

Aragon School Newsletter

Aragon Road
Morden
SM4 4QU

Friday 26th May 2023



Hi everybody,

I do hope you are all keeping well and enjoying the lovely sunshine (at last!).

We celebrated National Numeracy Day last week with lots of really fun activities; there were investigations about weight, number and

estimating. a whole school competition to guess how many items in a jar - well done Fathi in 6B! Year 1 loved going around the school counting post-its!! Thank you to Mr Ashby for organising it all.

Year 4 really enjoyed their Mayan Workshop this week, where they could put their acting skills to great use whilst exploring what life was like for the Mayans. Louise Frewin, our resident artist is busy on a huge, new piece of work near our top hall - it's going to show all the planets of the solar system, do look out for it next time you're in.

Many thanks to those of you who came in for our Year 6 read and coffee morning - it was great to see you. These coffee mornings have been a success so we will definitely be doing more of them in the future.

Have a lovely half-term break and don't forget it's the annual Healthy Me Week when we come back, so sports kits all week!

Kind regards,

Clare Ryder

Check out our social media!



[@aragonprimary](https://www.instagram.com/aragonprimary)



[@AragonPrimary](https://www.facebook.com/AragonPrimary)



Diary Dates

June

5th - Healthy Me Week

12th-16th Y6 Residential

12th-16th Y5 Bikeability

15th - IM Class Assembly

19th - INSET Day

22nd - IDV Class Assembly

23rd - Picnic in the Playground

29th - IB Class Assembly

July

4th - Y5 - Tate Modern Trip

5th - Y1 Littlehampton Beach Trip

12th - Y6 Production Matinee

13th - Y6 Production Evening

14th - Spanish Day

17th - Y1/2/ Sports Morning

17th - Y3/4 Sports Afternoon

18th - Y5/6 Sports Morning

19th - Aragon's Got Talent

20th - Rocksteady Concert

September

1st and 4th - INSET Days

5th - Children back

"To be the best we can be!"

Spotlight on Year 2...

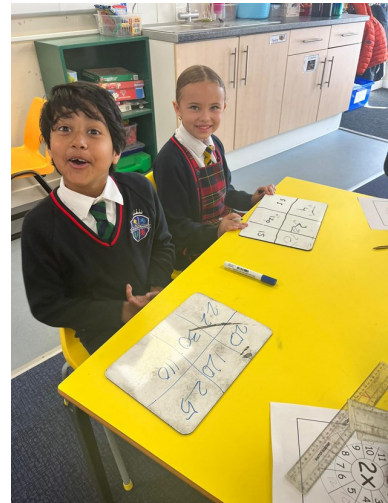
What a busy term Year 2 have had! In English we have been writing setting descriptions based on the story 'The Story Machine'. We have created comic strips based on the story of 'Mungo and the Spider from Space'. We then used our imaginations to create a new adventure for Mungo.

We had so much fun celebrating maths day with lots of fun maths activities, we started off by playing snakes and ladders, then creating our own board games - this was very popular! Children had to solve number problems to find the correct key to open the padlocks. We were great at using our estimation skills to estimate how many gems were in the jar. There were many more maths activities and we are sure the children would love to tell you all about them.

Our science learning this term has been about Living Things and their Habitats. We have been looking at micro-habitats and are good at explaining the difference between a habitat and a micro-habitat. We made bug hotels and had to think carefully about the different layers, using our science knowledge about mini beasts. We were extremely excited when the caterpillar kits arrived at school and it has been amazing using our observational skills to watch the life cycle of the butterfly. They are now at the chrysalis stage, and we cannot wait to see the butterflies.

In DT, we have been learning about seaside snacks and designed a savoury and sweet snack for a picnic. We made our products and evaluated them. To celebrate the end of term we had a picnic on the field eating the yummy picnic food we made in our DT lesson.

We are extremely proud of how hard all the children have been working and they are all superstars!



“To be the best we can be!”

Y3 Sikh Workshop

In RE this year, Year 3 have been studying Sikhism. Today, each class had a fascinating workshop where they were able to play Sikh music, learn how their names are written in Punjabi, learn how a turban is wrapped and even try it on. The children absolutely loved applying their knowledge to this fun and interactive workshop.



Y4 Maya Workshop

This week in Year 4, the children had lots of fun learning about the intriguing history of the Maya civilisation and were able to put their acting skills to great use! Did you know the Maya introduced the world to a number of new foods? Probably the most interesting was chocolate from the cacao tree. The Maya considered chocolate to be a gift from the gods and used cacao seeds as money.



