

12th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Great 'New Year' News

We are so pleased to share that the school fence arrived on Wednesday this week and work has begun already. The children's citizenship team ventured down to the field this week to see the work that had been started. This is great news for the New Year and we all know that soon the children will be able to use this huge space safely and freely. Thank you again for the huge fundraising efforts from all.



Children's Citizenship Team

The children pictured above have worked together to spread an important message in all classes and in assembly today. They wished to share this with the wider community so that we can all become better citizens in society. The task is to complete all nine kindness challenges to receive a kindness sticker and become a kindness hero. (Please see attached)

Snow Alert

Sending out the usual reminder about Snow communication alongside this newsletter.



Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check

If you have a child in Year 4 they will be participating in the multiplication tables check (MTC) in June 2024.

The purpose of the check is to determine whether your child can fluently recall their times tables up to 12, which is essential for future success in mathematics.

For more information please find attached to this newsletter.

Attendance

We celebrated in assembly today the children who had 100% attendance so far this term. Well done to all these children and they will get to wear their own clothes to school next Friday.

We will continue to work with families to support them in ensuring that their child attends school as attendance matters.

Let's get reading - BOOM Reader

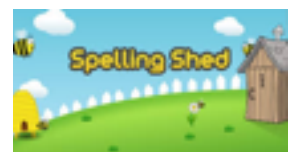


"If you are going to get anywhere in life you have to read a lot of books."
- Roald Dahl

Well done to all the children and families who have logged onto Boom reader. We are pleased to announce the most home reading logs recorded on Boom reader this week.

Position	Name	Reads at home
First Place	Rayaan Abdulkhalik Class 10	8 parent home reads
Second place	Affan Mazhar Class 3 Zara Yasin Class 8	7 parent home reads
Third Place	Fatimah Zahra Class 1 Saniya Zahra Class 11	6 parent home reads

Spelling Shed Winners



Place	Total points awarded for correct spellings	Child
1st	18,216,000	Hareem Almas Class 12
2nd	16,016,000	Mustasim Muhammad Class 4
3rd	10,305,265	Umaymah Khan Class 5

TT Rockstars - CELEBRATIONS!

The most accurate Class	Class 12
The most active class	Class 5
The most improved speed	Saara Khan Class 8
The most active player	Mustasim Muhammad Class 4

Word Aware

This week's word is 'ancient.'

Please encourage your child to use this word when out and about and complete the activities.



Healthy New Year Festival - Friday 26th January and Saturday 27th January 2024

Healthy New Year Festival with free events at Oldham Library is on **Friday 26 and Saturday 27 January 2024**. Highlights include Introduction to Arts for Wellbeing to find out how creativity can improve your mental health, a Laughter Yoga Taster Session, hear from author Steve McCluskie of Around the World in 80 Games: The Earth Shaped Ball and see C.S.Lowry's famous painting Going to the Match.

There will also be a Self Defence Family Boxing session - an introduction to boxing as a great way to have fun and keep fit and a Bollywood Dance Workshop.

Booking for these events is essential via Eventbrite at www.eventbrite.co.uk

A Healthy Baby, Happy You Baby Fair at 10am to 2pm on the Friday, with information stalls for parents and parents-to-be and Live Well - Your Way health information stalls at 10am to 2pm on the Saturday are both drop-in events with no need to book.

For more information visit: www.oldham.gov.uk/libraries

Point of Contact: librariesandgallerieschools@oldham.gov.uk




Oldham Lifelong Learning Courses

With Oldham Lifelong Learning Service, you can take part in classes on anything from arts and crafts to First aid or English and maths.

Visit: https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200227/lifelong_learning

Citizen Group Kindness CHALLENGE.



Smile at someone	Complement someone	Open a door for someone.	Level one 
Share something	Play with someone who is lonely.	Help someone in school	Level two 
Pick up litter	Spread positivity around.	Help someone in the community.	Level three 
Complete all nine kindness challenges to receive a kindness sticker and become a kindness hero!			



Alexandra Park Junior School

REMINDER – INFORMATION IN THE CASE OF A POSSIBLE SCHOOL CLOSURE DUE TO WINTER WEATHER

Snow is forecast, which may, in the case of heavy snow, make it impossible to open the school. Therefore, our school needs to make sure you can find out first thing in the morning if the school is open for that day.

You will find the message from 7.30am onwards on our website letting you know if school is closed:

www.alexandrapark.oldham.sch.uk

You may wish to save this website address as a favourite so that you can find this information quickly.

We will inform you via Class Dojo and via the school text service.

THIS WILL BE THE FIRST MOBILE PHONE NUMBER WE HAVE ON OUR SYSTEM FOR YOUR CHILD/REN.

Please make sure your mobile number is up to date.

We will advise as to future opening arrangements while the worst of the winter weather lasts.

We will also inform Oldham Council of any closure and this will be displayed on:

www.oldham.gov.uk/winter (See School Closures)

Please note that during such severe weather, our concern has to be for our children's safety and well-being.

We will make decisions for this school only, so messages about other closures or openings will not necessarily reflect what is happening at Alexandra Park Junior School.

Thank you for your support with these arrangements – we hope to keep you as well informed as possible.



Information for parents:

2024 multiplication tables check



Standards
& Testing
Agency

Multiplication tables check

Do you have a child in year 4 at primary school?

If so, your child will be participating in the multiplication tables check (MTC) in June.

The purpose of the check is to determine whether your child can fluently recall their times tables up to 12, which is essential for future success in mathematics. It will also help your child's school to identify if your child may need additional support.

What is the multiplication tables check?

It is an on-screen check consisting of 25 times table questions. Your child will be able to answer 3 practice questions before taking the actual check. They will then have 6 seconds to answer each question. On average, the check should take no longer than 5 minutes to complete.

What if my child cannot access the check?

There are several access arrangements available for the check, which can be used to support pupils with specific needs. Your child's teacher will ensure that the access arrangements are appropriate for your child before they take the check in June.

The check was designed to be inclusive and accessible to as many children as possible, including those with special educational needs or disability (SEND) or English as an additional language (EAL). However, there may be some circumstances in which it will not be appropriate for a pupil to take the check, even when using suitable access arrangements.

If you have any concerns about your child accessing the check, you should discuss this with your child's headteacher.

Do I need to do anything to prepare my child for the check?

No, you do not need to do anything additional to prepare your child for the check. As part of usual practice, teachers may ask you to practise times tables with your child.

Schools will have unlimited access to a 'try it out' area from April. They can use this to make sure pupils have the necessary support to access the check. This includes opportunities for pupils to familiarise themselves with the check application and try out any access arrangements that may be required.

How will the results be used?

Schools will have access to all their pupils' results, to allow them to identify pupils who need additional support.

Will I receive feedback on my child's check?

Yes. Your child's teacher will share your child's score with you, as they would with all national curriculum assessments. There is no pass mark for the check.





Further information

Your child's teacher will be able to answer any questions about the MTC.

For further details you can also visit www.gov.uk/STA.

Further information about the personal data we collect, process and store for the MTC is available in our [privacy notice](#)¹.

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Information for parents: 2024 multiplication tables check

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1. www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiplication-tables-check-privacy-notice/privacy-notice-multiplication-tables-check