

Aldermaston CE Primary School Newsletter



Summer Term (2) 2025 No 14.

It's hard to believe that we are already in the final term of the school year. This is an exciting term with lots of amazing events to look forward to.

Summer Term (1) Learning Heroes

Many congratulations to our Summer Term 1 learning heroes who inspired their classes with super learning skills and behaviours. These Managers are organised, ready and welcome a challenge. Well done.

Wrens	Mavis	Owls	Bonnie
Robins	Eirini	Kingfishers	Amelie
		Starlings	Kailesh

Road Safety Survey

If you haven't done so already, please do complete the Parish Council road traffic survey. It's so important for us to work together to support the campaign for improved road safety in the local area.

<https://forms.gle/zyENXhcB6cRsFQnY7>

If you prefer, the QR code for this survey is also available on the school website under the news section.

Poet in residence

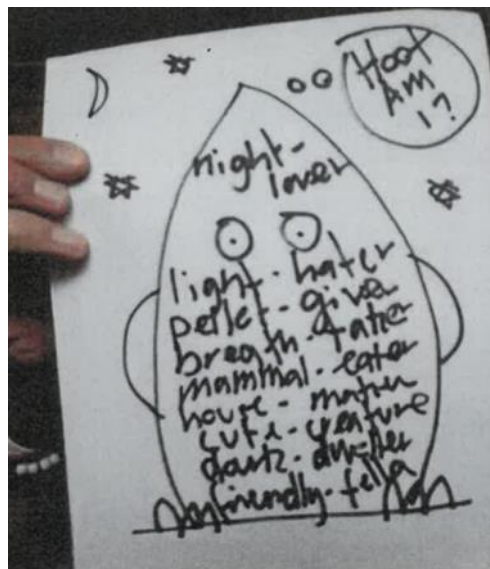
This week our Owls Class spent a bit of time with the poet James Carter who led a virtual workshop which was described as a 'complete hoot'. The class were focusing on writing their own kennings – these are poems like riddles which describe something without ever saying what it is. We were delighted when James Carter wrote a kenning just for our Owls!

In a few weeks, the whole school will meet James in person when he visits for a whole school assembly. Thanks to Mrs Ebrey for arranging these events.

Whoo-T AM I?

Night lover
Light hater
Pellet giver
Breath taker
Mammal eater
House maker
Cute creature
Dark dweller
Friendly fella

Of all the predators
I'm the best!
I'm a ... Shhhhh!
Had you guessed?



Earrings

As a couple of parents have had questions about wearing earrings for school sports, we have taken further advice from the local authority Health and Safety team.

Children are allowed to wear plain stud earrings to school. However, for PE lessons and school sports events we ask that children remove their earrings. This is in line with guidance offered by the Association of Physical Education who 'strongly recommends the practice of removing all personal effects at the commencement of every lesson to establish a safe working environment. This applies to ear piercings.' Children must be able to take out and put in their own earrings. Staff cannot assist with this. Neither can staff tape up children's ears.

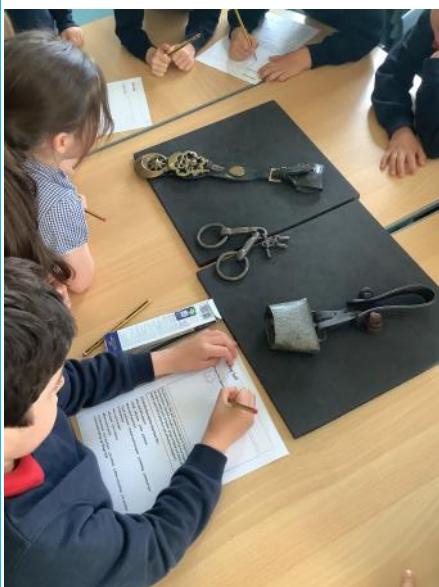
This rule is to protect the children from injury. Children who cannot take part in the physical elements of a PE lesson, will still access the lessons in an adapted way, e.g. written tasks. Please do talk to your child's class teacher if you need to explore this further. In very limited short-term situations, we may be able to put in additional measures to support inclusion in PE lessons. However, this isn't an entitlement and the school's decision about taking part will be final.

