

Aldermaston CE Primary School Newsletter



Spring Term (1) 2023 No. 2

Dear Parents and Carers

Family learning morning

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend our recent family learning morning. The children and staff really enjoyed having over fifty visitors join them in their classrooms to experience a lesson on writing. We chose the focus of writing as this is one of our school development plan priorities this year. I hope the experience helped you to see how expectations of writing develop as the children move through the school. We have one more family learning morning booked in the diary for 23rd June. We have already had few suggestions about which subjects you would like to take part in next time. If there's something you'd really like to see, drop us a line.

KS2 trip to the story museum

We were delighted to take the children on a brilliant visit to the Oxford Story Museum thanks to the generosity of our parents. The museum is wonderful. Ask your children about the story telling woods and the galleries of favourite children's stories!

The children enjoyed fantastic workshops to help them with their own story writing. There was lots of teamwork, collaboration and creativity and the children's ideas were very impressive.

After lunch, the children were led on an inspiring walk around the historical (and sometimes surprising) landmarks of Oxford. They found out one or two secrets about this ancient city.

We were very proud of the children's exemplary behaviour throughout the day which was commented on by the staff at the museum.

Wrens and Robins are looking forward to their trip to the Story Museum. None of this would have been possible without lots of work behind the scenes by Mrs Ebrey and the whole staff team and our volunteers who worked tirelessly to ensure the trip went ahead. Thank you to everyone who made this possible. See pictures on the next page.

Safer internet day 2023

Today, our Year 6 Tech Team led an assembly for the whole school on Safer Internet Day. Well done to Henry, Mikey, George and James who did a fantastic job in reminding the school about how to use the internet and digital tools safely. It is really powerful for the children to hear these messages from other children.

We are very lucky to have lots of digital tools and learning platforms in use at our school. Our children are growing up with access to a whole world of learning (and fun) available through using the internet. Every class has had an extra lesson on internet safety this week just to ensure that the children are reminded about how to stay safe while making the most of all the internet and developing their computing skills. Please do continue these conversations with your children at home so you can guide and advise them and help them to navigate safely through their screen time. If you would like more information about internet safety, there are links available on our computing curriculum page.

It's hard to believe that we're now half way through the school year. Thanks to everyone supporting our children and our wider school community, particularly our wonderful staff and our PTA (who host a great disco).

I hope you are all able to enjoy some time with your children over half term.

Mrs M Higgs
Headteacher



Aldermaston School Hall for Hire

Our school hall is available for hire during some holiday periods, weekends and evenings for any activities you may need a venue for.

Do you have a birthday party, family party, social event or any other event you may be holding that requires the use of a hall. Our school hall leads on to a decking area with sun awnings with outside lighting and a large field which can be used for all parties hiring the hall, free of charge.

At a small additional cost, we can also offer the use of our kitchen space to provide room for making drinks and offering food which you have prepared offsite.

If you would like to hire the school hall, please check our website link here: <https://aldermaston.w-berks.sch.uk/community/hire-of-hall> and contact us at enquiries@aldermaston.w-berks.sch.uk for further information.



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

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. This has loose coping stones and could cause injuries.

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.

TERM DATES 2023

Spring Term 2023

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

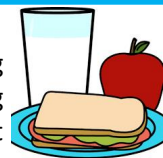
Summer Term 2023

First day of Term 5	Monday 17 th April
May Day Holiday	Monday 1st May—SCHOOL CLOSED
Coronation Holiday	Monday 8th May—SCHOOL CLOSED
Last day of Term 5	Friday 26 th May
School Closed to pupils	Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June
First day of Term 6	Monday 5 th June
End of Pupil Term	Thursday 20 th July

ADVANCE NOTICE

School Lunch Price Increase

We have been informed by our catering company, Dolce, that they will be increasing individual meal prices for children from 1st April 2023 to £2.60 per day.



