

ADDMORE FEDERATION  
"Together we add more"

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Executive Headteacher: Mrs S Henney,  
BA(Hons), MEd, NPQEL, NASENCO

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2025

This Half Term's Value – Justice



### 'Phrases of Faith

'So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them' - Matthew 7:12

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well. Another busy week has flown by once again! This week I have been focusing on reading across the Federation. Therefore, this week, our newsletter takes this opportunity to share some important updates from our staff regarding key aspects of our children's development particularly when it comes to Reading.

Within the newsletter I am pleased to provide an update from our Reading Lead, Mrs Baillie. She emphasises the crucial role that regular reading plays in enhancing literacy skills and overall academic success. Encouraging your child to read a variety of texts not only supports their phonetic and comprehension abilities but also instils a lifelong love for literature. Mrs Baillie recommends setting aside a specific time each day dedicated to reading, which could involve shared reading sessions or independent exploration of books. Your collaboration in this area is invaluable and greatly contributes to your child's progress. More from her and some interesting insights further along in the newsletter.

Additionally, Mrs Travis has, this week, highlighted the importance of making healthy choices when it comes to lunch boxes and snacks. A balanced diet is fundamental for maintaining energy levels and optimal concentration throughout the school day. She makes some helpful suggestions in her section of the newsletter this week. We encourage all families to review their lunch box contents and make thoughtful choices that will support our children's well-being.

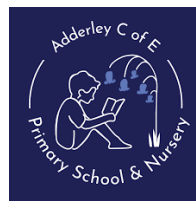
Finally, as we approach the weekend, I wish all our families a restful and enjoyable time together.

Thank you for your continued support.

Warm regards,

Mrs S. Henney





## Important Dates and INFORMATION

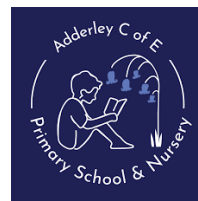
### JANUARY

Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Coding Club with Miss Archer, 3.15pm – 4.15pm
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Forest School for Oak Class
	Guitar lessons with Mr Tomkins, for those signed up
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Make some noise/Young Voices Choir, at lunchtime
	PE for Oak and Chestnut Class
	SATS Club with Mr Turner, 3.15pm – 4.15pm
Friday 17 <sup>h</sup>	Forest school for Chestnut and Willow Class
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup>	F1 Club, 3.15pm – 4.45pm
	Coding Club with Miss Archer, 3.15pm – 4.15pm
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Guitar lessons with Mr Tomkins,
	Forest School for Oak Class
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Make some noise/Young Voices Choir, lunchtime
	PE for Oak and Chestnut Class
	SATS Club with Mr Turner, 3.15pm – 4.15pm
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Forest school for Chestnut and Willow Class
	Bikeability for children in years 5 and 6 that have signed up to take part
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Coding Club with Miss Archer, 3.15pm – 4.15pm
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Forest School for Oak Class
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Young Voices – details to follow
	PE for Oak and Chestnut Class
	SATS Club with Mr Turner, 3.15pm – 4.15pm
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Forest school for Chestnut and Willow Class

### FUTURE DATES

February 3 <sup>rd</sup> to 7 <sup>th</sup>	Children's Mental Health Week – further details in the newsletter
March 6 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day
March 25 <sup>th</sup>	F1 Final – details to follow
March 31 <sup>st</sup> – April 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Residential trip for years 5 and 6
April 12 <sup>th</sup>	Half Marathon in Shrewsbury
April 28 <sup>th</sup>	Swimming begins for KS2





### **Lunch Boxes and Toys**

A quick reminder to please pack healthy lunch boxes for your child, ensuring they have nutritious options to fuel their day. We encourage balanced meals including fruit and vegetables and something more substantial to fill little tummies (a sandwich, pasta, a wrap etc.). The NHS website offers some great ideas for healthy lunchboxes!

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes>

Additionally, we kindly ask that children do not bring toys from home. The only exception is for nursery-aged children, who may bring a cuddly toy for comfort.

Thank you for your cooperation!

### **This week's Star Pupils!**

**Chestnut Class:** Colton - For showing a wonderful attitude to learning and for being a fabulous role model for behaviour.

**Oak Class:** Alfie - for putting in an excellent effort in lessons all week.

**Willow Class:** Jupiter - Jupiter has been practising her letter formation at home and has made a massive improvement! Super job Jupiter!

### **Class News:**

#### **Oak Class**

We have had another wonderful week in Oak class, all of the children have produced fantastic work in English. So good we shared the children took it in turns to read their work to the rest of the class. We have also started a new rewards system in class, which the children have responded well too. One of the highlights of this week has been ICT where the children have enjoyed learning about filming.

