

# Aldermaston CE Primary School Newsletter



## Autumn Term (1) 2022 No.4

Dear Parents and Carers

### Termly values and our learning hero

We are starting this term looking at the value of 'Courage'. Our collective worships next week will be linked to remembrance and Armistice Day and we will be observing the two minutes silence in school on Friday. Our Year 6 children will be laying poppy wreaths on behalf of the whole school at the Aldermaston war memorial and remembering the fallen.

In the classroom, children will be working on the super skills of the Thinker Firefly. This hero solves problems and explains their ideas to others. They use their existing knowledge and their imagination to help them with their learning.

Many congratulations to our class learning heroes of Autumn Term (1) who mastered the super powers of the Investigator Dog. They were awarded their certificates in our end of term assembly and their photos are now proudly displayed in our school learning hero area.



<b>Wrens</b>	Orion	<b>Owls</b>	Tom
<b>Robins</b>	Bonnie	<b>Kingfishers</b>	Sienna-Marie
		<b>Starlings</b>	Faith

### Attendance

For Autumn Term (1), whole school attendance was 94.4%. Our school target is 96%. Along with other local schools (and I suspect this is a national trend), we've noted a rise in requests for children to take holidays in term time.

In September this year, the DfE published new guidance for 'improving school attendance'. We have reflected this guidance in our school attendance policy which is available on our website and we are sending it out with this newsletter.

I know that we've had a couple of very unsettled years with lots of additional pressures on family life. However, there's a very clear link between children's academic success and their attendance. Looking at it from a mental health and wellbeing viewpoint, children attending school every day develop confidence and resilience and feel secure in their friendships and the relationships they have with adults at the school. For a worried or anxious child, being absent for key lessons in a unit of work or missing out on fun activities with their friends can make things even more difficult. Learning at school is progressive and each lesson builds on the lessons from the previous day. It becomes increasingly difficult for children to 'catch up' on missed learning and for many, over time, poor attendance can cause significant damage to their education and future life chances.

We monitor attendance figures every half term. If your child's attendance has dropped below 90%, they are classed as a persistent absentee. We will write to let you know that we are concerned about their low attendance and that we may no longer authorise further absences without evidence to support the reason given for each absence. We have termly meetings with the local authority Education Welfare Officer to discuss attendance of children who are persistent absentees and to review whether we can see improvements to their attendance following receipt of an attendance letter.

If there is anything we can do to help a child to overcome barriers to attendance, please let us know. We can put in place personalised support for a child who is having difficulties and look at making referrals for support from external agencies where that would be helpful.

### **Children leading the way!**

It's only the first week back and our pupil leadership teams are hard at work. The House Captains and Deputy House Captains are very proud to be collecting donations for poppies and other Royal British Legion remembrance items to raise money for their Poppy Appeal. You can also see the School Council hard at work on a litter pick which was one of the first suggestions of our newly elected representatives.



I hope you enjoy any bonfire night celebrations you are attending. I understand that the Aldermaston PTA run event at Padworth on this Sunday is going to be particularly amazing and should not be missed! Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

*M. Higgs*

**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](mailto: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 2 Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December

### Spring Term 2023

First day of Term 3 Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January

Last day of Term 3 Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February

**School Closed to pupils Monday 13<sup>th</sup> to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February**

First day of Term 4 Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February

Last day of Term 4 Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March

### Summer Term 2023

First day of Term 5 Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April

## CONTACT DETAILS

Tel: 0118 971 3362

Text: 0118 324 0216

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

Website: [www.aldermaston.org.uk](http://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 8th November

