

Year 6 Newsletter



Aldwyn Primary School - Every Child a Success

Summer Term 2

Monday 9th June to
Friday 25th July 2025

Theme – Changes

'Little People, Big Dreams' focus: Billie Jean King and Muhammad Ali



What will we read this half term?



'Wonder' by R.J. Palacio

'My name is August. I won't describe what I look like. Whatever you're thinking, it's probably worse.'

August (Auggie) Pullman was born with a severe facial difference that, up until now, has prevented him from going to a mainstream school. Starting 5th grade at Beecher Prep, Auggie wants nothing more than to be treated as an ordinary kid—but his new classmates can't get past

his extraordinary face.

We have always enjoyed teaching this novel as our last book in Year 6.

What will we learn this half term?

Please note that all 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 addition to writing extended pieces in class, based on R.J. Palacio's 'Wonder,' we will be developing the following skills for spelling punctuation and grammar:

- Appropriate use of tenses.
- Appropriate register
- Involving the reader/audience.
- Further extended punctuation - question tags, and the correct use of semi-colons.
- Idioms

In Year 6, we also consolidate objectives from all previous year groups and ensure that our children have a solid depth of understanding these various skills. For example: we revisit rules and conventions of spellings from Years 3, 4 and 5, such as apostrophe use, and spellings derived from other cultures, e.g., Latin and Greek. In addition to this, as the novel we are looking at deals with issues such as diversity and acceptance, we will be looking at using deliberate vocabulary choices within our own writing, with words such as: unique, prejudice and individual.

Maths

We are into our last half term here at Aldwyn, so we will be using this time, to revisit many of the skills and curriculum content covered in both Year 6 and the rest of KS2. Over the next couple of weeks, we will be exploring how maths works in real life contexts, allowing the children to see how important maths is in all aspects of life. Some of the lessons will include such topics as dealing with profits and deficits, following cooking instructions by looking at measurements, converting distance tables (going between miles and kilometres), budgeting for holidays – accommodation and flights (including tax), bills, mortgages and dealing with annual salaries.

Research

The theme for this topic is called 'Unheard Stories.'

In our history lessons for this term, we have been discussing which historical figure we believe deserves to be on the face of a banknote. Children will deliver a presentation to deliver to their classmates arguing the case for why they feel they have merit. To begin with, we are going to look at a range of historical figures (Elizabeth I, Alfred the Great, William Tuke, Mary Seacole, Betty Boothroyd, Ellen Wilkinson, Lily Parr and Betty Snowball) before researching their own figures from history and making their decision.

In the children's presentations, the following information needs to be included: a summary of the person and their lives; some detail on how these figures gain historical significance, and which banknote the historical figure merits and why. Through this work, we hope to answer the following questions: first, can we identify the achievements and legacies of famous historical people? and secondly, how do we evaluate the contributions one person can make?

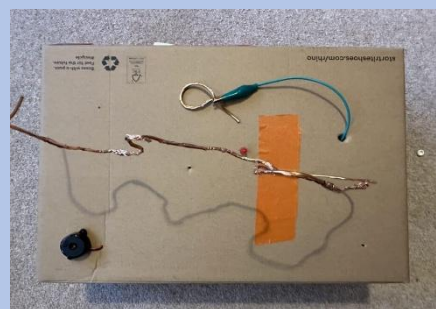
We will also tie in our history lessons with our Little People, Big Dreams choices for the last half term and will complete work on inspirational heroes that embody the values we share at Aldwyn.

Computing

We are very lucky this half term, as our lessons for computing are going to be led, once again, by the outstanding Mr. Goodier. Over the course of the next few weeks, we will be looking at the children's aspirations. What do they want to do, and who do they want to be when they grow up? Using this as the basis for their work, we shall be designing magazine covers using photographs of the children acting out their ideal future careers. For example: a magazine about art for artists, a fashion magazine for fashion designers, or a magazine about animals for those who may wish to grow up and work with them. Mr. Goodier will be using several programs, such as Canva and AI, to complete this work, and we are sure that the results will be very exciting. We shall also be looking at graphic design and the presentation of visual images (font, corporate identities, logos, etc.)

