

Aston St. Mary's Newsletter

Our value this half term is Service

www.astonmarys.herts.sch.uk

17th June 2022

Every child is a treasure - small in size, growing in God's love.

Diary Dates

Monday 20th June: SCHOOL CLOSED

(Jubilee Day holiday)

Tuesday 21st June: Sports Day 1:15pm

Monday 27th June: Shackadell and

Peartree trip to Paradise Park

Tuesday 28th June: Year Six to Hertfordshire Schools Food and

Farming Day

Wednesday 6th July: Haffydown and

Orchard trip to Knebworth Park

Monday 11th July: Year Six Leavers'

afternoon trip

Tuesday 12th July: Summer production

(1:30pm and 6:00pm)

Wednesday 13th July: Summer

production (6:00pm)

Thursday 14th July: Children visit new

classes and Year Six visit secondary

Friday 15th July: Reward Day

Wednesday 20th July: Leavers' Service.

Term ends at 1:00pm.

Monday 5th September: Children

return to school

ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND ADDITIONAL DATES MAY BE

ADDED



What a sweltering end to the week! When our sports day was postponed a few weeks ago due to wet weather, we never would have imagined that this time we would have to postpone due to exceptionally high temperatures. It certainly would not have been safe or comfortable for the children to compete today. So, third time lucky...Tuesday's forecast is looking good! We are sure that it will be worth the wait.

Yesterday, as well as class photos, we had our first whole school photo for many years taken. We thought that this would be a special way of celebrating both the Jubilee year and also a whole year back in school post-covid. We hope that you will agree that this will serve as a lovely memento of your child's time at Aston St Mary's – there won't be another one for a number of years now.

Last week, Danes and Puddlebridge classes enjoyed a wonderful day at Whipsnade Zoo. They took part in two amazing workshops to support their learning in science as well as having plenty of time to explore the zoo. We were very proud that their excellent behaviour expert knowledge was praised by members of the education staff.

Shackadell and Peartree classes are next to enjoy a day out - they will be visiting Paradise Wildlife Park later this month. Haffydown and Orchard are lucky enough to be visiting Knebworth Park early in July.

We would like to wish all the dads a happy and relaxing Father's Day – hopefully your children will remember to look after you all day! As we have our additional Jubilee holiday day on Monday, we look forward to seeing the children back in school on Tuesday.

ACADEMIC YEAR 2021/2022

SUMMER TERM

Wednesday 20th April 2022 to Wednesday 20th July 2022

Jubilee Day (School Closed) – Monday 20th June 2022

ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/2023

AUTUMN TERM

Monday 5th September 2022 to Wednesday 21st December 2022

HALF TERM Break - Monday 24th October 2022 to Friday 28th October 2022

Occasional Day (School Closed) - Monday 28th November 2022

SPRING TERM

Thursday 5th January 2023 to Friday 31st March 2023

HALF TERM Break - Monday 13th February 2023 to Friday 17th February 2023 **SUMMER TERM**

Tuesday 18th April 2023 to Wednesday 19 July 2023

HALF TERM Break - Monday 29th May 2023 to Friday 2nd June 2023

INSET DAYS – SCHOOL CLOSED

Thursday 1st September 2022 and Friday 2nd September 2022 Monday 17th April 2023

Thursday 20th July 2023 and Friday 21st July 2023

School Meals

To order school meals, please log onto your School Gateway account via the website or the app.

DINNER MONEY FEES

£2.90 per meal







Merit Certificates were awarded to:

Finlay W, Demi, Hanna, Praise, Kyra, Francesca, Amelie, Theo, Bertie, Orlagh, Nathaniel, Isadora, Jessica, and Cameron



Shining Stars were awarded to:

Who will receive our next Shining Star?

A Thought from Reverend Jenny

Jesus gave us the Lord's Prayer to praise God, to ask for what we need and to seek forgiveness for what we have done wrong day by day.

From the New Living Translation of the Holy Bible. Matthew 6:9 – 15 Pray like this.

Our Father in Heaven,

may Your name be kept Holy.

May Your Kingdom come soon.

May Your will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven.

Give us today the food we need,

and forgive us our sins,

as we have forgiven those who sin against us.

And don't let us yield to temptation,
but rescue us from the evil one. Amen.

God so holy, full of grace,
make the world a better place.
Give us the food we need for today.
Forgive us our wrongs when we go astray.
Help us always to do good,
and love others, like we should.
God we love you; we are yours.
Swing wide open heaven's doors. Amen

Notices

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Favian and Isla who have both passed their Grade 1 clarinet exams with a merit.

