



Newsletter 22nd Jan 2021

ALPINGTON & BERGH APTON Church of England VA Primary School

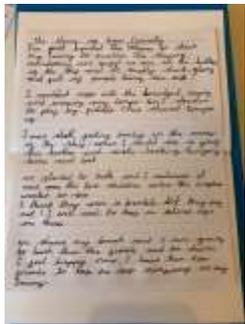
Matthew 5 v 16

Dear parents,

Our topics have really got going this week. Well done to EVERYONE learning at home. It is lovely to see so much of your work arriving by e-mail and Tapestry – I love checking in to see what you have been up to. The “in actions” pages of the website look amazing as always so check out your class page to see what everyone has been up to. Here are some highlights!



“Twist of Gold” is a story set in the 19th Century. It begins in a famine stalked Ireland and grows into an exciting American adventure. The children in Owls and Eagles are using the story as a base for exploring the history of America and comparing the geography of the UK and the USA.



Diary

Assembly at 2.30pm

- Mon : Eagles**
- Tues : Kingfishers**
- Wed : Owls**
- Thurs : Swallows**
- Fri : Robins**

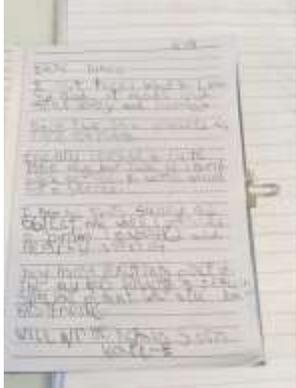
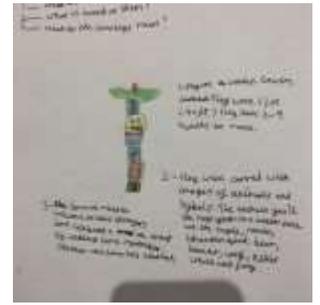
**Half term Holiday:
15th-19th February**

**We politely remind
parents to inform us of
any changes in your
contact details**

Contact Details:
Alpington CE VA Primary
School, Wheel Road,
Alpington, Norwich NR14 7NH
Tel. 01508 492700
www.alpington.norfolk.sch.uk
office@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk



Swallows class are using “The Indian in the Cupboard” as the springboard for their topic. In the story a boy discovers that he has a magic cupboard that will bring his Native American toy alive.....



Kingfishers have been learning about the counties of the UK and doing some research.



Robins class wrote a letter to Friends asking for some money to spend on outside bins for our school to stop people from dropping litter. They have had a reply and will be choosing the new bins shortly. They have also been busy learning more about rubbish and recycling.



We are aware that there is a lot to get through! Whilst it is really important that the children continue to learn, we are also aware of the pressures on families. Please adapt the home learning to work for you! If the children can do some reading, writing and numbers each day you are doing brilliantly, thank you. We still have some laptops available to borrow if this helps with working at home. Please contact Mr Stowers who will sort one out for you and arrange for you to collect it.

Watch this space for a poetry festival coming up in the next couple of weeks.

Mental health

Lockdown, remote learning, working from home and January are all conspiring to put pressure on everyone at the moment and we all need to take care of our mental health. Each newsletter I will try to signpost to resources that could be useful for parents or children or both. This week, why not have a look at the BBC Bitesize mental health pages. There are lots of short videos to choose from for adults, including ways to support the children. There is also lots of advice and support for teenagers. Click here to explore. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/tags/z7qg6v4/mental-health/1>

Online Safety

With everyone working at home, the children are inevitably and understandably likely to be spending more time online and it is more important than ever that we keep them safe. We have sent a very simple Code of Conduct for using Teams and school email to all the children. If you have not yet had time to look at this and talk about it at home, please could you do so. You will need to complete the form so that school have a record of who has agreed. You need to do this even if your child is learning in school.

It would also be good to talk to all the children about how to keep themselves safe when they are using the internet. These are the simple rules they are taught in school;

- Never share your name, address or photograph with anyone
- Keep your passwords safe
- Tell an adult straight away if you see anything that upsets or worries you
- Only be “friends” with people you know
- Treat others as you would like to be treated

There are links here to posters for adults and children with straightforward advice on keeping safe online

<https://alpington.norfolk.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/3OnlineSafetyPosterParents.pdf>

<https://alpington.norfolk.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/3OnlineSafetyPosterChildren.pdf>

Logins for email and Teams

I think that most children are now successfully logged into their accounts and are able to access the Teams meetings happening in school. If you have any problems, please let us know and we will do our best to sort them out! A few things have been brought to our attention;

- **When sending emails to the class email address from the children’s accounts, take care to type in the whole address.** The system defaults to sending a message to the whole class if you let it! Check the address before you send by clicking on the coloured circle. The correct addresses are eagles@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk, owls@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk, swallows@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk, kingfishers@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk, robins@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk.
- All Teams invites are now going straight to the children’s accounts. Please don’t try to join meetings using links emailed to parents last week.
- Teams gets itself in a muddle when there is more than one account in use. If you are having trouble with this, try logging out of the account and closing the browser completely before reopening and starting again with a different account.
- Teams works better from the desktop app than the web.

Thank you for your patience and support! The system is now much more secure and we know that people from outside are not able to join our Teams meetings.

Friends

The Friends worked really hard last term, both on fundraising and to give the children a proper “Alpington” Christmas. The total raised was over £4000 and we are really grateful to you all for the

hard work and enthusiasm! We are looking at the purchase of new ipads and the development of the outside area for children in Robins and Kingfishers class.

Clubs

Some parents had paid for guitar and gym club before we knew they would be cancelled. If you would like a refund, please contact Mrs Reeman and she will arrange it for you. Otherwise we will hold the money to pay for lessons / sessions when they begin again. Thank you.

Celebration assembly

We are continuing with our Celebration assemblies. If your child gets a mention but is learning from home, we will send them a certificate to their e-mail address so you can celebrate at home!

Pupil Premium

If your circumstances have changed and you think you may be entitled to Free School Meals you can apply by clicking the link below. Please note this is different from the Universal Infant Free School Meals which all children in Robins and Kingfishers receive when they are attending school.

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools/school-meals-and-milk>

Thought for the week

Have a look at our “Thought for the week” pages. There are lots of thoughts, ideas and questions linked to our collective worship theme for the week, including anything the children have sent in. I love having your contributions so please keep them coming.

A poem to end with this week. Some of the language is a little old fashioned so please feel free to add “woman” into the last line!



If ... By Rudyard Kipling

If you can keep your head when all about you
losing theirs and blaming it on you,
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream—and not make dreams your master;
If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim;
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two impostors just the same;
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:

If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: 'Hold on!'

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings—nor lose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And—which is more—you'll be a Man, my son!



Best Wishes

Rosie Welch and the Alington Team