“To be the best we can be!”

National Numeracy Day 2023

Last week, Aragon took part in National Numeracy Day 2023. All the children participated in a range of activities depending on their year group. Have a look at some of our activities outlined below!

Estimation

Across the school, children had to estimate how many pieces of maths equipment were in the jar. Estimation can be difficult and we had a range of different answers. Fatih (right) estimated 673 and Shafia (left) estimated 670. In total, there were 672 pieces of equipment. What an estimate!



Estimate the Weight

Children were given the task to make a figure using cubes. At the start of the session, the children were given a weight that they needed to successfully make.

The difficulty was the children were not allowed to weigh their figure until the end. To help assist the children, we provided them with 100g weights. Betty-Lew (3A) managed to reach the target of 122g. How impressive!



Shut the Box

The children thoroughly enjoyed the challenging game 'Shut the Box'. This game involves children having to subitise (recognise numbers without counting) and find the totals to remove all the wooden blocks.



Year 6 Read and Coffee Morning

Another great coffee morning this morning, this time for Year 6! Thank you to all the grown-ups who came along to share a story with their child!



"To be the best we can be!"



How to support your child with transitions.

Children and young people go through all kinds of changes as they grow up – including when they move into a new class, go to secondary school, move to a new house or area, or experience changes within their family. These times of transition can be exciting. However, they can also be stressful, worrying or upsetting.

Change can be difficult when a young person does not want it to happen or does not feel ready for it, feels worried about something new or unknown, needs time to let go of something that has ended or feels that what is happening to them is out of their control. A child or young person may also find change difficult if they are already struggling with other things.

Signs your child may be struggling with change:

Look out for a change in things like sleeping or eating habits.

Communicate with your child if you've seen these signs.

Keep going, even if it feels like you're not getting through to them.

Contact your GP or school about the warning signs if things don't improve.

What to do if your child is finding change difficult:

Get interested in what your child is doing.

Open up conversations about what they're involved in.

Keep an eye on pressure points.

For further information and advice, please visit <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/transitions-and-times-of-change/>

OPAL Play



As we enter the hotter months, please do ensure you send your child into school with sun cream applied, a sun hat and water. OPAL play is in full swing and we are always on the lookout for more donations. Take a look at the OPAL page on our website here for some ideas: <https://www.aragon.merton.sch.uk/page/?title=OPAL&pid=50>

We are particularly on the look out for any old buggies, push chairs, suit cases, scooters and bikes that you may not need anymore.

“To be the best we can be!”

Reception Park Trip

We have been busy learning all about Our Planet in Reception and last week we went on a Scavenger Hunt to our local park – searching for a whole list of things to find in our local area.

We had lots of fun; these are some of the things the children said about our trip:

‘I love finding sticks and turning them into magic wands!’

‘We saw a squirrel and watched it climb and jump.’

‘We saw dogs in the park, they were running and chasing! There were 1,2,3,4!’

‘I found a stone, it’s a small rock!’

‘I liked walking with my friends, it keeps us healthy.’

‘I found the gate first on our list, we have to have gates to keep us safe and to shut the park field when it is dark’.

‘Animals live in the trees and make dens and nests.’



“To be the best we can be!”

Curriculum maps

Updated curriculum maps have now been sent out on Parentmail. These maps give an overview of your child's learning in all subjects for the half term.

[Year 6 Curriculum Map](#)

[Year 5 Curriculum Map](#)

[Year 4 Curriculum Map](#)

[Year 3 Curriculum Map](#)

[Year 2 Curriculum Map](#)

[Year 1 Curriculum Map](#)

[Reception Curriculum Map](#)

Aragon Primary School Curriculum Map

Year 4

English

We will be studying a wide range of genres and creating pieces of writing based on the following stimuli:

Macbeth - Suspense writing
My Teacher: Biographies
The Dinosaur Menace: Seasonal Poetry

Maths

Order and compare numbers beyond 1000. Recognise the place value of each digit in a 4-digit number. Order and compare numbers beyond 1000. Round any number to the nearest 10, 100 or 1000.

Add/subtract numbers with up to 4 digits using the formal written methods of columnar addition where appropriate. Estimate and use inverse operations to check answers to a calculation.

Reading

The Boy Who Biked
The World
Overheard in a Tower
Block
Stitch Head

Music: Mamma Mia!