Staff news

I'm sad to report that at the end of the summer term, Mr Gunn will be moving on to a new role in another local authority school. We are so grateful for everything he has contributed to our school since he joined us as Deputy Headteacher in January 2021. He has played a substantial role in many of our school successes and will be greatly missed by children and staff alike. I am sure you will join me in congratulating him and wishing him all the best for the future.

Sports Day – 4th July

We are looking forward to our annual sports day. Unfortunately, this year the date of our sports day clashes with the second Willink transition day. To support families where Year 6 children would like to attend both events, we have taken the decision to move our Sports Day to the afternoon. We apologise if this causes you any inconvenience but want to support as many children as possible to take part in Sports Day in front of their family and friends. We will still have our family picnic lunch and will run the races afterwards over the course of the afternoon. We will send out more specific timings closer to the actual day.



Museum of English Rural Life workshops

Today we have welcomed Philippa and Maisy to run some class workshops about the rich history and community experiences of our Gypsy, Romany and Traveller communities. This is part of an outreach programme run by the Museum of English Rural Life. They brought with them a treasure trove of artefacts from the museum's collection for the children to explore. The children were fascinated by these sources of historical evidence and the care taken to preserve them for future generations. It was lovely to hear them explaining to me why the adults wore gloves when they handled the artefacts.

Maisy is a PHD student who is writing her thesis on her experiences growing up as a Traveller. She was able to talk to our children about her own personal memories of childhood at home and at school. The children had some super questions and were really able to explore the themes of discrimination and difference and to understand what it means to be part of a Traveller community.



XTrac Gears Workshop

XTRAC is a local company who supply gearboxes for motorsports around the world. We are very fortunate to have been able to book them to run small group workshops today with all of our KS2 children. Every child in Owls, Kingfishers and Starlings will have taken part in a workshop to find out more about the fundamental concepts involved in making and using gears. They discussed real life examples and took part in a collaborative activity working to assemble individual gearboxes guided by STEM ambassadors. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to develop those important STEM skills whilst also understanding how their learning can be applied in the world of work. Many thanks to Mrs Jordan for arranging this opportunity.



Road congestion – advanced notice

Please note, Reverend Jane has advised us that there is a large funeral service planned for St Mary's Church on the afternoon of **Wednesday 11th June**. Traffic congestion is likely around school collection time. Please allow extra time for your journey.

Feathered Friends

Every year, we host some special visitors in our Suggestions Box on the outside of the school building. These little guys clearly enjoy the hustle and bustle of school life and our children are wonderful at respecting their privacy. I'll leave you with this lovely picture taken by one of our parents. We believe that they are a family of great tits.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

M. Higgs

Mrs M Higgs
Headteacher



Owls Class Pentecost– reported by Mrs Ebrey.

Reverend Jane came in to share cake and talk about Pentecost with Owls - we have been learning all about the "birthday of the church" this term. We used one candle to light lots more candles, to remind us about how the Holy Spirit inspired the disciples - very ordinary people - so that they could spread the message of Christianity.



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 WEB-SITE

<https://aldermaston.w-berks.sch.uk/parents/school-dinners/no-nuts-statement>



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 20th June

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

Friday 4th July

PM.....Sports Day and Family Picnic

Monday 7th July

PM.....Summer Performance Dress Rehearsal

Tuesday 8th July

Evening.....Summer Performance

Wednesday 9th July

Evening.....Summer Performance

Tuesday 15th July

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

Friday 18th July

9:15am.....Y6 Leavers Assembly

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>

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.



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

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



SUMMER FETE

FRIDAY 4TH JULY
4pm to 7pm

ALL
WELCOME!!



**ALDERMASTON CE PRIMARY
SCHOOL**

FREE ENTRY

A WONDERFUL EVENT FOR THE WHOLE COMMUNITY!

Inflatable Fun | Fair Games
Food Stalls | Bar | Raffle | Demos
And much more!

See QR code for more info



Charity no. 297701

Or email:
pta@aldermaston.w-berks.sch.uk