

# Aldermaston CE Primary School Newsletter



## Summer Term (2) 2025 No 17.

During our recent interview days, lots of candidates asked the children what their favourite things were about Aldermaston School. It's not a surprise that the trips, visits and enrichment activities we arrange for them frequently featured in their answers. Our last newsletter this year contains lots of examples of Aldermaston enrichment at its best!

### Bournemouth

The Wrens and Robins braved both sharks and piranhas on their recent trip to Bournemouth. Luckily, these were all safely contained in the aquarium along with a huge variety of other beautiful aquatic animals. The children (and adults) were particularly taken with the amazing penguins. We enjoyed learning so much about the fish and animals and their habitats. Our visit to the beach was an opportunity to paddle and picnic and build sandcastles – all in line with the best British seaside traditions including sandy sandwiches and a lovely ice lolly.



### Pilgrimage

Owls Class put on their walking shoes and took part in a pilgrimage to Wasing to finish their RE topic on holy journeys. They walked about a mile and a half each way, zigzagging across fields, farmland and the beautiful Wasing Estate, all the way from school to the pretty church of St Nicholas and back again. Once there, Reverend Katie led a short ten-minute worship session, before the Owls placed a cockle shell on the altar. Cockle shells are associated with pilgrimage, and St Nicholas is the patron saint not only of children, but of secret gift giving.

### Year 6 top up their swimming skills

Year 6 enjoyed a fun session at Basingstoke Aquadrome. It felt like an important part of their end of school activities and time for them to enjoy with their Year 6 friends. However, it also served the serious purpose of revisiting water safety skills and learning to perform a safe self rescue just in time for all of their adventures over the summer holidays.

### Josh Seigal - Poet

Continuing our summer poetry focus, we were visited by the poet Josh Seigal. Another wonderful and creative experience for our children who all enjoyed an assembly with Josh. Year 3, 4 and Year 5 were also treated to a poetry workshop.

### Starlings Class

It's that bittersweet time of year when we recognise that our oldest children are ready to move on to secondary school. Our Leavers Assembly on Friday allowed us to celebrate everything they have contributed to our school. We enjoyed listening to their special memories from their time at Aldermaston and benefited from their advice to our younger children. We were delighted to recognise the following children through our Year 6 awards for excellence in particular areas of school life.

Artist of the year	Edith
English Award	Evie
Musician of the year	Phoebe
Science Award	Rafaela
Sportsperson of the year	Sam
Greatest Improvement Award	Caison
Mathematics Award	Ben

We wish them all the best as they move to secondary school and we look forward to hearing about their many successes in the future.

<b>Wrens</b>	Kimberley	<b>Owls</b>	Frances
<b>Robins</b>	Sam	<b>Kingfishers</b>	Buster
		<b>Starlings</b>	Zoe

### Learning Heroes

Our final Learning Hero for the school year is the Ultimate Learning Hero. This is awarded to a special learner in each classroom. A child who has been recognised as showing the learning skills of all of our heroes. Congratulations to this **super** bunch of children!

### The House Point Cup

This morning, in our final collective worship, we were delighted to present the House Point Cup to Forster House Group with a spectacular 4029 points accumulated during the year. Ana (House Captain) and Benjamin (Deputy House Captain) were proud to hold the cup up to celebrate this momentous victory. Well done to everyone in Forster for their hard work over this year and for the house points they have earned for the red team.



### Ending the term on a high point

We couldn't resist ending the term with a special treat for the children. We welcomed a mobile climbing wall to the playing field to provide the opportunity for children to build on the skills they practised in their Healthy Living Week visits. One of my enduring memories of working here will be the sounds of the children enjoying their time on the climbing wall today and the pride we all feel when we see our children excelling and enjoying challenges.

### Staffing News

You will have seen from letter earlier this week, that there is a super leadership team in place to take up the reigns in September. We have already started the handover process and work will continue over the summer to ensure a smooth handover.

### Wonderful people who make the school community a better place

Time to celebrate some important people.

Our school volunteers – not just hearing readers but allowing us to complete countless offsite visits and other activities in school. These are unpaid heroes with a huge wealth of skills and knowledge which they share with our children every visit. We are very blessed.

PTA – giving up their time to organise school events and fundraising on top of their own busy lives. Their impact on our children is huge – you only need to look to the recent DIY Day and Summer Fair to understand the importance of the work they do.

Governors – Another group of unpaid contributors to our school. They are part of our school leadership team and they ensure that the school vision is implemented through all aspects of school life. They share their individual areas of expertise to benefit our children and are incredibly generous with their time.

Our staff team – every day in every way they go above and beyond expectations to ensure the best for our children and their families, including delivering our amazing visits and visitors. They make a difference to children's lives and I couldn't ask for a more dedicated team. I have been privileged to work with them.

## **Thank You.**

Thank you for all the cards, gifts and kind comments. I wish you and your families a wonderful summer break and all the best for the future. Staff look forward to welcoming the children back on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September.

*M. Higgs*

**Mrs M Higgs**  
**Headteacher**



# 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.

### 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 2025—2026

### Autumn Term 2025

First Day of Term 1	Thursday 4th September 2025
Last Day of Term 1	Thursday 23rd October 2025
Half Term—no school	Friday 24th October to Monday 3rd November 2025
First Day of Term 2	Tuesday 4th November 2025
Last Day of Term 2	Thursday 18th December 2025

### Spring Term 2026

First Day of Term 3	Monday 6th January 2026
Last Day of Term 3	Friday 13th February 2026
Half Term—no school	Monday 16th to Friday 20th February 2026
First Day of Term 4	Monday 23rd February 2026
Last Day of Term 4	Friday 27th March 2026

### Summer Term 2026

First Day of Term 5	Monday 13th April 2026
Last Day of Term 5	Friday 22nd May 2026
Half Term—no school	Monday 25th to Friday 29th May 2026
First Day of Term 6	Monday 1st June 2026
Last Day of Term 6	Tuesday 21st July 2026



## EVENTS THIS TERM

### Thursday 4th of September

8:45am.....START OF PUPIL TERM

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

## CONTACT DETAILS

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