

# Year 1 Newsletter



Aldwyn Primary School - Every Child a Success

## Spring Term 1

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024  
to  
Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024

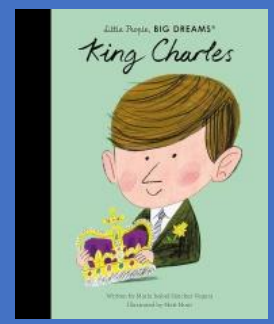
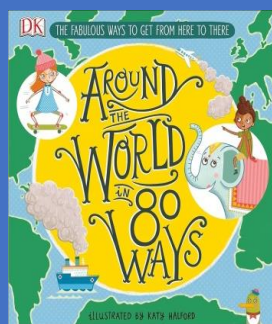
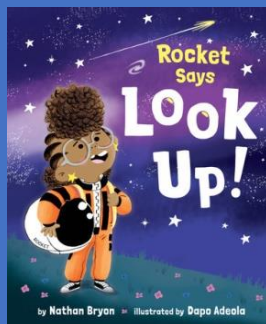
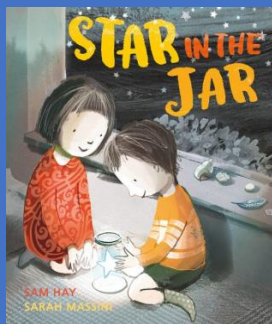
### Theme – Blast Off!

We are very excited to be back after a lovely first term and hope you feel refreshed and ready for the Spring Term! Our topic theme for this half term is called Blast Off!

We will start the term by sharing the story 'Star In The Jar' by Sam Hay and Sarah Massini. The children will learn all about a fallen star that is found by a small boy. The story is a warm hearted and enchanting story that celebrates the rewards of true friendship. What would you do with a fallen star? They will be learning about the language and vocabulary that is used in stories and the children will write their own stories based on the Star In The Jar.

Along our learning journey this half term, the children will learn about stars, Space and planet Earth. We will also be reading other books along a similar theme: The Girl who Stole the Stars, My Pet Star and How to Catch a Star. Our class novels will be Look Up! by Nathan Bryon and Around the World in 80 ways by DK Publishing.

### What will we read this half term?



### Our School Values

**Achieve**

**Care**

**Value**

**Listen**

**Help**

This term, we will be looking at our “Achieve” and “Care” school values. We will be reading the “Little People, Big Dreams” books about Mae Jamieson and King Charles III. We will learn about how Mae Jamieson became the first black woman to travel into Space and how King Charles always knew he had one big job to do which is a passion for caring for the environment.

## What will we learn this half term?

Please note that all of the Curriculum Overviews for each subject can be found on the school website. These contain detailed outlines of the coverage and rationales for teaching. Please take time to read them.

### English

In English, we will be looking at the book *Star In The Jar*. The children will learn about a fallen star and about a little boy whose job it is to get the star back up to the sky with it's friends. The children will take part in drama activities. The children will be learning about adjectives and we will be using Talk For Writing to create a new story based on *Star In The Jar* where the children will be writing their own stories. The children will learn to recognise story book language and begin to use it in their own writing. We will move onto looking at the Bristish Stargazer Dame Maggie Aderin-Pocock and her life. The children will continue to learn their Read, Write Inc Phonics and will be learning their Set Two and Set Three sounds.



### Maths

This term in maths the children will be learning about Place Value and understanding the value of the teens numbers. During this half term we will learning about:

tens and ones  
partitioning numbers  
comparing numbers  
using the mathematical language greater than, less than and equal to  
ordering numbers.

There will be daily opportunities to solve problems in maths lessons and most importantly through play. Our maths area will support problem solving and give the children a chance to practice their new learning independently using familiar resources.



### Science

In Science, we will be learning about materials and linking our Science learning to our English text *The Star In The Jar*. We will also be finding a material that would be suitable for a trip to space!



### Research Topic

This half term we will be learning to be Geographers in Geography. We will use Google Earth to look at what Earth looks like from Space and the UK. This will link to our English text *Star In a Jar*. We will also be learning about the UK and it's capital cities. We will focus on a different country each week and have a dress up day in which we will dress in the colours of the countries (more information to follow about this).

The four countries we will study are:

Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales and England.



## Computing

We will be continuing our Computer lessons on Monday mornings with Mr Gooder, our Computing teacher. In the last term, the children have learnt about the different parts of a computer and have learnt keyboard skills. The children now have their own Google logins and will be learning to get used to logging onto Google. The topic this half term is: How can we paint using Computers? The children will learn to create pictures using a paint package.



## RE



In RE we will be learning about the Easter Story and other significant events in different faiths.

## Art

We will develop our observational drawing skills this half term. Children will use a range of tools, investigating how texture and colour can be created in drawing. We will learn about the art created by Kandinsky. We will then move onto painting and colour mixing in the style of Clarice Cliff.



## SEAL, PSHE, SRE

In PSHE we will be learning about Dreams and Goals. We will explore our aspirations, how to achieve goals and understanding the emotions that go with this. Mr Loy, our PSHE Jigsaw teacher, will be taking the class on Friday afternoons for their Jigsaw lessons.

## Music



This half term, our Music Topic is called Tempo and Dynamics. The children will use instruments to combine pulse, rhythm and pitch.

## PE

Our PE day is Fridays until February half term. Our PE Topic is Dance. We will be participating in dance and learning the sequence of movement.

Please ensure all your child's PE kit is back in school and has their name in every item. Please check that their names have not washed out. All children need black pumps.



## **Homework – Home Reading Book, Homework, Spellings, Library Book.**

The children will be given a homework task each week on a Monday which is to be handed in by the following Monday. Now the children are more settled into Year 1 we will also send home weekly spelling on a Monday which will be five words linked to their phonics. The children will be asked to spell them in class on Mondays. The children will not receive a weekly score for this. This age is about learning to Fred Talk (say and write the sounds that you can hear in a word) and applying their spelling to in their sentence writing during the day. Spellings are linked to the Read, Write Inc phonic sounds.

**In addition, it is extremely important that the children read at home each night for five minutes in order for them to become successful at reading.** Reading is a skill and children need daily practise. We would like to remind parents that your child needs to **read the whole book at least three times in a week, then discuss events and characters from the book with you.**

At this age too, the children need to read other quality picture books and that they hear their parents read to them at bedtime frequently. Reading for pleasure and finding enjoyment in books is very important. The children will visit our School Library each Thursday and will keep this book in school.

Oxford Owl is a website that has free e-reading books for the children including Read, Write Inc books. Please create a free login on the parents page on this site and help your children to read the storybooks on there. Their address is: <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/> or Google Oxford Owl free e-books parent page.

There is a charge for our school Reading Books that are lost or are water damaged by your child's water bottle. Please can you check your child's water bottle does not leak in their bag. All books should be kept in the plastic folder that they are sent home in.

## **Thank you**

We really look forward to our second term and wish you all a Happy New Year. The children are making lots of progress and we thank you for your wonderful support with reading!

If you need to get in touch, please speak to us on the classroom door or telephone the school office, or alternatively email school at [admin@aldwyn.tameside.sch.uk](mailto:admin@aldwyn.tameside.sch.uk)

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards, Mrs Parks and Mrs Allen.