



NEWSLETTER



HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the Spring term 2025. Term has got off to an energetic start at Argyle. On Monday, staff were treated to a thought provoking session on how to develop mathematical knowledge and understanding through Science - led by Ms Jones. The SLT team then guided all staff through our revised Teaching and Learning Policy which aims to be a really practical guide that supports teachers and TA's to apply evidence informed practice when planning and delivering their lessons. Finally, I shared current research on the decline in reading for pleasure (in children and adults under the age of 30) identified by the National Literacy Trust in their 2024 report and shared with staff a new resource that we have invested in to support our children to stay excited about reading. Read all about The Reading Roadmap in this newsletter. This was all before the children returned on Tuesday! Read on to find out more about what our Argyle stars have been learning about this week.

J. Wade

Head Teacher

Reading Road Map

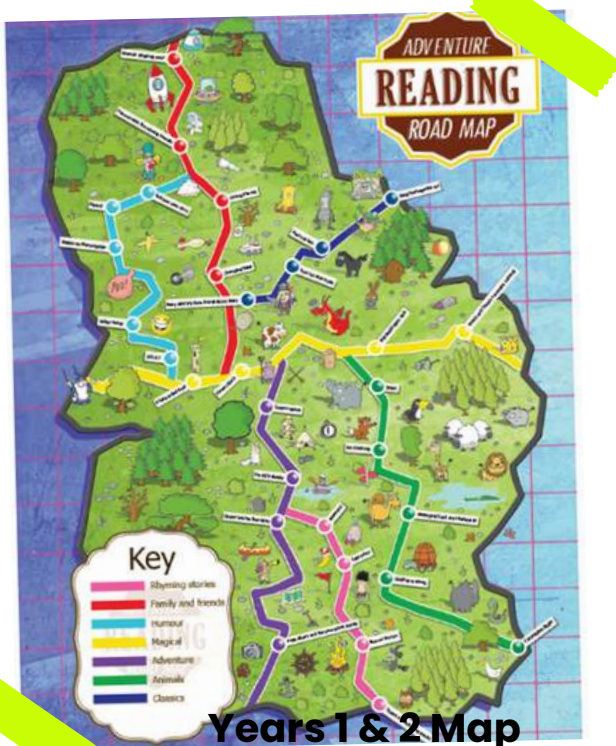
WE ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT DEVELOPING READING FOR PLEASURE

Evidence shows that children who love reading go on to have better life chances and improved mental health compared to those who do not enjoy reading.

As a school we want to do all that we can to encourage children to pick up a book and read. Therefore we have invested in the **Reading Road Map** (Years 1 -6). This week your children will have been given a special map with a selection of carefully chosen books that cover a range of genres including classics, poetry, graphic novels and humorous books.

How it works?

Each time your child completes a book they will be given a sticker and they can choose another book of the same genre or explore a different genre to see which they prefer.



Years 1 & 2 Map



Children will receive bronze, silver, gold and platinum certificates once they have read a specific number of books from the road map.

What can you do to help?

Talk to your child about books they have read. Did they enjoy them? Encourage them to try different genres. Most importantly show your child that you are a reader too. Tell them about books that you have enjoyed reading and celebrate a love of reading together.



Reading Road Map

How do they get a certificate?

Here is how your child can earn certificates:

Years 1 & 2

- Bronze certificate = 5 books
- Silver certificate = 10 books
- Gold certificate = 15 books
- Platinum certificate = 20 books

Years 3 & 4

- Bronze certificate = 5 books
- Silver certificate = 10 books
- Gold certificate = 15 books
- Platinum certificate = 25 books

Years 5 & 6

- Bronze certificate = 5 books
- Silver certificate = 10 books
- Gold certificate = 15 books
- Platinum certificate = 25 books



Years 3 & 4 Map



Years 5 & 6 Map



Ms Jones shares her travels to Cuba



In the half term of October–November last year, I was lucky enough to be part of a National Education Union delegation visiting schools and other education centres in Cuba. This week, I shared my experiences with the children in Key Stage 2 to tie in with our new value of empathy. The children shared their understanding of empathy: we can help and understand one another; we can be respectful of difference and try to step into one another's shoes.

I shared how our visit to Cuba had been an opportunity to help where it was needed but also a great opportunity for learning. We arrived in the days following a major hurricane and nationwide blackouts lasting 4 days, in a country that has also suffered for many years from a blockade that stops it getting much needed resources. We filled our suitcases with school supplies, including 15 Braille machines and 17 violins. Despite the hardships it has endured, each of Cuba's 16 provinces has a specialist school for the visually impaired and one for children talented in music and dance. Those schools showed their appreciation by opening their doors to us and treating us to some stunning performances. When looking at the children's work, there was so much to admire: beautiful handwriting from even the youngest children; they also took great care of their resources, made their own pen pots and grew some of their own food.

