

# Aldermaston CE Primary School Newsletter

## Spring Term (1) 2022 No.2



Dear Parents and Carers

### An Icky Doo Dah Day

Thank you so much to local author Simon Murray for visiting our school yesterday and sharing his talents with our Wrens, Robins and Owls classes.

Simon is the author of 'Icky Doo Dah' - recently read at Reading Café (you can find the video on our reading blog on the school web-site). His books are full of Icky Doo Dah's adventures with lots of fun illustrations. You can see the children in Wrens Class were completely transfixed by Simon's visit and they really enjoyed finding out the secrets of drawing story characters. Across the school, we now have lots of personalised Icky Doo Dah sketches to enjoy.



Thank you for sending in such lovely comments about how much your children enjoyed this event. It's always useful for us to have feedback about the events that children particularly enjoy in school. Let's hope we've inspired another generation of writers and illustrators and have encouraged children to try some new books to read over the half term break. Thank you to Mrs Ebrey for arranging this visit and for all of her work preparing for our annual book week at the start of next term.



### Staying safe online

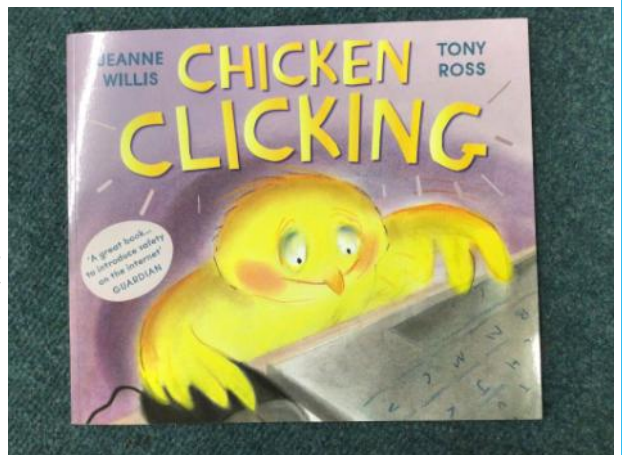
We all know that our children enjoy gaming during their spare time. It can be a great way for them to develop a whole host of skills and enjoy a shared interest with their friends. But we worry about their safety online and how we can take care of their wellbeing.

The theme of safer internet day 2022 was 'All fun and games?' and it encouraged us to think about how children show respect and manage relationships whilst enjoying their time using devices and playing with others through the internet. It's always worth having conversations with your children about the games and websites they are currently playing, why they enjoy them and who they're playing with when they are online.

Every class in the school completed some tailored work on internet safety on safer internet day. Here are some examples of the type of work completed.

Starlings Class demonstrated their excellent knowledge of staying safe online during their internet safety lessons. They have a good understanding of our children's code of conduct and why we have such expectations of how ICT tools are used for learning. With our older children, we often deliver additional lessons in class in response to concerns raised by parents about activities outside of school. We're happy to help support keeping our children safe. Starlings have completed extra work on consent for sharing information and images and how to manage 'chats' on social media when the behavior of others causes them concern.

Wrens Class were able to use an excellent picture book to explore staying safe online in an age appropriate way. Reading 'Chicken Clicking' helped the children understand that people online aren't always who we think they are. In the story it was actually a fox who was pretending to be the chicken's friend! They also talked about how you needed to ask a person's permission to take their photo, as they may not want to do it or for it to be shared with other people. There were lots of excellent discussions!



If you would like to review our code of conduct or need any support in talking about internet safety with your children, please look at our computing curriculum page on the school website.

On the Friday, our whole school assembly was led by our Year 6 'Tech Team' who championed internet safety with their peers. Harry, Jack, Jacob, Jake, Grace and Taylor gave up lots of their spare time to prepare really informative slides about staying safe and answered some challenging questions from their audience. It makes a huge difference to the children in our school to have this information shared by older children as well as by adults and to know there's someone else they can talk to in school if they're worried. We're very proud of our Tech Team!

