

Aldermaston CE Primary School Newsletter



Summer Term (1) 2025 No 12.

We've had a lovely start to Summer Term (1).

Our value for this term is 'Perseverance' with lots of opportunities for children to think about how they can show perseverance in their learning. The learning hero is the Manager Octopus who helps the children to be organised, responsible and ready for a challenge. We will also be looking at the British value about the rule of law. This is such a good topic to discuss with your children. It's really important for them to understand why we have rules and why some of these are so important that they are made into laws.



What a difference a PTA DIY Day makes!

A huge **thank you** to everyone in our community who took part in the PTA DIY day last Sunday. We were blessed with warm and sunny weather as an industrious team of volunteers worked across our school site to garden, clean, repair and repaint. The school looks fantastic and the children are so excited by the improvements - especially the rather splendid new mud kitchen. What a wonderful team effort by our lovely Aldermaston community.



Getting ready for statutory checks and assessments

Summer Term is the season for statutory checks and assessments – Year 1 phonics check, Year 4 times table check and the Y6 KS2 SATS. Our teachers work hard to ensure that they meet the right balance of preparing children for these events without making them feel anxious and we really appreciate your support with this too. It's helpful to remember that children all around the country will be sharing the experience of these assessments. Many of our children really enjoy the challenge of assessments and the chance to show what they can remember. Every child is different. Please do talk to your child's class teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

World Art Day celebrations

World Art Day takes place on 15th April every year, which is believed to be the birthday of Leonardo da Vinci. The aim of the day is to encourage creativity, teach people about different artists and share a love for art across the world. People use this special day to create and celebrate all types of art work.

As the 15th of April was during the Easter holidays, we held our first Aldermaston World Art Day celebration on Monday 28th April. All classes took part and completed a range of art activities using different media and inspired by different famous artists. Each class enjoyed a special session led by local artist, Nadia Butt. There were cross curricular links to computing and science and the children are rightly proud of their beautiful creations. We are looking forward to seeing many of you today at our exhibition of their work after school. Many thanks to Miss Jenkins for all her work in organising this brilliant event.



VE Day

On Thursday 8th May, it will be the 80th anniversary of VE Day. This marks eight decades since the end of the Second World War in Europe. In school, these types of events provide us with fantastic opportunities to remind children about the experiences of previous generations and the personal stories of those who lived through these times.

I know many in our local area will enjoy taking part in the shared moment of celebration planned for our Aldermaston community on Thursday evening. The commemoration event will begin at the Lychgate at 5.30pm and includes a service at St Mary's Church.

Wishing you a wonderful bank holiday weekend. Hopefully the weather will continue to be kind to us!

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.



**No nuts in
this area due
to allergies**

PLEASE SEE OUR FULL NO NUTS STATEMENT ON OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE

Lost Property

We are currently sorting through our lost property bin and most of the items in there are unnamed. Can you please make sure that you clearly label your child's clothing so we can reunite them. Any unnamed and unclaimed items will be donated to the PTA's second hand uniform sales.

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

Book Week Review by Mrs Ebrey.

#bookweekatAldermaston 2025

"The best Book Week in my time at Aldermaston!" *Year 6 pupil*

In numbers....

37 people came to the costume swap on World Book Day

We gave out more than 160 book caching passports

30 book caches have made it back to the library in one piece!

78 people came to Storytelling Evening

16 staff/volunteers read a story as the Masked Reader

We made enough afternoon tea for 140 people

We were featured in two newspapers (the Penny Post and the Newbury Weekly News)

We raised £192 at the Book and Doughnut Sale!

The children:

Feedback from the children was overwhelmingly positive across the school. They said how exciting it is to have a curriculum week and how much they love it when their teachers get stuck in to the activities. They love doing practical activities and they love involving their families in their learning. Their favourite events were dressing up day; the Masked Reader; book caching and cooking in school.

"I loved all of it. Book caching was so fun!" *Year 4 pupil*

"I liked my costume and I got the book that I was at the book sale." *Year 3 pupil*

"I liked story telling evening because it was all my family in school." *Year 6 pupil*

"The Masked Reader was so funny! We all played it every night." *Year 5 pupil*

The parents:

Parents (and grandparents!) were pretty unanimous that Book Week is fun and useful. A whopping 25 families responded to the survey sent out (thank you!) and provided some really valuable insights. You liked dressing up, Book Caching and the Masked Reader best this year.

"Such a lot of care and effort went into Book Week and it really shows."

"Book Caching was amazing – the children were so excited to read the books."

"The infectious energy it creates around school is so enjoyable!"

"Brilliant for both child and family."

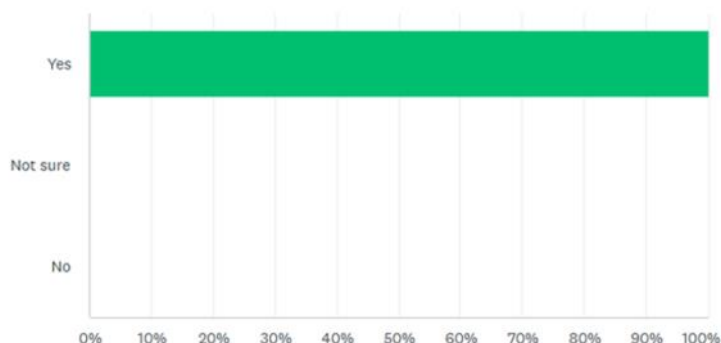
"As a reception parent, I'm so impressed with the effort the school has gone to."

The staff, governors and volunteers:

These were particular heroes this Book Week, with an amazingly high staff, governor and volunteer presence at extra activities. Adults in school enjoyed storytelling evening, cooking and the Masked Reader. Lots of them took time out of their weekend to go book caching or to share a story at storytelling evening. They recognised pretty much unanimously the value of Book Week in engaging children with reading. Given such high levels of commitment, dedication and professionalism (which we absolutely should not take for granted!) it was genuinely lovely that this was the response to the final survey question:

"I enjoyed Book Week this year."

Answered: 19 Skipped: 0



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 2nd May

3:15pm.....Children's Art Exhibition school hall

Wednesday 7th May

15:45pm.....Tri-Golf Multiskills—Theale Green

Friday 9th May

AM.....Owls trip to Kennet & Avon Canal

Tuesday 13th May

AM.....Kingfishers trip to Greenham Base

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

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TERM DATES 2024

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

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