REGULAR ACTIVITIES IN SCHOOL

Morning Active Clubs before school

Every Tuesday 8am—Mini Fencing (Hall)
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—Football (Years 3 to 6 only—Field)
Every Thursday after school—Netball (Years 4 to 6 only—Playground)

Netball and Football finish on Thursday 23rd March

Music Lessons during school time

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

EVENTS THIS TERM

Monday 13th to Friday 17th February

HALF TERM HOLIDAYS—SCHOOL CLOSED TO ALL PUPILS

Monday 20th February

8.55am All pupils return to school

Wednesday 22nd February

10.45am to 3.45pm Years R, 1 and 2 Trip to the Story Museum, Oxford

Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd February

All day Level 2 Bikeability Training for Year 6

Monday 6th to Friday 10th March

YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL TO ABERNANT, MANOR ADVENTURE

Tuesday 21st to Monday 27th March 2023

3.30 to 4pm Travelling Book Fair

Wednesday 22nd March

9am PTA Rags 2 Riches Clothing Collection

Tuesday 28th March

9.30 to 10.30am Easter Service at St Mary's Church, Aldermaston

Thursday 30th March

3.25pm END OF PUPIL TERM

Friday 31st March to Sunday 16th April

EASTER HOLIDAYS—SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS

Monday 17th April

8.55am All pupils return to school

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

CONTACT DETAILS

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Website: www.aldermaston.org.uk



ALDERMASTON CE PRIMARY
SCHOOL



BOOK WEEK 2023

27th February – 3rd March

WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

2 MARCH 2023

Book Week at Aldermaston is a highlight of the school calendar, and we are back with a bang this year! Here's how you can get involved!

BOOK CACHING!

When? From Saturday 25th February to Sunday 5th March

Who? Everybody!

Where? All over the place!

Grab your boots and your camera and go book hunting! Your child will receive their special Aldermaston Book Caching passport and map on Friday 24th February, directing you to “book caches” hidden all over Aldermaston and the wider area. Enjoy a walk and see how many you can find and sign! We'd love to hear about your adventures and see your photos (a few photos from 2020 below, which was the last time we went book caching!)



DRESS UP DAY

When? Monday 27th February, all day

Who? Everybody!

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** to kick off Book Week. 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

BOOKS FOR

The books for a pound voucher scheme is back and the selection looks better than ever! During Book Week, 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. You'll be able to check out all this year's books in the library.



READING CAFÉ SPECIAL – BEDTIME STORY!

When? Tuesday 28th February 6:00 – 6:45 PM

Where? Larks Room.

Who? Everybody!

For this week only, Reading Café will move from our afterschool slot to an evening slot so that we can enjoy sharing some bedtime stories together. Bring the whole family and your favourite teddy bear, wear pyjamas if you like, and enjoy a cup of hot chocolate and a biscuit. The more the merrier!



THE BIG BOOK SALE!

When? Friday 3rd March after school

Who? Everybody!

We will be having a big sale of gorgeous, quality, preloved children's books in the Larks Room on Friday 3rd March (yes, please, those who have asked, we'd love any donations if you are having a clearout beforehand!) Children are invited to bring in a pound to school and choose a book of their very own at the book sale before the school day ends. Parents are then invited to come along after school, browse and grab as many bargains as they like!

This is just a taster of what we have planned – there will be loads happening in school, too – particularly on World Book Day itself (Thursday 2nd March). Why not check out our World Book Day blog on the school website?

Travelling Book Fair – Tuesday 21st March to Monday 27th March 2023



We will be holding our annual book fair in school, after school in the KS2 library from 3.15 until 4pm every day from Tuesday 21st March to Monday 27th March.

We will be handing out £1 book tokens during Book Week which can be used at this book fair. Please remember any money raised will earn rewards for the school to order new books for our library.

Parents will be able to either pay using their smartphone with a QR code or we can accept cash.

Additional Needs Information



An evening for parents who have children with additional needs



**27th February from 6-7.30pm
at the East Family Hub, Calcot**

Attending professionals:

Kelly Evans
West Berks
Autism
Advisor

Parenting
Special
Children

Caroline
Pethick
speech and
language
therapist

Dingleys
Promise

EDIT

Disabled
children's
team

For more information:

**Contact Nicky Phillips on nicky.phillips@westberks.gov.uk
07920477560**

Please book via the link: https://booking.westberks.gov.uk/family_hubs_events.html#/event_list

***If you have any questions come and talk to one of the services.
Refreshments provided.***

**Tel: 0118 945 6157 for more information
Curtis Road, Calcot, Reading RG31 4XG**



WestBerkshire
C O U N C I L