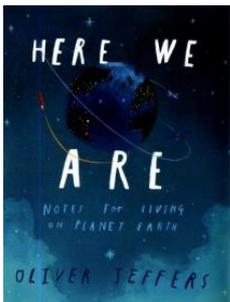


## Welcome to 2019

Welcome to what has already been an Amazing start to 2019. I hope that you all had a great break and are still smiling as you recall some of the memories which took place during the festive period.

Each term at Albemarle, we introduce a whole school topic to the children from, Nursery through to Year 6, which ignites their curiosity, captivates their imagination and engages them in their learning across the curriculum.

This term, the whole school topic is 'Mother Nature, Mother Earth' and behind the scenes, staff have prepared a range of activities, which will enrich and extend the children's learning. They have also planned a number of fantastic trips to help the children discover, explore and experience things first hand.



As part of our whole school topic, children across the school have also been emerged in the book, 'Here We Are' by Oliver Jeffers.

This fantastic, thought-provoking book has enabled the children to unpick and debate a range of issues linked to Mother Earth

whilst developing their creative and non-fiction writing skills about Mother Nature.

I am sure that the term ahead will continue to provide us with lots of reasons to smile as we venture on a magical journey through the year.

## The Newsletter is Back!

Over the last three years we have had countless conversations and debatable discussions about the best way to share school life with the outside world. Last year, to help save the planet, endless hours of photocopying and of course the school's budget, the newsletter became paperless and we launched Twitter.

Today, I am delighted to inform you that today the 'Weekly Newsletter' is back. Each week, alongside our Twitter feed, the newsletter will provide you with up to date information, up and coming dates and events and provide you with a snap shot of school life.

This week the Core Value is

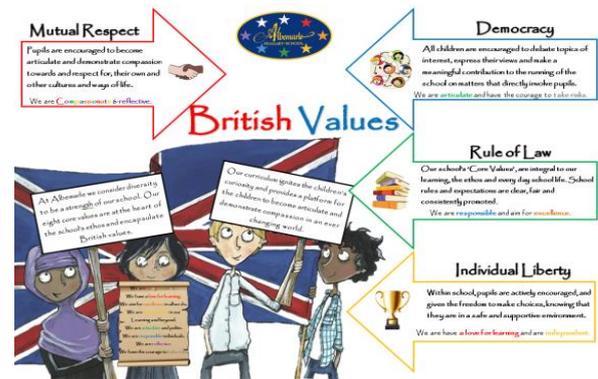
'We are Reflective'

31<sup>st</sup> January 2019

## Monday Madness & British Values

I am sure by now that the children will have told you all about 'Monday Madness'. As a school we are passionate about providing our children with the skills to develop their resilience and ability to cope in an ever changing world.

Each Monday, children are randomly selected in pairs to form 'learning partners'. These pairings stay together across the week and have already had a positive impact on the children's learning.



Each Monday, begins with the children exploring one of our eight Core Values, which unite us as a school. This term, the children will also be exploring how the four British Values (Mutual Respect, Democracy, Rule of Law and Individual Liberty) link with everyday life at our school.

## Mindfulness

As a school, we pride ourselves on our inclusive ethos, which unites and empowers everyone to gain confidence, take risks and seize opportunities to excel.

As you are aware, this year one of our key School Development priorities is to 'embed an **emotionally intelligent** climate across the curriculum.'

At the start of the Spring term, Anna Willie, a Mindfulness practitioner provided staff with a very thought-provoking training session, which focused on their well-being and provided a range of age-appropriate methods to introduce across the curriculum. Anna has also begun a 6 week project in **Diamond Class** providing the children with a range of strategies to help develop their skills.



### The Daily Mile

Last week Year 6 started the daily mile with Mr Campbell, myself and other members of the Senior Leadership Team. After only 6 attempts, the children have already slashed their time by 4 whole minutes! I am looking forward to seeing further improvements in the coming weeks as the children learn about the importance of remaining fit and healthy.

### A Reason to Celebrate

After many years of campaigning and various meetings, I am delighted to announce that we now have our very own **Road Crossing Patrol/Lollypop Person** 'Miriam' who will be situated on Princes Way, between our two sites.

I am sure you will all agree that this is excellent news and will help to keep the Albemarle community safe. Miriam, will be outside each morning from 8:15-9:00am and in the afternoons from 3:00-3:45pm. Please ensure you welcome her into our school community and let her help you to cross the road safely.

### Twinkling Stars

Over the last 5 years, Twinkling Stars has grown to provide a quality-first after school provision for up to 40 children. In order to ensure that the quality of play is second to none, the adult to child ratios must be adhered to. With this in mind, a text was recently sent out to all parents outlining the following:

- All bookings should be made via the Magic Booking before **12pm** on the day.
- For Children who are not booked via Magic Booking in advance there will be an additional charge **£5**.
- Children who are collected **10 minutes** late will be charged **£5** then an additional £5 for every 10 minutes after that.

Please ensure that you book in advance to avoid any unnecessary disappointment or incur additional costs. Between the hours of **4pm-6:30pm** please contact Twinkling Stars directly on **07947895872**.

Magic Booking Link:

<https://albemarle.magicbooking.co.uk/Account/Login>

### Dates for Your Diary February

13<sup>th</sup> Season for Love Concert  
 18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> Half Term Break  
 25<sup>th</sup> **INSET DAY**  
 26<sup>th</sup> School re-opens at 08:45

### Head Teacher's Coffee Morning

As the Spring Term progresses, we get closer to the point in the year where our children will begin to take a range of statutory assessments across the Summer Term.

During the coffee morning, Mr. Hughes and I will provide you with all the information you need to help your child and of course, answer any questions you may have.

The meeting will take place in the Lower School hall at 9am on the **6<sup>th</sup> February**. Everyone is welcome however, we particularly recommend it for families who have children in **Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 4** and Year 6.

### Half Term Break February 18<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> Holiday School Care @ Albemarle



With only three weeks to go until the end of the half term don't forget that Holiday School Care will be here to take care of your children. Starting on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February until Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February, Holiday School Care will be open from 8am to 6pm. To find about more log on to:

[www.holidayschoolcare.co.uk](http://www.holidayschoolcare.co.uk)

### Albemarle Attendance

At Albemarle, we expect all our children to make at least good progress. Therefore, it is essential that all children are in school every day and on time. This year, our attendance target has been set at 97%. Last week, these classes managed to exceed it.

Amethyst	100%
Coral	99.23%
Emerald	97.94%
Topaz	97.53%

At the end of the Autumn term, the whole school attendance rate was 95.4%. I am sure that if we continue to work together, we can exceed 97%.

Yours, Theresa Moses (Head Teacher)