We are so proud of you both.







Puring the summer months, we would like to remind you of the importance of applying sun cream before school. Should this need to be reapplied in school, your child can do so themselves. Children are not allowed to share sun cream. Also, please ensure that your child has a sun hat for sunny days. Broad-brimmed, bucket style or legionnaire hats are recommended to adequately protect the face, neck, ears and cheeks.

Thank you.







Cinderella Rockerfella

The stage is assembled, and rehearsals are now underway for our performance of 'Cinderella Rockerfella'. It really does promise to be a fantastic show and we are so excited to be performing our first whole school show since 2019

Performances will take place on 12th and 13th July. Please look out for further details coming soon regarding costumes and tickets.

Medication in School

We would like to remind parents and carers that it is your responsibility to ensure that any medication kept in school (including asthma inhalers) are within their expiry date.

Thank you for your co-operation.









Platinum Jubilee celebrations were in full swing before half term here at Aston. What a delight it was to see all the children having a wonderful time celebrating this historic event! I am sure that many memories were made on this special day which the children shall remember for the rest of their lives. The day began with a special whole school collective worship. We discussed the meaning of a Platinum Jubilee, waved our Union flags, thought about why Queen Elizabeth is important to our country and the commonwealth and discussed the significance of this special event.





Back in our classrooms, the children spent the morning taking part in many creative and enquiry-based activities to deepen their understanding about the Queen and her Platinum Jubilee. You can find out more about what each class got up to throughout this newsletter.

A big thank you to our postman, Dave, who kindly stopped by on his rounds and used his expertise to choose our commemorative stamp competition winners. It was a very difficult decision as we had so many impressive entries. Congratulations to the following children for their winning entries.





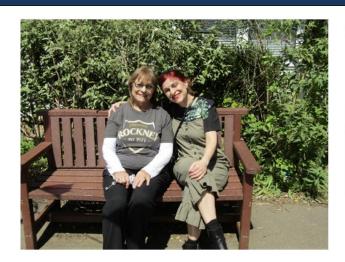






In the

afternoon, it was our main event! We all enjoyed the whole school performance of "Dancing Through the Decades" where each class sung a song from the past seven decades of the Queen's reign. We enjoyed singing along to The Beatles, The Spice Girls and local legends Chas and Dave! We were incredibly grateful that the late Chas Hodges' wife, Joan, and his daughter, Juliet, who live in the village of Aston, came to enjoy our performances. We were incredibly touched to hear Joan say that her husband Chas, "would have been very proud". All the performances can be seen on Tapestry and Seesaw. Well done to all the children for performing so brilliantly and a big thank you to Joan and Juliet for taking the time to come and watch.





Next, we had a whole school scavenger hunt to find the Queen's missing handbag! Children worked in house teams to find missing teacups, corgis, crowns and jewels - all worth different numbers of points. This incredible day was topped off with a party on the playground complete with games, crafts, music and of course, lots of delicious food! Thank you for all the kind party contributions that enabled this to happen.

















After half term, each class was invited to visit the Platinum Jubilee displays at St Mary's Church. It was very interesting to see the different artefacts from across the decades and to learn how life has changed over the past seventy years. We also spotted our Commonwealth bunting hanging up in the church which all the classes contributed towards making.









Our Jubilee celebrations at Aston have been truly memorable. All the children have thoroughly enjoyed making special memories which will form a part of their history. We hope you enjoyed celebrating with your families too.

Miss Lucy Keen







Shackadell Class

Shackadell class have really enjoyed learning all about Queen Elizabeth II and finding out why we are celebrating on her Platinum Jubilee. We read a special book about the Queen and found out about her family, where she lives and the kinds of things that she does for her work. We wrote facts about her and wrote letters to her. We thought about and made lists of foods she could have at her party and designed our own flags to celebrate. We even dressed up as Kings and Queens! On the day of the party, we enjoyed singing our song, taking part in the scavenger hunt and having a lovely picnic together!













Peartree Class

We had such a fun week of activities leading up to our Jubilee celebrations on Friday 27th May. We did Jubilee themed maths and English lessons and we have written the Queen a letter which we are going to post. We also read a book all about Queen Elizabeth II and wrote a book review about it.

We made royal crowns and built a royal garden party in Buckingham Palace.

