

Aldermaston CE Primary School Newsletter



Autumn Term (2) 2024 No. 6

I'm writing this straight after our traditional whole school sing along of 'On the twelfth day of Christmas.' It was brilliant and hilarious and all the better because we were doing it together and sharing the fun. This newsletter is packed with all the lovely events we've enjoyed in the run up to Christmas. Each event is organised and managed as an extra by our dedicated staff team. Thank you to everyone who has had a hand in the following events and the volunteers who have also provided extra support.

Nativity

There were angels, shepherds, sheep and wonderful singing at our infant Nativity performances as Wrens and Robins retold the story of the first Christmas. Thank you for supporting the children in learning their lines and for coming to see them perform. The children were so excited to have an audience and felt really proud of themselves afterwards.

Christmas lunch

We served (107) Christmas Roast Dinners last Friday. Congratulations to Claire and those who supported her in delivering this incredible feat. The food was very tasty and the Christmas jumpers and festive music were greatly enjoyed by staff and children alike.

An unexpected visitor

Our Wrens and Robins enjoyed an unexpected visit from Father Christmas on Monday. He had lots of important information to share with the children. We saw him checking his lists and reassuring the children that they were on the right one! We heard about his cheeky elves and found out about what he liked to have left out on Christmas Eve. He even made time to give a quick wave to our older children before rushing off back to his sleigh.



Badminton superstars

A group of special sporting heroes were in action last week at an interschool badminton festival. Devon, Jacob, Thomas, Oscar, Bonnie, Christiana, Robyn, Michaela, Maisy, Taylor and Frances played brilliantly to represent our school and were well supported by Mrs Redding, Mrs Waugh and family members. They were fantastic ambassadors for Aldermaston and thoroughly enjoyed the chance to take part in such an exciting sporting event.

Douai Abbey and St Mary's Church services

We are lucky to have lovely opportunities to take part in external events and support our local and wider communities at this time of year. Our Starlings Class represented the school at a Douai Abbey carol service and led our own end of term Advent Service yesterday at St Mary's Church.

We attended Douai Abbey as one of eleven local schools. All schools are encouraged to contribute to the service and our Worship Leaders, Harmony, Amelia and Evie, delivered readings with great maturity. The whole of Year 6 led the congregation in 'We three kings', singing the first verse alone. We were delighted by their respectful attitudes and received some fantastic compliments about how well they represented our school throughout the service.

At our Advent Service yesterday, Year 6 were once again demonstrating their leadership qualities as they guided us in prayer and reflection on the themes of Advent: Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.



Learning Heroes

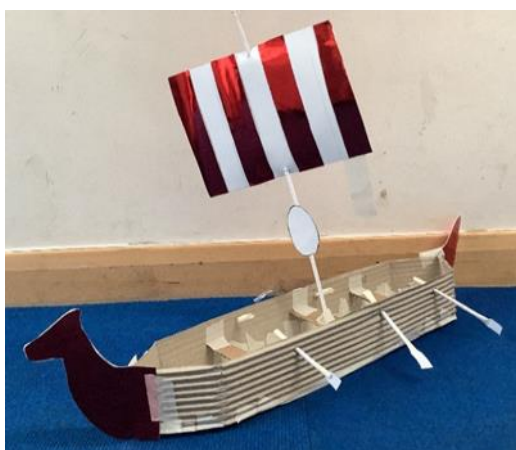
It was my pleasure to recently award the certificates for our Autumn Term (2) learning heroes.

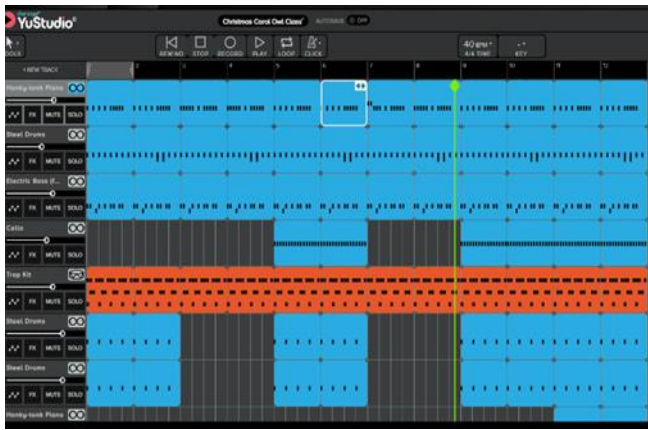
| | | | |
|---------------|--------|--------------------|-------------|
| Wrens | David | Owls | Marni |
| Robins | Edward | Kingfishers | Saphire-May |
| | | Starlings | Zoe |