### **Some unexpected weddings**

Reverend Jane has been officiating at some unusual wedding ceremonies in school. As part of their curriculum, children in Wrens Class have been told the story of the first miracle that Jesus performed at a wedding, where he turned water into wine. The children were really interested in finding out about weddings, particularly as not many of them had been to one. We watched some videos from different faiths including Christian and Hindu. We made tissue paper flowers for bouquets and set up the classroom for a ceremony, making sure that there was an aisle between the seats for the guests. On her visit the following week, we performed a wedding ceremony for Reverend Jane and shared all the facts that we had learned about them. It was so much fun that we have been role playing it all week, taking turns to play different parts and practise our oracy skills.



### **Covid update**

Just a brief note to reassure that levels of Covid in our school community have now dropped significantly. We currently have no confirmed cases which is a lovely position to be in as we start the half term break. We are all expecting an update from the government on Covid measures over the next week and the local authority have set a meeting for schools at the start of next term to update us on changing expectations and requirements.

### **Goodbye and Thank you**

Today, we say goodbye to Glenn, our site controller of just over 9 years. Glenn who has been an invaluable member of the Aldermaston Team has decided to fully retire to be able to travel and spend time with his family. Thank you, Glenn for all that you have done over the years.

I hope the children enjoy a wonderful break over the next week and the forecast of stormy weather doesn't affect your plans too much.

A huge thank you to all of our staff for their work this term. Covid has made this term incredibly challenging and we have experienced significant staff shortages. Their willingness to go the extra mile, usually at the expense of their own work life balance, has allowed us to keep all classes open and to continue delivering our school curriculum as planned.

We look forward to welcoming all our children back on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February.

Yours sincerely

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



### **Contact Us:-**

Tel: 0118 971 3362

Text: 0118 324 0216

E-mail: [enquiries@aldermaston.w-berks.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@aldermaston.w-berks.sch.uk)

# School News

## REMINDERS

### 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.

## TERM DATES 2022

### Spring Term 2022

Spring Break Half Term	Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> to Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> February
<b>Start of Pupil Term</b>	<b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February</b>
End of Pupil Term	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> April

### Summer Term 2022

<b>Start of Pupil Term</b>	<b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April</b>
End of Pupil Half Term	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> May
Summer Break Half Term	Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> May to Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> June
<b>Start of Pupil Term</b>	<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June</b>
End of Pupil Term	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> July

### Autumn Term 2022

<b>Start of Pupil Term</b>	<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September</b>
End of Pupil Half Term	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> October
Summer Break Half Term	Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> to Mon 31 <sup>st</sup> October
<b>Start of Pupil Term</b>	<b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November</b>
End of Pupil Term	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December

### Spring Term 2023

<b>Start of Pupil Term</b>	<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January</b>
End of Pupil Half Term	Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> February
Spring Break Half Term	Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> to Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> February
<b>Start of Pupil Term</b>	<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February</b>
End of Pupil Term	Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> March

## LUNCHTIME CLUBS

### KS1 and KS2 Lunchtime Clubs

We have arranged for a coach from Sports Xtra to come into school two lunchtimes a week to provide Football coaching to children in Years 1 and 2 (KS1) and Years 3 to 6 (KS2).



We also have available one of our PE coaches on a Tuesday lunchtime who will provide Tag Rugby for KS2.

### The clubs on offer are as follows:-

Monday—lunchtime **Football** from 12.30 to 1pm—from Monday 7th March for Years 1 and 2 ONLY.

Tuesday—lunchtime **Tag Rugby** from 12.45 to 1.15pm—from Tuesday 1st March for Years 3 to 6.

Wednesday—lunchtime **Football** from 12.45 to 1.15pm—from Wednesday 2nd March for Years 3 to 6.