One visit that lingered with all of us was the time we spent in the Literacy Museum, which told the story of the campaign to end illiteracy. Teachers as young as eight years old went out to teach members of the farming communities how to read. Those children are now grown up but the memories of that experience linger on with all those who took part. Today, Cuba still has the fifth highest level of literacy in the world and shares its expertise with many other countries.

It really was an amazing opportunity and we will continue to learn from one another by writing to children in two of the schools that I visited.

Ms Jones, Year 5 teacher and leader of Science

Ms Jones



Year 4

This week, Year 4 had the opportunity to visit a Hindu temple as part of our Religious Education studies on Mandirs. The children were thrilled to step inside and experience this vibrant place of worship first hand.

During the visit, we were fortunate to observe a prayer session, where the atmosphere was both peaceful and inspiring. The children marvelled at the stunning architecture, intricate carvings, and colourful statues, gaining a deeper appreciation for the beauty and meaning behind the temple's design.

This enriching trip brought our learning to life, sparking curiosity and fostering a deeper understanding of Hinduism and its traditions. A huge thank you to the temple staff for their warm welcome and to all the parents and teachers who helped make this trip possible.

"I've found the elephant God Ganesh, I recognise the statue from what we've learnt in school" - Yameen

"My favourite part of the trip was seeing the golden statue outside, it was enormous." - Ilyas

"I couldn't believe, it only took them 3 years to build this entire place. That is so amazing"- Tasmia



YEAR 1

We've had a fantastic time exploring exciting topics in Year 1! This week the children have been learning new topics in Science, Geography and English.

Science

The children have been learning about the human body. They worked together to trace one of their peers and had great fun labelling the different parts of the body. This hands-on activity helped deepen their understanding of the body's structure and its various parts.

Geography

In Geography, the children explored the four flags of the United Kingdom and enjoyed learning about their unique features. They also played a lively game of bingo, identifying physical features from different landscapes such as farms, zebra crossings, and roads. This was a great way to link geography to everyday life!

English

We've started learning the delightful story of 'The Papaya Who Spoke'. The children were thrilled to watch their teachers from Jade and Ruby classes bring the story to life through a fun and engaging performance. It was a memorable moment that captured their imaginations and inspired their storytelling skills.





RECEPTION



We hope you had a wonderful holiday season. On Tuesday, the children returned to school full of excitement, ready to share stories about their holidays and to welcome three new friends to our Reception class. It was heart warming to see their kindness and enthusiasm as they helped the new children settle in.

This term is set to be an exciting and enriching time for everyone. One highlight we are looking forward to is our upcoming trip to the Natural History Museum, where the children will dive into the fascinating world of dinosaurs! Information about the trip will be on our class channel on Parenthub soon.

This week, the focus in class has been on the story of The Gingerbread Man. The children have been thoroughly engaged, exploring the tale through storytelling and hands-on activities. They particularly enjoyed making their own gingerbread biscuits, where they practiced important skills such as measuring, mixing, and rolling dough. It's been a fantastic start to the term, full of creativity and learning!

We look forward to sharing more of the children's achievements with you as the term progresses.



NURSERY



This week we started off the Spring term by welcoming our new January starter children into nursery. All the children have enjoyed making new friends, and we all had great fun starting off our new topic for this half term: Transport.

We read the book (in fact we 'sang' the book), "Car, car, truck, jeep", by Charman and Sharratt, 2018, along the the tune of 'Baa, baa, black sheep' and learnt about lots of different types of transport. We found out that transport can go on the ground, in the air or in/on water. Nihal said, "air balloon goes so high up!", Abdur said, "boat goes on water. Fish are in there".

In phonics the children learnt about the 'd' sound and words beginning with 'd', such as, dog, donut, door, doll, dolphin and duck. We learnt that Abdur has the 'd' sound in the middle of his name. The children all had a go at writing the letter 'd'.

On Thursday we were lucky enough to have a visit from the team at the Foundling Museum. The children learnt that although it is a museum now, the building was previously called the Foundling Hospital, and lots of children lived there (who did not have any parents). The Foundling children did everything at the hospital, including eating, sleeping, and they also wore special clothes. The children thought about what life might've been like for the Foundling children and then decorated their own mittens and played a pattern matching activity.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JANUARY

Monday 13th

Tuition: Catch Up Clubs begin - invited pupils only from 3.15pm - 4.15pm
Tuition: Year 6 Action Tuition begins from 3.30pm - 4.30pm

Tuesday 14th

Trip: 6 Sapphire visit Bletchley Park from 9.30am - 4.20pm
Tuition: Year 5 Richard Reeves from 3.15pm - 4.15pm
After School Clubs: KS1 Cooking (Group 1) from 3.15pm - 4.45pm & Years 4, 5 & 6 Arts and Crafts from 3.15pm - 4.15pm.
Trip: Selected pupils from Year 6 attend Football Tournament at Somers Town Sports Centre from 3.15pm - 5.15pm

Wednesday 15th

Tuition: Year 5 Action Tuition begins from 3.30pm - 4.30pm
After School Clubs: Years 1, 2 & 3 Football from 3.15pm - 4.15pm.

