their children to have school meals. The screens have been fitted in the dining room and the system will start from Monday 2nd November (the first day back after the half term break). If your child already has a school meal, or you have this week asked to move to this system, you must log in to set up the account for your child/children. Letters have been sent out to you (with your child or by post/hand delivered if your child has not been in school this week) which contain all the information you need. Help in setting up your account can be given by emailing help@mcgct.com

We are aware that in some materials a phone number is shown but we have since been told that this is no longer correct and parents should email queries to the address shown above.

The same payment arrangements apply as usual ; school meals are free for all reception age, year 1 and year 2 pupils but are charged for nursery pupils and all Key Stage 2 pupils unless you have applied for Free School Meals to Trafford Council. If you pay for meals, payment will be required at the time of ordering the meals. **All meals (paid and free) will need to be ordered for children by 9pm on the Sunday evening before each school week. The system allows you to select which meals your child will have each day of the week. If you do not log in and make the selections by 9pm on the Sunday evening then your child will receive a meal but it will be a jacket potato option each day. School are not able to alter this, parents must complete the selection before the Sunday 9pm cut off time.**

Remembrance Day Items

We have been told that due to covid, schools will not receive a delivery of poppies to be sold this year however we will be finding other ways to remember this important day. We have some poppy themed items to sell and each class will be given a small supply. Class teachers will show pupils what is available and tell children when to bring in money to buy them. All money will be donated to the Poppy Appeal. We will be making some posters and artificial poppies to display on our school grounds to commemorate armistice day along with our usual remembrance assembly (via zoom this year). If your child would like to start making any items during the half term break please do so.

The British Legion website <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/poppy-appeal> has a printable poppy picture to display in front windows to show support for the poppy appeal.

Trafford Secondary Selection Procedure

We have been asked by Trafford to circulate the website address below

<http://www.trafford.gov.uk/residents/schools/school-admissions/Secondary-school-admissions-2021.aspx>

Which gives further information about the secondary school preference system. Pupils of current year 6 children will need to use this in order to apply for a place for their child at their next school.

School Photographs—Tuesday 3rd November

These will be taken in sibling groups (this year we are not able to allow young children who are not yet at school to join the photographs) or individually if your child does not have any siblings in school. Covid secure measures will be in place and a small proof photograph will be sent home with the eldest child in the family on the day so that parents can order copies on line should they wish to do so. Please do not send any money in to school.

Coronavirus Update

At the time of writing this newsletter we can confirm we have had one positive covid-19 case in school. This resulted in us having to close 2 classes and ask pupils in those classes to isolate at home. This was very upsetting for everyone concerned and we wish to sincerely thank parents for their understanding and help in doing this. We feel desperately sad that we had to send pupils home to isolate, especially as this was the first time we have had to do this. However we are not alone; many schools in the area have had to close classes/parts of school. We know that a number of families are experiencing coronavirus at present. The insidious and unpredictable nature of the virus means that it is impossible to know where it will arrive next. All we can do is continue to follow rules and restrictions and try to look after each other. We know from many parents, both key workers and those working in other sectors, that things are difficult for everyone. Please know that we are thinking of all our Acre Hall Families and looking forward to better times—they will come!

Thank you from Acre Hall Staff and Pupils

This week we have said goodbye to some of our longest serving members of staff as they take on new challenges in their retirement. We would like to thank both Mrs Stanway and Mrs Coxon who have been very much valued Mid Day Staff for a number of years—they must have helped serve thousands of school meals!



Thank you to Mrs Stanway (on the left) and Mrs Coxon (on the right) for all your hard work over the years.

We hope that you liked your flowers and gifts from everyone at Acre Hall.



We also said an official 'good bye' to Mrs O'Connor this week. Mrs O'Connor had worked in our Nursery and Reception Classes for many years. She took early retirement at Easter this year but due to the school closure and lockdown, we were not able to give her the 'send off' we normally would do.

This week Mrs Headford kindly delivered our flowers and gifts to Mrs O'Connor, who is now enjoying her 'Grandma' duties.

Thank you Mrs O'Connor, your kindness to our pupils and your hard work will not be forgotten by everyone at Acre Hall.





We wanted to say a special well done to Abhay in year 5. This week we have heard that Abhay likes maths so much he even studies it in his own time! He has now reached level G—which is similar to GCSE level.

What an amazing achievement Abhay—you have worked very hard and should be so proud of yourself!

The Lost Words

Mrs August, our music teacher, has been finding innovative ways to keep teaching music to our pupils whilst under covid restrictions; we will be taking part in an online Trafford Music Festival near Christmas time—details in a future newsletter. Mrs August has also introduced classes to a book called 'The Lost Words' which has a musical piece to accompany it.

The Lost Words is a book by Robert MacFarlane and Jackie Morris. All over the country, there are words disappearing from children's lives. These are the words of the natural world -- Dandelion, Otter, Bramble and Acorn, all gone. They feel that the rich landscape of wild imagination and wild play is rapidly fading from our children's minds. The book contains beautiful illustrations and poems about plants and animals in the natural world.