**THERE WILL BE NO CHARGE TO PARENTS FOR THESE CLUBS. HOWEVER, NUMBERS ARE LIMITED TO 15 PER CLUB SO PLEASE SIGN YOUR CHILD UP EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT.**

Please see slip at the end of this newsletter.

For more information about events happening in school please check out our website calendar here:-  
<https://aldermaston.w-berks.sch.uk/calendar>

## REGULAR ACTIVITIES IN SCHOOL

### Morning Active Clubs before school

Every Wednesday 8am—Gymnastics Club (Hall)

Every Thursday 8am—Judo Club (Hall)

Every Friday 8am—Street Dance Club (Hall)

**All of these clubs will continue indefinitely**

### \*NEW—LUNCHTIME CLUBS\*

Every Monday from 7th March—Football Club  
Years 1 and 2

Every Tuesday from 1st March—Tag Rugby—Years 3 to 6

Every Wednesday from 2nd March—Football Club  
Years 3, 4, 5 and 6

(See further information and sign up slip later in newsletter)

### After School Clubs

Every Monday—Years 3 to 6 Lego Club (Owls Classroom)

Every Wednesday—Years 3 to 6 Basketball Club (Playground)  
**(last session 30th March)**

### Music Lessons during school time

Every Monday—Guitar

Every Tuesday—Violin/Piano

Every Wednesday—Percussion/Drums

Every Thursday—Woodwind/Piano



# School News

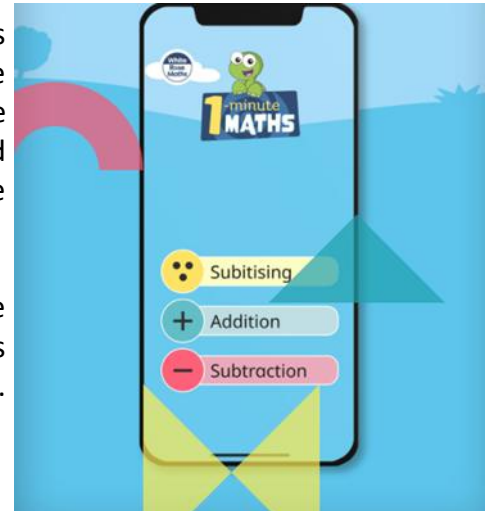
## Maths Curriculum

Needing support and help in Maths in KS1? White Rose, who we use as a basis for our Maths curriculum, have produced a new interactive product that is free to download. It is called 1 - Minute Maths. White Rose Maths state; "our new 1-Minute Maths app helps children build greater number confidence and fluency. It's all about targeted practice in engaging, one-minute chunks!"

It is aimed at KS1, but FS could access it also. The app focuses on the development of key skills: subitising (instant recognition of numbers and number of objects) and addition and subtraction.

See link below:

<https://whiterosemaths.com/resources/1-minute-maths#download>



**The Oaks Childcare**  
Community Interest Company

We are looking for a

## Playworker

to join our fantastic team at our new Afterschool Club  
at **Aldermaston Oaks**  
Working with children aged 4 – 11 years

The key hours are 3.00pm – 6.00pm

The role involves working closely within the team to provide a safe and fun environment for the children in our care

For more information and to get an application form,  
please email Jo at [office@theoakschildcare.co.uk](mailto:office@theoakschildcare.co.uk)

The Oaks is a local, non-profit making childcare organisation.  
We provide excellent term time wraparound childcare for the children of Mortimer St John's Infant School, Mortimer St Mary's Junior School, Silchester Primary School, Aldermaston CofE Primary School and Burghfield St Mary's Primary School.  
We also have our Mini Oaks Preschool, where we offer a fun and caring environment, which delivers engaging education and Forest School opportunities.

Please see our website for more information

[www.theoakschildcare.co.uk](http://www.theoakschildcare.co.uk)

If you need to see a copy of our Job Applicant Privacy Notice this is available on request.