Design + Technology

For our final unit in design and technology, we shall be using our knowledge gained in science lessons on electricity in order to make our own steady hand games. Our children will be designing a game to test hand control. Electricity will only flow if a circuit is in a continuous, unbroken loop. Once the wire of a handle makes contact with a loop, then a circuit will be complete – causing an electrical device such as a buzzer to work. The idea behind our steady hand game is that we will try not to make a circuit, so that a buzzer doesn't make a sound or a bulb doesn't light up. A platform for the box can be made out of cardboard.



In addition to this, we shall be looking at balanced diets and how to make meals healthier. Cooking and nutrition is the focus, and we shall be aiming to understand and apply the principles of a healthy and varied diet. In addition to this, we shall be investigating seasonality – knowing where and how a variety of ingredients are reared, caught and processed (such as salmon). We will be doing this through discussion, annotated sketches, cross-sectional and exploded diagrams, prototypes, pattern pieces and computer aided design.

PSHE

We are focused on transitions, moving on and forming new relationships this term in PSHE and will continue to use the Jigsaw scheme of work, which teaches children and young people emotional literacy, social- and lifelong skills, including RSE/RSHE and resilience in an age-appropriate manner. The title of this unit in PSHE is 'Changing Me.'

Science

Our work in Science throughout this term will be focused on electricity. This unit will teach your children about circuits and symbols, providing the children with the correct terminology which will be useful for high school, with concepts such as volts, amps and ohms. We aim that – by the end of this unit, the children will be able to:



- Know the main circuit symbols and use these to draw circuit diagrams.
- Be able to plan and investigate.
- Plan an investigation based on the results of a previous investigation.
- Decide how to record data.

Music

This half-term, the theme of our lessons in music, will be 'Reflect, Rewind and Replay.' We shall be listening to, and appraising the work of several different musicians or artists. Included amongst them are Schubert, Bobby McFerrin, The Jackson 5, Duke Ellington and Katrina And The Waves. We will be preparing for a musical performance in an upcoming assembly and also will be working hard on our end of year performance (details to follow).

P.E.

Please ensure your child has their P.E. kit in school all week. This half term P.E. lessons will usually take place on Wednesdays, although there may be additional lessons in the week if we can find the time, so it is essential that children have their kits in with them all week. P.E. sessions this half term will be based on striking and fielding games such as cricket and rounders as we shall hopefully be able to use the field as we see some improvement in the weather. We will also be focusing on celebrating individual talents, giving our children the chance to shine.

R.E.

Our focus on religion this term is directed towards comparisons between Christianity and Humanism. Alongside looking at these different faiths and worldviews, we will be asking the children: what is it that matters the most to us. Throughout the term, we will be asking: what is important to a Humanist way of life? This will include looking at 'The Golden Rule.' In comparison, we shall then try to understand how belief in the teachings of Jesus shapes a Christian's life and role in society by exploring Christian values and what they look like in action.



Foreign Languages - French

This half term our French topic is all about different towns, cities and countries in the world which speak French. We will complete research into these places and complete presentations, tourist guides and non-chronological reports so that the children can have a deeper understanding that the influence of French and French culture can be felt all over the world.



Throughout, as will all French lessons, our pupils will be taught:

- To engage in conversations; ask and answer questions, express opinions and respond to those of others.
- Understand basic grammar rules appropriate to the language being studied, how to apply these, for instance: to build new sentences; and how these differ from or are like English.
- Read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing.

Homework

Encouraging your child to read frequently at home and to develop a love of reading is the best way you can support your child's education. We have handed out reading books for the children and we expect our children to continue reading regularly throughout the summer term. We would like your child to get into the habit of reading books (where possible) for regular 15–20-minute sessions, and please record any sessions in their reading records. Any type of reading

activity can count (e.g., school reading book, free reads, newspapers/magazines, comics, audiobooks, etc.)

Thank you

We are really looking forward to the term ahead that includes our annual trip to a restaurant with the school leavers and our end of year performance - our Leaver's Assembly - in the last week of term.

If you need to get in touch, please write a note in your child's planner, or speak to a member of our team at the classroom door.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,
Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Bonsall and the Year 6 team