Our classes have taken a word each from the book and have created fabulous artwork based on the words. We will be showing more displays after the holiday but the photos below some of what has been created so far. We hope that you like them as much as we do.



Mrs Jones's class collected leaves and sticks from the school grounds and also made dandelion prints for their display.

Well done Nursery Children!



Miss Forlani's pupils created magpie collages and wrote poems about magpies.

Super work Year 1—well done !

Mr Brierley's class looked at films and pictures of kingfisher birds then created line drawing as a backing to their display. They painted and drew the birds in flight as their main work but the background drawings were so lovely that Mrs White asked Mr Brierley to fix them only at the top so that the pictures could be lifted up to see the line drawings underneath.

Just Fabulous!



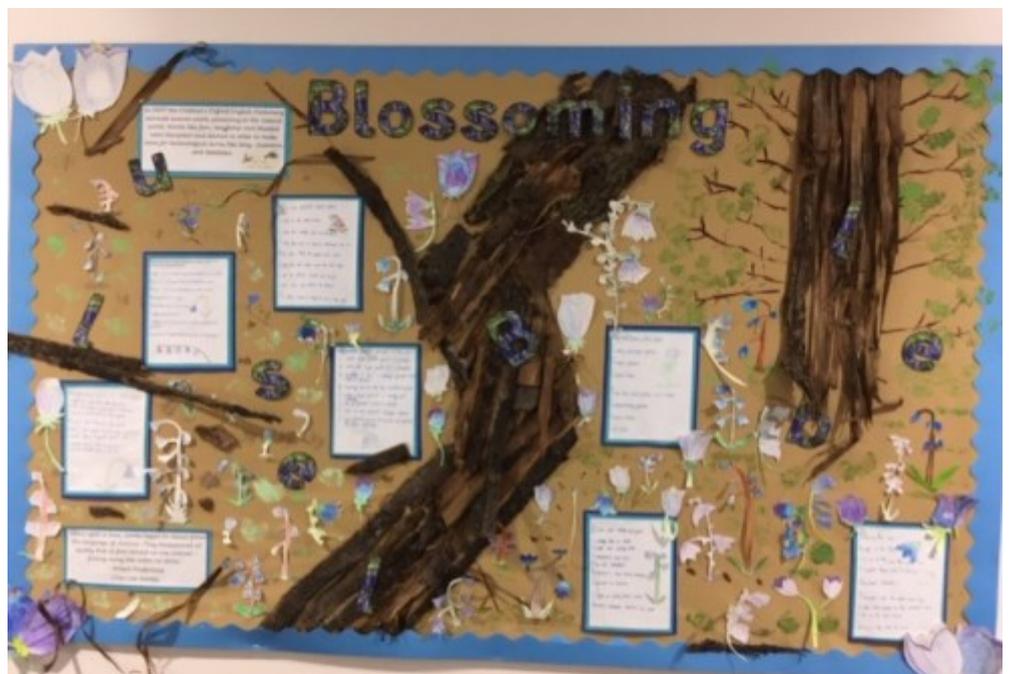


Mr Stevenson's class also chose the word 'Magpie' but came up with the idea of showing a 'reverse picture' where the space the magpie should be is left blank—as if the word had disappeared.

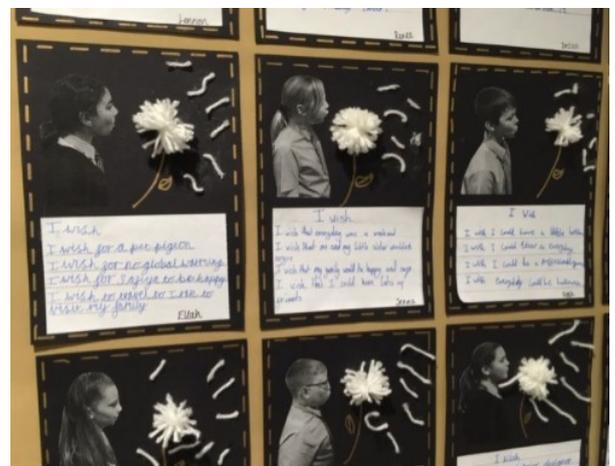
This is really well thought out work year 4/5—well done!

Miss Atherton and Year 5 chose the word 'blossoming' and their corridor board is filled with beautiful illustrations and writing.

You have created a lovely display year 5—well done!



Miss Thake and year 6 chose the word 'dandelion' and created a board with a variety of prints, drawings and creations. They hand made felt dandelions to adorn their individual photographs where the children can be seen blowing the dandelion head away and 'making a wish'. Super work and ideas year 6!



Thank you also to our wonderfully creative and hard working teaching assistants who have ingeniously attached all the class creations to the walls!