As well as learning to sing, play, improvise and compose with the well known song Mamma Mia, children will listen and appreciate more ABBA hits.

Art: Pop Art

Explore what constitutes art and why people's opinions on what is art differ, before delving into the Pop art movement, investigating a range of works by Warhol and other Pop art artists and producing their own.

Geography: The Americas

Focus on North and South America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries, states and (where) major cities - understand geographical similarities and differences through looking at regions in North and South America - use maps, atlases, globes and digital computer mapping

RE: Buddhism

I can start to show an understanding of why people think it is difficult to be happy all the time. I can tell you some of the things Buddhists did to try to be happy and explain why I think they didn't work for him. I can begin to show an understanding of what being happy means to Buddhists.

Computing: General IT

Review using the striping tool. Review using a document and making a folder. Formatting text using bold, italics, underline and changing the colour font.

PE: Netball - Children develop movement and ball handling skills. They learn simple attacking tactics as part of a small team, and start to think about how to organise themselves to defend their goal. Play with a basic court set-up.

"To be the best we can be!"

RAD Music Lessons

RAD believe that whatever the skill level or budget, all children deserve access to exceptional music tuition. Our highly-skilled network of professional musicians provide next-level tuition for the next generation of talent, no matter the location, budget or capability. Provided on-site, within school hours and at a highly-competitive rate; with RAD, students can experience expert music tuition that helps them sharpen skills, express creativity, and dream BIG, with no disruption or stress – all from the very best in the business. For more information, and to sign-up your child to RAD lessons, just use the following link; we'll do the rest. [Click here!](#)

House Point Leaderboard

Unicorn



14953

Griffin



13694

Dragon



13307

Phoenix



12640

Spelling Shed



Class Winners

1. IB
2. 2W
3. 3LB

Top Spellers

1. Amelia IB
2. Shajana 2W
3. Nylah IB

Times Table Rockstars



Class Winners

1. 5L
2. 4J
3. 4B

Rock Legends

1. Aananya 6B
2. Yakub 4B
3. Hailey 4B

"To be the best we can be!"

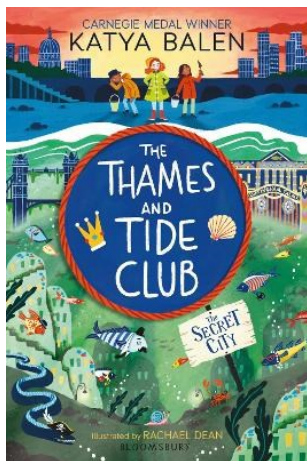
Attendance 15/5/23-25/5/23

We know that sometimes illness can't be avoided but now we are fully re-open and trying to close all the gaps in the children's learning from the national lockdowns, we really would appreciate you getting your children into school everyday and on time.

| | | | |
|------------|-------|---------------------|-------|
| 6B | 97.0% | 2G | 94.9% |
| 6F | 96.3% | 2R | 96.8% |
| 5B | 93.1% | 2W | 94.4% |
| 5E | 95.3% | 1B | 98.0% |
| 5L | 97.0% | 1DV | 95.8% |
| 4B | 97.1% | 1M | 94.7% |
| 4H | 97.1% | RC | 94.8% |
| 4J | 91.4% | RP | 93.0% |
| 3A | 93.4% | RT | 93.2% |
| 3AB | 91.8% | Whole School | 94.8% |
| 3LB | 95.2% | | |

Reading Matters: Click on the link to take you to a description

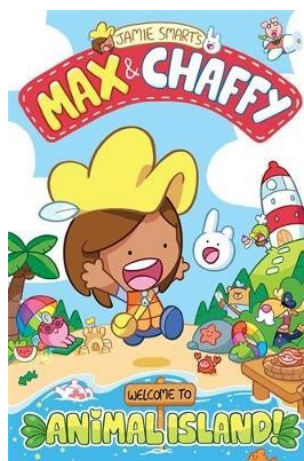
Y5/6



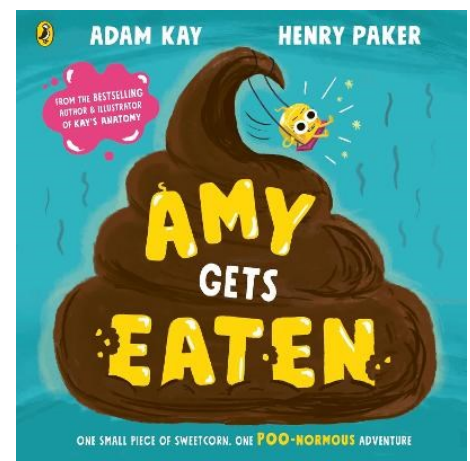
Y3/4



Y1/2



EYFS



Safeguarding

Children have a right to be cared for and protected; protecting them is everyone's responsibility. Here at Aragon Primary School, we have a duty of care to ensure that all users of the school are kept safe from harm.

