

Aldermaston CE Primary School Newsletter

Spring Term (2) 2025 No. 11



We hope you enjoyed the opportunity to find out about all of your children's achievements at our parents' evening appointments this week. Thank you so much for your engagement with learning and the support you provide at home.

Junior Music Festival 2025

On the Monday evening of last week, those attending the Hexagon Theatre would have been lucky enough to see our Kingfishers Class performing in 'A night at the movies', the Junior Music Festival 2025. The class had attended multiple rehearsals, learnt a huge number of lyrics and had worked hard on their performance skills. This annual festival is a great opportunity to work alongside other local schools. We're very grateful to Miss Jenkins and Mrs Waugh who have supported the children throughout their preparation and the event. Well done all!



at



Cross Country Championships 2025

On Tuesday, we took 29 children from Owls, Kingfishers and Starlings Class to the West Berkshire and North Hampshire Cross Country Championships at Newbury Showground. We had put in some regular training in the weeks leading up to this event, but anyone would still feel a little nervous when facing the sheer scale of this competition. There were 1597 children who finished in the four races and they represented 52 local schools. Amazing! Thank you to Mrs Redding and Miss Jenkins and all the very vocal family members who came to support us. We couldn't have been prouder of our determined athletes who ran beautifully and excelled in supporting each other.



Please note a possible diary date if you are the proud parent of a budding athlete. The KS2 Quadkids athletics competition, which usually takes place in May, has been moved to Saturday June 7th.

Story Map Competition

In a Book Week linked event, our Year 6 librarians, Amelia, Cheyanne and Edith, set the whole school a challenge to produce some beautiful story maps showing their understanding of a favourite book or tale and showcasing their artistic skills. Well done to Summer (KS1) and Evie (KS2) who produced the winning entries and won a book token. Well done to everyone who took part for the high quality of their work.

Staying safe and being prepared

This week, the children have demonstrated excellent safe behaviours during an (unplanned fire drill and a (planned) lockdown practice! We are required to practice our fire drill regularly and plan these into the school diary. However, on Monday a little cooking steam gave children the chance to show how well they knew the routines. We also practice a lockdown once a year. This is a calm and relaxed drill and children and staff know when it will take place. Both practices were completed swiftly and in line with expectations.

Learning Heroes – Spring Term (2) 2025

Our Reflector Learning Heroes were celebrated in assembly this morning, receiving their certificate and well deserved applause for the excellent learning skills they have shown this term. Many congratulations to these children who will take pride of place on our celebration board in the reception area.

Wrens	Franklin S	Owls	Mason S
Robins	Mary-Rose C	Kingfishers	Jacob H
		Starlings	Sam E



An eggcellent end to term

Thank you PTA! A generous donation of chocolate eggs has resulted in lots of seasonal fun and smiles as children gratefully received their chocolate treat and many classes participated in a traditional egg hunt.

All you need is music...



We have just enjoyed a superb musical celebration assembly in school this morning organised by our music lead, Mrs Waugh. Each class shared some of their learning from our music curriculum along with a few guest instrumentalists who performed on piano, flute, saxophone and clarinet (thank you Sienna H, Ana, Phoebe, Eden, Sam, Kailesh and Evie). Every child enjoyed the opportunity to perform in front of an audience, with many impressively overcoming stage fright. It also provided a wonderful showcase of how we support children to develop their skills and understanding of music as they move through our school. What a super way to finish a busy term.



Wishing you all a wonderful Easter. We look forward to welcoming the children back on Wednesday 23rd April.

M. Higgs

Mrs M Higgs
Headteacher



NO NUTS STATEMENT

We have a responsibility to provide a safe learning environment for everyone in our school and we take the management of allergies very seriously.

As our school currently has one or more pupils on roll who suffer from a serious nut allergy, we request that parents and carers **DO NOT** send food to school that contains nuts. This includes:-

- All types of nuts
- Spreads and sandwich fillings containing nuts like peanut butter and Nutella
- Cereal and chocolate bars which contain nuts
- Cakes or biscuits which contain nuts

Please check food labels if you are unsure about ingredients.



PLEASE SEE OUR FULL NO NUTS STATEMENT ON OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE

School Attendance Reminder

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to express our thanks for your ongoing support in ensuring your child attends school regularly. We recognise that good attendance is crucial for children to maximise their learning potential and build strong foundations for their future.