9.30 to 10.30am..... Prospective Parents Open Day

### Tuesday 15th November

9 to 10am ..... Year R Maths Information Session for Parents

### Thursday 24th November

AM ..... Creative Klick Individual Photos

### Monday 28th November

All day ..... Year 34 Trip to Ufton Court—Romans

### Wednesday 7th December

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

### Saturday 10th December

2 to 5pm ..... PTA Christmas Fayre

### 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

7.30pm..... PTA Meeting at The Butt Inn

### Tuesday 20th December

3.25pm..... END OF PUPIL TERM

### Wednesday 4th January

8.45am..... ALL PUPILS RETURN TO SCHOOL

### Monday 9th to Friday 13th January

All Week..... HEALTHY LIVING WEEK ACTIVITIES

### Tuesday 17th January

7.30pm..... PTA Meeting at The Butt Inn

### Wednesday 25th January

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

### Monday 6th February

All day ..... Level 1 Bikeability Training for Year 5

## SERVICE DATES

### Sunday 13th November

10.50am Remembrance Service at St Mary's Church, Aldermaston

# PTA NEWS

## **Fireworks Event - Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November 5pm till 7pm**

**Tickets still available at Aldermaston Stores, The Hinds Head and The Butt Inn  
– CASH ONLY**

We are incredibly pleased to announce that the PTA have organised another Fireworks event at Padworth Village Hall. These have previously been an enormous success with our friends and families and a terrific way of bringing families and the community together.

This event raises a large amount for the PTA which enables us to contribute to the school and help enrich the children's school experience. Please see poster attached for more details.

## **Christmas Events;**

### **Christmas Fete;**

This years Christmas Fete will be held on Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup> December in the School Hall between 2pm and 5pm. There will be an 'Elfridges' Store to enable children to choose small gifts for loved ones, various small businesses selling handmade items, a bar and of course the opportunity to meet the big man himself.

### **Christmas Wreath and Decoration workshop;**

We will be holding a wreath making and decoration workshop on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December between 6.30 and 9.30pm in the school hall. It will be £10 for the decoration making and £25 for the wreath making, for this price we will supply the items needed but you are welcome to bring any extras that you wish to be added.. Tickets for this event will be limited so please book in early to avoid disappointment.

Spaces can be secured by emailing [pta@aldermaston.w-berks.sch.uk](mailto:pta@aldermaston.w-berks.sch.uk) a deposit of £10 will be required.

## **Future PTA meeting dates;**

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm at The Butt Inn, Aldermaston.

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January @ 7.30pm at The Butt Inn, Aldermaston.

Please do come along, our meetings are always informal and are a great way of meeting some other parents of children. Don't panic we won't ask you to sign away all your free time 😊

## New way to raise funds for the PTA...

The PTA are now using a great website called [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) to help raise money for Aldermaston Parent Teacher Association (PTA) - simply by shopping online.

[www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) turns your everyday online shopping into FREE donations when you use them to shop with over 6,000 retailers such as eBay, John Lewis & Partners, Argos, ASOS and Booking.com.

Retailers then make a small donation to say 'thank you' and easyfundraising gives those free funds to the PTA.

Please register using this link – just click sign up -

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?char=284560&invite=b3xedg&referral-campaign=c2s>

They also have an app if you would prefer to use that, just search for easyfundraising.

Plus, once you have signed up and raised £5 in donations, easyfundraising will give us an extra £5 donation.

There is no catch or hidden charges and Aldermaston Parent Teacher Association (PTA) will be grateful for your donations.



[pta@aldermaston.w-berks.sch.uk](mailto:pta@aldermaston.w-berks.sch.uk)

*Facebook - Aldermaston P.T.A*

Aldermaston C of E Primary School PTA presents

# FIREWORKS DISPLAY!

BY

**Double British Firework Champions -**

**Illusion Fireworks!**

Sunday 6th November at

Padworth Village Hall

Advanced Tickets - CASH ONLY

(until 4/11/22):

Adult - £8

Children - £3

Family 2A & 3C - £20

On the Gate:

Adult - £10

Child - £5

Family 2A & 3C - £25

Age 0-3 - FOC

- Licensed bar
- Hot Food
- Stalls
- Card payment available

GATES OPEN  
5PM



**\*No Sparklers please\***

Tickets available from:

The Hinds Head

The Butt Inn

Aldermaston Stores

Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Wasing Lane, Aldermaston, Berks, RG7 4LX.

Registered Charity No 297701