We are committed to provide a secure and supportive environment in which children can develop and grow into mature and responsible people. Safeguarding children is an essential part of our holistic approach to ensure that children are protected from abuse and neglect and that every child reaches their full potential. To report a safeguarding concern or for any queries contact: kaldis@aragon.merton.sch.uk

"To be the best we can be!"

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

ROBLOX

PEGI RATING
7+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Roblox is one of the most popular video games on the market. By 2020, the game's makers were claiming that more than half of children in the USA play it. As a 'sandbox' title, Roblox offers a huge amount of creative freedom: it lets players create their own gaming experiences with the Roblox Studio to build custom levels and games, which can then be shared with other players online. Roblox fosters creative thinking and enjoys a robust online community of fans.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Roblox encourages players to communicate online (including a group chat facility). This could expose children to risks such as scammers, online predators, harassment, griefers and more. The in-game chat has some filters, but isn't perfect: players can still send harmful messages to others – such as general hostility – while predators can reach out to children directly.

ONLINE DATERS

These are also called 'ODers' and are quite common in Roblox. An ODER is an individual who joins a game with the intention of finding someone to date online – and eventually meet in person. Such online dating is against the Roblox community guidelines, but this usually doesn't deter ODERs. Some player-built Roblox game worlds have even been designed with online dating specifically in mind.

PUBLIC SERVERS

Roblox has private or VIP servers which allow people to play exclusively with their friends, but this costs money. Most Roblox players will instead be on public servers that anyone can join. Servers can host games which focus on all kinds of aspects, including direct player interaction. Some games and servers, therefore, will put children more at risk of contact from strangers than others.

IN-APP PURCHASES

Roblox is actually free to download and play, but bear in mind that there are some hidden costs. Players are encouraged to make purchases in the game, for example, using real money. People can also buy extra Robux (the in-game currency) to spend on cosmetic items in the game, and some private or VIP servers also have a cost.

Advice for Parents & Carers

SET PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox comes with several parental control options, which are explained well on the game's official website. It's essential to enter the correct date of birth for your child, as that allows Roblox to automatically apply the appropriate chat filters. The game also allows parents and carers to set monthly spending restrictions and monitor their child's account.

DISABLE PRIVATE MESSAGING

Roblox's private messaging function raises the risk of children being contacted by people they may not want to speak with – potentially leading to bullying, harassment, toxicity and scam attempts. The game allows you to disable messages from anyone who hasn't been added as a friend on your child's account.

PRIVATE SERVERS

If your child has some genuine friends to play Roblox online with, paying for a private or VIP server decreases the risk of contact from strangers. Even then, however, some players could invite other people – who might not necessarily be child friendly – into the private server. If your child is a Roblox fan, it's important to talk with them regularly about who they are playing the game with.

MONITOR SPENDING

If they don't understand they're using real money, it's easy for children to accidentally spend a sizeable amount in the game. Using parental controls to place limits on their spending will help avoid any nasty financial surprises. Ensuring that you have two-factor authentication on your payment accounts also makes it harder for your child to spend money inadvertently.

DEALING WITH STRANGERS

At some point in their development, your child will need to learn how to deal with strangers online. Show them how to block and report any users who are upsetting them or asking uncomfortable questions. Talking to them about what's OK to discuss – and what they should never tell a stranger online – will help them understand how to communicate with other people online safely.

Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



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Sources: <https://www.theverge.com/2020/7/21/21333433/roblox-over-half-of-us-kids-playing-virtual-parties-fortnite>
<https://corp.roblox.com/parents/>



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



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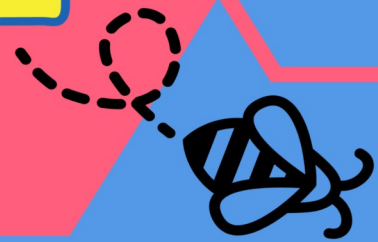
@nationalonlinesafety

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THE HIVE

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