The week ended with our Jubilee Day and each class sang a song from the different decades the Queen has reigned. We got to sing 'Stop!' by the Spice Girls, which Mrs Baker was very pleased about. We then had a fun 'Scavenger Hunt' looking for the Queen's handbag among other royal items. Then we had a party on the playground and ate a lot of lovely party food.

What a great week!











Orchard Class

We loved celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in Orchard. First, we made these beautiful collages using "British themed" images to fill in a silhouette of the Queen.







Later on, we enjoyed finding out about the Queen's life using some interesting enquiry-based activities that involved looking at sources of information. We were very interested to learn that the Queen used to drive ambulances and was trained as military truck driver!





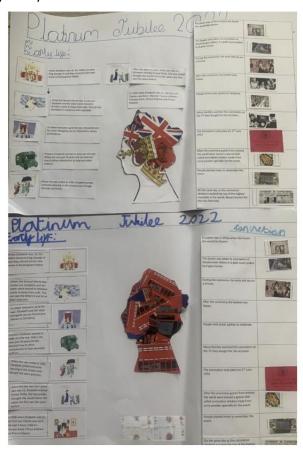


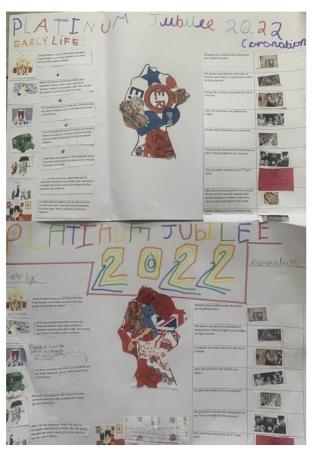


We had a special visit from our local postmen, Dave, who dropped by to judge our commemorative stamp competition. He came to tell us all about what is like to work for the Royal Mail delivering the post in Aston. The children asked some impressive questions including which areas he covers, how long the rounds take and how many letters he delivers each day. It sounds like a very interesting job but hard work with a lot of walking!

Haffydown Class

Year Three had a brilliant time celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It was a wonderful day with perfect weather to celebrate a significant historical event. It was great to see all their amazing red, white and blue outfits. We spent the morning learning about the early life of the Queen and her coronation. We thought it was interesting when we found out that the then-Princess Elizabeth was an ambulance driver during World War Two and that she was only 25 when she became Queen. We were also shocked to find out that the Queen now only has four dogs: two corgis, one dorgi and a cocker spaniel. We had to look up what a dorgi is! We also made beautiful collages for the Queen, made up of images related to her and London. We then used all our learning to create A3 posters. During the decades school concert, we were extremely proud of how well Year Three sang Crocodile Rock by Elton John – representing the 1970s. I know Year Three thoroughly enjoyed their afternoon in the sun: singing, playing games and eating lots of yummy food.





Puddlebridge Class

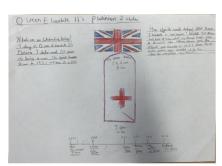
In Puddlebridge Class, we spent the morning learning about how the world has changed in the seventy years that Queen Elizabeth II has been the reigning monarch. We had fun looking at images of items found in a typical 1950s home and comparing them to how they look now; some were unrecognisable! We then looked at a number of key events that have occurred over the last seventy years, such as the moon landing in 1969, women being paid the same as men in 1963, and even the invention of fish fingers in 1955. I was extremely impressed by the children's historical knowledge and their knowledge of the royal family. In order to prepare for our upcoming celebrations, we considered how previous jubilees compared to the Platinum Jubilee in 2022 and noticed that there were a number of similarities.



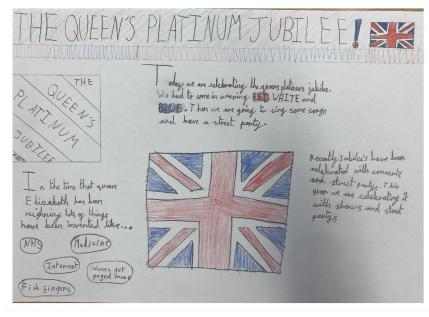
















Danes Class







Danes Class had a wonderful day celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The children produced some wonderful double-page spreads as a result of their historical enquiries about the Queen, the Commonwealth and life in Britain over the past seventy years. They even imagined what it might have been like to attend the coronation and wrote letters to family and friends about the celebrations. Mrs Branagan shared some of her own photos of the Silver Jubilee celebrations when she was in Year Six!