As outlined in the DfE's guidance, *Working together to improve school attendance*, regular school attendance is a shared responsibility between the school, parents/carers, and pupils. We understand that occasional absences due to illness are unavoidable, and we appreciate you informing the school promptly when your child is unable to attend. Please remember to provide a clear explanation for any absence.

We would also like to gently remind everyone that holidays during term time should be avoided wherever possible, as these absences disrupt your child's education and may result in a penalty notice. Requests for leave of absence should only be made in exceptional circumstances and in accordance with the school's attendance policy.

We are committed to working in partnership with you to support your child's attendance. If you have any concerns about your child's attendance, or if your child is experiencing difficulties that are affecting their attendance, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here to help and offer support.

Thank you for your continued cooperation in making every school day count.

Mr Gunn

Senior Attendance Champion

ABSENCE = LOST OPPORTUNITY

Did You Know... ?

If Your Child's Attendance During the School Year...	Your Child Would Have Lost Approximately...	or They Would Have Missed Approximately...
was 95%	9 Days from School	50 Lessons
was 90%	19 Days from School	100 Lessons
was 85%	29 Days from School	150 Lessons
was 80%	38 Days from School	200 Lessons
was 75%	48 Days from School	250 Lessons

Getting Your Child to School Really Matters

School News

REMINDERS

ACCESS TO SCHOOL BUILDING

Please note that at all times there should be **NO PARENTS** in the school building without having first signed in through the office and obtained a visitor badge. Thank you.



WALKING ON SCHOOL WALL AT FRONT OF SCHOOL

Please could we remind you **NOT TO ALLOW** your children to walk on the small wall at the front of the school.

NO Smoking or vaping on School Grounds



Our school site is a no smoking zone and we therefore ask all parents to NOT smoke or vape within the school grounds. Thank you.

Car Park

Please be considerate when parking in our school grounds to drop off and collect your child. The spaces on the left hand side of the drive are meant to be used for people who can drop off or pick their child/children up quickly, rather than for those needing to wait for a long time. If you need to wait, please park in the spaces to the right of the main drive or in the spaces in front of the field to the left of the main school building as you come into the entrance gate. Thank you.

Use of Playground Equipment

We would ask that **NO CHILDREN** are allowed to play on the school equipment in and around the playground. These areas are for use by the children during school time only and should **NOT BE USED** by children before school or after school. Our insurance only covers the use of this equipment with supervision by staff, who are trained in the correct use of the play equipment and we would not want any harm to come to the children without the correct supervision. Thank you.

EVENTS THIS TERM

Friday 4th April

3:25pm.....END OF PUPIL TERM

Wednesday 23rd April

08:55am.....ALL PUPILS RETURN TO SCHOOL

Monday 12th May to Thursday 15th May

All week.....KS2 SATS

Friday 23rd May

3:25pm.....END OF PUPIL TERM

Monday 2nd June

08:55am.....ALL PUPILS RETURN TO SCHOOL

Saturday 7th June

TBC.....Quadkids

Friday 20th June

9am to 10:30am.....Family Learning Morning

Tuesday 15th July

9:30am.....End of Year Service at St Mary's led by Kingfishers

Tuesday 22nd July

3:25pm.....END OF PUPIL TERM

Please see our online diary for more dates at:-
<https://aldermaston.w-berks.sch.uk/calendar>

TERM DATES 2024

Spring Term 2025

First Day of Term 3	Monday 6th January 2025
Last Day of Term 3	Friday 14th February 2025
Half Term—no school	Monday 17th to Friday 21st February 2025
First Day of Term 4	Monday 24th February 2025
Last Day of Term 4	Friday 4th April 2025

Summer Term 2025

First Day of Term 5	Wednesday 23rd April 2025
Last Day of Term 5	Friday 23rd May 2025
Half Term—no school	Monday 26th to Friday 30th May 2025
First Day of Term 6	Monday 2nd June 2025
Last Day of Term 6	Tuesday 22nd July 2025



CONTACT DETAILS

Tel: 0118 971 3362
Text: 0118 324 0216
E-mail: enquiries@aldermaston.w-berks.sch.uk