We are very proud of these children for the successful learning skills they have shown in their classrooms this term. As Thinker Learning Heroes, they have solved problems, used learning and imagination to plan their work and have been able to clearly explain their ideas to others. Well done.

End of term learning

The end of term lessons are often the most exciting and important for our children. In all subjects, classes are finishing their end of unit assessments and completing projects which are key for their understanding and enjoyment. See below for a taster of the work currently being produced by our classes.





Christmas Carol
By Owl Class, Christmas 2024

OWL CLASS Owl Class

♩ = 143

Voice

Christ mas, Christ mas, Hear the sleigh bells ring! Christ mas,

Piano

6

V. Christ mas, Come a long and sing! San ta fills the stock ings, Right up to the

Pno.



Owl Class have been studying the Romans, particularly the invasion of Britain and how the Romans trained their army to be pretty much unbeatable in battle. The Romans beat the Celts at the Battle of Watling Street, despite being outnumbered nearly ten to one, because of their amazing organisation and training.

We designed and made our own Roman shields and had a go at marching in formation. This formation is called the Tortoise. It allows a group to march in formation while using their shields as a team to form a protective "shell" around the whole group which deflected arrows and missiles from the other side. It's a lot harder than it looks!

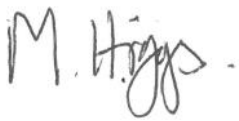
[Reported by Mrs Ebrey]



We look forward to welcoming our children back to school on Monday 6th January. We will be kicking off the new year with our annual Healthy Living Week and have lots of exciting things planned. Please ensure that every child has their PE kit in school from the first day back so that nobody misses out.

On behalf of all staff, thank you so much for the kind words, cards and gifts we receive at Christmas. We are very touched by your thoughtfulness and kindness.

With much gratitude for everyone who contributes to our amazing school community – children, families, volunteers, governors and our wonderful, wonderful staff – I wish you a peaceful and joyous Christmas.



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



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

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

Monday 6th January

08.55.....ALL PUPILS RETURN TO SCHOOL

Monday 6th January to Friday 10th January

All week.....Healthy Living Week

Wednesday 29th January

9am to 10.30am.....Family Learning Morning

Friday 14th February

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

Monday 24th February

08.55.....ALL PUPILS RETURN TO SCHOOL

Monday 3rd March to Friday 7th March

All week.....Year 6 Residential

Tuesday 25th March

9:30am.....Easter Service at St Mary's

Friday 4th April

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 | Wednesday 27th March 2025 |

Summer Term 2025

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| First Day of Term 5 | Monday 15th April 2025 |
| Last Day of Term 5 | Friday 24th May 2025 |
| Half Term—no school | Monday 27th to Friday 31st May 2025 |
| First Day of Term 6 | Monday 3rd June 2025 |
| Last Day of Term 6 | Wednesday 24th July 2025 |



CONTACT DETAILS

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Website: www.aldermaston.org.uk

**ARE YOU
INTERESTED
IN PLAYING
NETBALL?**



COME AND JOIN US at Thunderbirds Netball Club

We run training sessions for school year groups 4 - 10 at Willink Leisure Centre:

Year 4, 5 and 6 - Weekly:
Every Monday, from 4 - 5pm

Year 7 and 8 - Weekly:
Every Monday, from 5 - 6pm

Year 9 - Weekly:
Every Friday, from 4:15 - 5:15pm

Year 9 and 10 - Weekly:
Every Friday, from 5:15 - 6:15pm



If you would like to try out a free session,
please contact either Louise or Sandra.

Louise Ellams Sandra McCarthy
079181 71161 07717 752010



Willink Leisure Centre
Hollybush Lane, Burghfield Common, Reading RG7 3XP