

Aldermaston CE Primary School Newsletter



Autumn Term (1) 2022 No.2

Dear Parents and Carers

Children's leadership roles

We were very excited by the quality of application forms from our Year 6 candidates this year. Many gave examples of the leadership skills they demonstrated both in and out of school and some even attached evidence of their suitability for a role. It was not easy to choose between applicants but we are confident that each of the children listed below will bring something very special to their leadership responsibilities. Thank you Starlings



Our new House Captains and Deputy House Captains

House Captains	Deputy House Captains	Collective Worship Leader	Librarian	Eco Warrior	Sports Ambassador	Computing	Photographer
Rocky—Achard	Katherine—Achard	Neveah	Xanthe	Carley	Leila	James	Toby
Ruby—Keyser	Ella—Keyser	Katherine	Orla	Holly W	Finley	Henry	
Everley—Congreve	George S—Congreve	Henry	Lavinia	Faith	Stanley	Mikey	
Millie—Forster	Holly B—Forster		Nevaeh	Levi	Kian	George E	
				Sienna	Tim		
					Maddie		

Our school council elections were also held last week. Congratulations to the appointed School Council for 2022-2023.

Robins	Dhaani and Connie	Kingfishers	Kailash and Joseph
Owls	Stanley and Zoe	Starlings	James and Henry

Before the elections for School Council were held, we talked about them in our whole school collective worship. We reflected on what being a good friend would look like for those who won and lost the election. We wondered how the Conservative Party leader candidates felt while they were going through their party's election process. The children were very sensitive to the need to support those who'd been brave enough to put their names forward but were unsuccessful in the vote. We're very proud of all the children who want to contribute to and support our school in being the best it can be. Thank you.

Family Learning Morning – Online Safety

We had a fantastic morning with our families today looking at how to stay safe online. The children were very happy with the behaviour of everyone who visited their classrooms and they say you can come again!

In all seriousness, the topic was chosen because we know it is so important to you and to our children. Every year, we have at least a couple of occasions when families contact us with concerns about the safety of their children when they are using games or social media platforms outside of school. We're happy to respond to needs within our community and can do one off sessions with classes and groups to support them with staying safe in particular contexts.

We use the Purple Mash platform at school to deliver our computing curriculum. This provides us with a good range of safe computing tools to use with the children to support their learning. Messaging is closely monitored and children

cannot send messages outside of our school. Our IT manager also monitors use of school devices and reports any concerns to class teachers so they can follow up with children and report to families if necessary. We choose to start every school year with a unit of learning on internet safety in every class and we frequently refer to our children's code of conduct to help develop safe and respectful habits.

There are so many great things about the internet and the opportunities for learning, fun and friendship now available to our children are fantastic. However, as parents and carers, it can be hard to keep up with developments and it's important to be aware of how to help children stay safe and manage any worries. There are some useful links available on our website and we are also sending out 'Parenting in a digital world' with this newsletter which we hope you will find helpful. It covers lots of topics and includes sections on digital footprints, self-image and bullying, wellbeing and mental health.

An afternoon with Julia Donaldson and Alex Scheffler

Hopefully, your children can tell you all about their current class book and the author who wrote it. This afternoon, I was lucky enough to pop in to Wrens Class to see them enjoying a live event with Julia Donaldson who is their author this term. Along with the illustrator Axel Scheffler, Julia Donaldson was sharing her new book 'The Baddies'. They also revisited some of our old favourites. It was lovely to see the children singing along to some familiar stories that we've shared in their classroom.

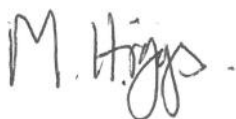
Food for friends – Harvest Collection

From next Monday, we will start our annual Harvest Collection for West Berkshire Food Bank. It is more important than ever for us to support our community and the Food Bank provides essential supplies to local families. To find out what items are urgently needed you can check on the Food Bank website.

<https://westberks.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>.

Any contributions gratefully received.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.



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

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



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



School News

REMINDERS



NO Smoking on School Grounds

Our school site is a no smoking zone and we therefore ask all parents to NOT smoke 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.

Changes to collection at end of day

If your child is being collected by a different adult at the end of the day, please make sure you email the school on enquiries@aldermaston.w-berks.sch.uk or phone the school office to leave a message. We cannot accept this information directly from the children. Thank you.

TERM DATES 2022/2023

Autumn Term 2022

Last day of Term 1	Thursday 20 th October
School Closed to pupils	Friday 21st Oct to Monday 31st October
First day of Term 2	Tuesday 1 st November
Last day of Term 2	Tuesday 20 th December

Spring Term 2023

First day of Term 3	Wednesday 4 th January
Last day of Term 3	Friday 10 th February
School Closed to pupils	Monday 13th to Friday 17th February
First day of Term 4	Monday 20 th February
Last day of Term 4	Thursday 30 th March

CONTACT DETAILS

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

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

After School

Every Tuesday after school—Reading Café (Larks Room)
Every Thursday after school—Netball
(Years 4 to 6 only—Playground)
Every Thursday after school—Football
(Years 3 to 6 only—Field)

Music Lessons during school time

Every Monday—Guitar
Every Tuesday—Violin/Piano
Every Thursday—Woodwind/Piano
Every Friday—Percussion/Drums

EVENTS THIS TERM

Tuesday 4th October

9.30 to 10.30am Harvest Festival Service at St Mary's Church

Wednesday 12th October

5 to 7pm Parents Evening

Thursday 13th October

3.30 to 5.30pm Parents Evening

Thursday 20th October

3.25pm END OF PUPIL HALF TERM

Tuesday 1st November

8.45am ALL PUPILS RETURN TO SCHOOL

Thursday 24th November

AM Creative Klick Individual Photos

Friday 25th November

All day Whole School Flu Immunisations

Wednesday 7th December

1.30 to 5.30pm Whole School Pantomime Trip to the Watermill Theatre "Rapunzel" - **NB LATE RETURN**

Monday 12th December

1.30 to 3pm FS/KS1 Nativity Performance

Tuesday 13th December

9.30 to 10.30am Advent Service at St Mary's Church

Wednesday 14th December

1.30 to 3pm FS/KS1 Nativity Performance

Thursday 15th December

12 to 2pm Christmas Dinner

Tuesday 20th December

3.25pm END OF PUPIL TERM

Wednesday 4th January

8.45am ALL PUPILS RETURN TO SCHOOL

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

SERVICE DATES

Sunday 9th October

10.45am Holy Communion Service at St Mary's Church, Aldermaston

Sunday 16th October

10.45am Harvest Festival Service at St Mary's Church, Aldermaston

CALLING ANY VOLUNTEERS – ALDERMASTON SCHOOL NEEDS YOU!



We are in need of some more Volunteers to help with individual reading/times tables at school. It only has to be for an hour a week, or more if you are able.

Please contact the School Office in person, or email:
enquiries@aldermaston.w-berks.sch.uk

Mrs Miller (Volunteers Coordinator) will be available every day after school in the playground for a chat.

Your help will really be invaluable and we will see our children flourish.

Please note: All Volunteers will have to go through some checks first, including DBS, Volunteers agreement, Safeguarding and references.