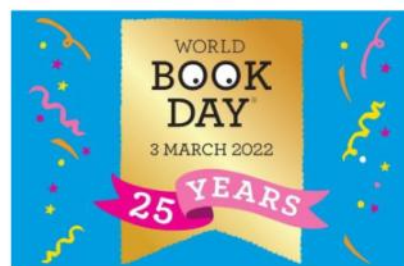


## ALDERMASTON CE PRIMARY SCHOOL



BOOK WEEK 2021

28<sup>th</sup> February – 4<sup>th</sup> March



Book Week at Aldermaston is a highlight of the school calendar, and we are back with a bang this year! We will be spending the whole of the first week back after half term celebrating books and reading – please do get involved!

### BOOKS FOR !

The books for a pound voucher scheme is back and the selection looks better than ever! Your child will receive a voucher which they can exchange in any bookshop in the country, either for one pound off the book of their choice, or for one of these books written specially for World Book Day.



## SHARE A STORY!

Our wonderful local businesses are also getting behind reading! On Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February your child will receive a book of very special vouchers giving them exclusive discounts and freebies at some of our local shops and pubs if they take their reading books in during Book Week. Look out for them, make the most of them and please show our amazing local community some love by spreading the word.



## DRESS UP DAY

Love it? Hate it? Want a list of book characters who legitimately wear school uniform\* or pyjamas\* all day? We warmly invite everyone to dress up as a book character on **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February** (the first day back to school) You can find loads of ideas for simple, no-fuss costumes on our special Book Week blog post on the school website.



\* All the children in Matilda, Malory Towers, St Clare's, the Chalet School, Goodbye Mr Chips, Percy Jackson...

\* The Midnight Gang, the grandparents in Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Tom in the Night Pirates, Max in Where The Wild Things Are, the little boy in The Snowman, Sophie in the BFG.... You're welcome. :D

## THE STORYTIME CLUB!

Storytime  
...Online

We'll be posting a story online every evening at 5pm. We warmly invite you to tune in and snuggle up with a hot chocolate – do send in your photos! Stickers and bookmarks awarded the morning after for everyone who joins the Storytime Club and tells me the password!

## SHELFIE COMPETITION!



Let's celebrate everything we love to read – take a shelfie! Just take a photo of you next to your bookshelf, or holding your favourite books. You can bring your photos into school or, if you're happy to share, post it on the thread on the school's Facebook page with the hashtag #shelfie.

**This is just a taster of what we have planned – there will be loads happening in school, too. Why not check out our World Book Day blog on the school website?**





Find us on  
Facebook &  
Instagram  
@tadleyrfc

# TADLEY TIGERS JUNIOR RUGBY

Come and join Tadley RFC  
thriving Mini/Junior section

- enthusiastic RFU qualified & DBS checked coaches
- coaching and games for girls & boys of all abilities
- family orientated club, great socials, everyone welcome!
- commitment to delivering Kids First Rugby and focusing on the RFU core values

**TEAMWORK  
RESPECT  
ENJOYMENT  
DISCIPLINE  
SPORTSMANSHIP**

Contact Junior Chair: James Illingsworth j.illingsworth@hotmail.co.uk 07778147085



## Lunchtime Clubs—Spring Term (2) 2022

Child's Name ..... Year Group .....

**Please tick the correct choice(s) for your child:-**

### KS1 Clubs—Year 1 and 2

- ☐ My child would like to take part in the **KS1 Football Club** on Monday lunchtimes from Monday 7th March to Monday 4th April 2022.

### KS2 Clubs—Years 3, 4, 5 and 6

- ☐ My child would like to take part in the **KS2 Tag Rugby Club** on Tuesday lunchtimes from Tuesday 1st March to Tuesday 5th April 2022.
- ☐ My child would like to take part in the **KS2 Football Club** on Wednesday lunchtimes from Wednesday 2nd March to Wednesday 6th April 2022.