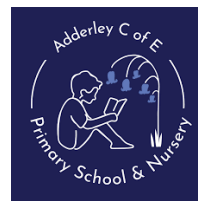
#### **Chestnut Class**

Welcome back, everyone! It's already shaping up to be a fantastic start to the year!

The children have been very excited to get started with our new reward system: collecting marbles! When the jar is full, the class will enjoy a special reward and this time we will be baking for the whole school.

In Writing, the children have explored a variety of poems especially noticing rhyming couplets and alliteration. The children now have some wonderful ideas for their own poems which they will continue writing next week.





In Maths, we've been working on related facts and focusing on adding tens and ones. The children are making superb progress and becoming more confident with their mental calculations.

In Geography, we're learning to name the countries of the United Kingdom and have explored both physical and human features within our school grounds.

In Science, we've been exploring different materials, investigating how we can change their shapes.

In PE, we are starting to learn the basic rule of basketball and this week we concentrated on dribbling and bouncing with our brand-new basketballs.

Finally, in PHSE, we've had discussions about our strengths and the areas we wish to practise and improve on this year.

Well done Chestnuts!

### **Willow Class**

What an exciting week we've had in Willow Class! This week, our Nursery and Reception children have been inspired by the poem "Daddy Fell into the Pond." The funny and lively poem has sparked lots of discussions and creativity. As part of our art activities, we've been using pastels and tissue paper to create beautiful water lily artworks, taking inspiration from Monet's famous paintings.



We've had some chilly fun exploring the ice in our garden. The children have been fascinated by the frozen textures and shapes. It has been a great opportunity to explore scientific concepts like melting and temperature, all while having lots of fun! In maths, we have been practising subitising to 5 using a giant dice. The children have enjoyed rolling the dice and quickly recognizing how many dots are showing without counting them one by one. This is a great way to develop number recognition and number sense in an interactive and engaging way.

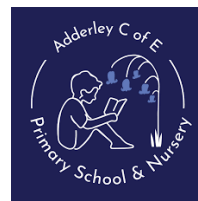
In Phonics, our Nursery children have been focusing on the sounds S, A, T, P, I and N, while our Reception children have been working hard on learning new digraphs each day. It's wonderful to see the children becoming more confident with their sounds and letters! We're so proud of how well they are progressing with their phonics skills.

We've also been concentrating on number recognition this week. The children have been practising identifying numbers and matching them to their corresponding quantities in a variety of fun ways, from hands-on activities to games.

Thank you for your continued support at home. We are so proud of all the progress the children are making, and we look forward to another week of fun learning!







## Children's Mental Health Week

This year's Children's Mental Health Week theme is **Know Yourself, Grow Yourself**. The more we can understand about ourselves, the more prepared we are to express our emotions and take on life's ups and downs. Being self-aware means getting to know and understand what we are good at, what we find difficult, our likes and dislikes, what makes us feel JOY and what may cause us SADNESS. It is also about understanding what makes us unique and our fears, hopes and dreams. As we build a sense of self, we grow in our ability to connect with others, as well as develop our skills and talents. It is with this basis we can form strong and healthy relationships, from early childhood right through to adulthood and are equipped to cope with the challenges that life brings our way. With that in mind we are going to complete a range of activities and lessons throughout the week building on our theme of know yourself, grow yourself, starting with a non-uniform day.

### Non-uniform day – Monday 3rd February

We would like our children to wear an outfit that expresses themselves, whether it's their favourite outfit, a splash of colour, a traditional attire that celebrates their culture, or an ensemble that showcases their beloved hobby, we want everyone's creativity to shine.

## Reading

It is fantastic to see that so many of our children are enjoying reading for pleasure at home. However, it has been noticed that some children are not accessing books at home as frequently as they should ; which will eventually have impact on their future academic progress. As a Federation, we have the expectation that children are reading daily at home with a parent, leading to greater independence as they get older and more confident with their reading. We appreciate your support with your child's reading and know it makes a positive difference to their learning journey!

### Significance of reading at school and home

There can be few things as powerful as regularly reading both to and with your child. It has astonishing benefits for children: comfort and reassurance, confidence and security, relaxation, happiness and fun. It builds self-esteem, vocabulary, feeds imagination and can even improve their sleeping patterns.

### Reading from an early age and securing phonics

- Reading from an early age is important for a child as research shows that if children are not secure and fluent readers by Year 2, it is very difficult to then develop a love of reading going forward.
- In order to get children fluent in reading, their phonic knowledge must be embedded within EYFS and KS1. This should be supported both at school and at home also.
- Reading to children from day zero helps to foster a greater love of reading.

## Reading Stars

A big Well done to our reading stars last half term! An extra Congratulations to Harley who read the most words before Christmas and has won the book voucher! Well done, Harley!

Ready Reader - 1000 words +  
Kaylee

Independent Reader - 5000 words +  
Alfie

Rising Reader- 10,000 words +  
Harley  
Eloise