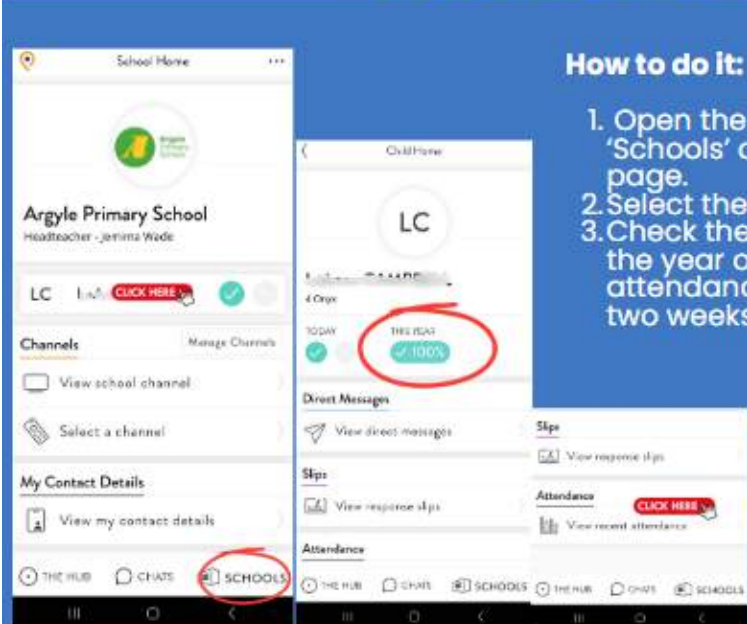
Thursday 16th

Tuition: Year 6 Richard Reeves from 3.15pm - 4.15pm
After School Clubs: KS2 Cooking (Group 1) from 3.15pm - 4.45pm & Years 1, 2 & 3 Arts and Crafts from 3.15pm - 4.15pm.

Friday 17th

Event: Special Coffee Morning from 8.50am - 9.50am in FLC
After School Clubs: Years 4, 5 & 6 Football from 3.15pm - 4.15pm

Keep an eye on your child's attendance via Parenthub!



The image shows two screenshots of the Parenthub app. The left screenshot displays the 'School Home' page for Argyle Primary School, with the 'SCHOOLS' tab highlighted in red at the bottom. The right screenshot shows the 'Child Home' page for a child named LC, with the '100%' attendance for 'THIS YEAR' circled in red. A 'CLICK HERE' button is visible next to the attendance percentage.

How to do it:

1. Open the App, click on 'Schools' at the bottom of the page.
2. Select the name of your child.
3. Check their attendance for the year or click on attendance to see the last two weeks of attendance.

be in school...
ON TIME
all day
EVERY DAY

Attendance & Punctuality



Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Rec: Jet	84						
1 Jade	89						
1 Ruby	97						
2 Amber	98						
2 Opal	94						
3 Garnet	90						
3 Pearl	92						
4 Emerald	98						
4 Onyx	90						
5 Amethyst	92						
6 Sapphire	93						
Total	91						
Camden							

Well done to **1 Ruby, 2 Amber and 4 Emerald** for attaining or exceeding the target of **96%** attendance this week.

Overall, attendance this week was a little disappointing so we would like to say a special 'Thank you' to parents who ensured that they were back from their travels in time for the start of the term.

Punctuality

This week **38** of sessions in the registers were marked as 'L' (Late). Pupils should be in their line at **8.40am**, ready to go up to class and be marked into the register at 8.45am when school begins.

Reporting Absences

Parents should report any absences to the school office by calling 02078374590 before 9.30am.

Please do not leave messages on the answering machine. A member of staff may call you again to discuss the absence.

Please do not send emails to the admin inbox.

Every School Day Counts

LEARN ENGLISH FAST AT ARGYLE

EVERY MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY
FROM 9AM – 11AM

THIS CLASS IS OPEN TO ALL ADULT STUDENTS OF ALL LEVELS. YOU WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN ENGLISH FAST AT ARGYLE PRIMARY SCHOOL WITH OTHER STUDENTS.

WE WILL GO ON TRIPS TO LOCAL SITES AND LEARN EVERYDAY VOCABULARY.

WE WILL CONCENTRATE ON SPOKEN ENGLISH, ENGLISH PRONUNCIATION, READING AND WRITING.

WE WILL COVER WHAT STUDENTS WANT TO LEARN!

Come and see Belinda in the Family Learning Centre
at Argyle Primary School to register



BELINDA DRAKE IS A LECTURER EMPLOYED BY WESTMINSTER KINGSWAY COLLEGE



SPECIAL COFFEE MORNING

Join Us for a Special Session!
Partnership for the Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools
(PINS)

PARENT CARERS ENGAGEMENT SESSION



Date: Friday 17th January 2025



Time: 8:50am



Location: Family Learning Centre



Will bring health and education specialists and expert parent carers into our to:

- Help shape whole school SEND provision.



Enjoy a cup of coffee and connect with other parents in a relaxed environment.

We look forward to seeing you there!