

Aldermaston CE Primary School Newsletter



Spring Term (1) 2024 No: 1

Welcome back to a new term. I hope that all of our families had a wonderful break over Christmas and New Year. We've really enjoyed hearing about all of the fun the children had with family and friends.

Unfortunately, we've returned to some rather challenging local traffic conditions. Between the flooding, road closure and spate of accidents, we know it has been difficult getting to and from school for drop off and collection. Thank you for letting us know about any delays or changes to collection routines

Healthy Living Week

We have started 2024 with our very popular 'Healthy Living Week'. This annual event has developed over the last few years to support children in understanding the things they can do to look after their physical health and to feel happier. It brings lots of cross curricular learning opportunities, particularly through science and PSHE. Most importantly, it's also just a really fun way to start back at school which can be difficult after the excitement of Christmas and the New Year.

We ran two big offsite visits – ice skating for Owls, Kingfishers and Starlings and crazy golf for the Wrens and Robins. It's always ambitious to run trips in the first week of a new term and we're extremely grateful to staff and volunteers for their support in making this happen. These visits involved trying something different and learning new skills. There was a good level of challenge and many of the children were able to feel really proud of what they achieved despite perhaps feeling a little worried at the start. Maybe for some, it will be the start of a new hobby.

In school, we had brilliant sessions delivered by visiting coaches. Classes enjoyed learning the sport of rock-etball (similar to lacrosse) and Reading Football Club outreach team delivered sessions of Ultimate Frisbee or target games. We were grateful for the dry weather as we enjoyed our daily mile. Children learnt to make some delicious recipes (personal thanks to Owls for the excellent apple and pear pie) and to think about other physical needs such as getting enough sleep. It's probably more than you think!

As part of our focus on emotional wellbeing, we introduced 'Zones of Regulation' across the school. Simply put, this is teaching children an easy way to share how they are feeling. There are no right or wrong feelings but, if they are feeling worried or sad, it opens the door to talking about what they can do to feel better. When children can recognise how they are feeling, they are better able to self-regulate. For example, stay calm in stressful situations or cheer themselves up after a disappointment.



We've included a photo gallery with this newsletter to share some of the highlights of the week.

Sad news

We were saddened to hear about the passing of a former member of staff shortly before Christmas. Angie Garland was a much loved member of the school community who worked here for many years and also used to manage wraparound care for our children. We send our condolences and best wishes to her family and friends.

PAN consultation

Just a reminder about our PAN consultation which closes at the end of January. Use the link below to find out more information and share any responses.

<https://www.westberks.gov.uk/admission-arrangements>

Family Learning Morning – Wednesday 24th January

We've got some exciting things planned for our Spring Term family learning morning next week! Children can be dropped off as usual and you will then be able to enter through the hall doors to register and grab a hot drink. The morning runs until the children go out to break (10.30am) and you are very welcome to drop in for whatever amount of time you can manage. We often have family learning morning visitors who need to leave early or join us a bit later for the second part of the event and this is absolutely fine. Also, a reminder that grandparents, uncles and aunties and siblings, etc are all very welcome as we understand that parents will not always be able to attend.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Higgs



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>



School News

NOTICES

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 (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.



DOGS ON SCHOOL SITE

Please do not bring dogs onto the school site. Many thanks



EVENTS THIS YEAR

Wednesday 24th January

9 to 10.30amFamily Learning Morning

Tuesday 6th February

9 to 10.30amChristingle Service at St Mary's Church

Friday 9th February

3.25pmEND OF PUPIL HALF TERM

Monday 12th to Friday 16th February

HALF TERM HOLIDAYS—SCHOOL CLOSED

Monday 19th February

8.55amALL PUPILS RETURN TO SCHOOL

Monday 4th to Friday 8th March

All week—Year 6 Residential to Abernant Lake

Tuesday 12th March

PMKS2 Cross Country Competition

Tuesday 26th March

9 to 10.30amEaster Service at St Mary's Church

Wednesday 27th March

3.25pmEND OF PUPIL TERM

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

TERM DATES 2023/2024

Autumn Term 2023

First Day of Term 1

Tuesday 5th September 2023

Last Day of Term 1

Thursday 19th October 2023

Half Term—no school

Fri 20th to Mon 30th October 2023

First Day of Term 2

Tuesday 31st October 2023

Last Day of Term 2

Wednesday 20th December 2023

Spring Term 2024

First Day of Term 3

Monday 8th January 2024

Last Day of Term 3

Friday 9th February 2024

Half Term—no school

Mon 12th to Fri 16th February 2024

First Day of Term 4

Monday 19th February 2024

Last Day of Term 4

Wednesday 27th March 2024

Summer Term 2024

First Day of Term 5

Monday 15th April 2024

Last Day of Term 5

Friday 24th May 2024

Bank Holiday—no school

Monday 6th May 2024

Half Term—no school

Monday 27th to Friday 31st May 2024

First Day of Term 6

Monday 3rd June 2024

Last Day of Term 6

Wednesday 24th July 2024

CONTACT DETAILS

Tel: 0118 971 3362

Text: 0118 324 0216

E-mail: enquiries@aldermaston.w-berks.sch.uk

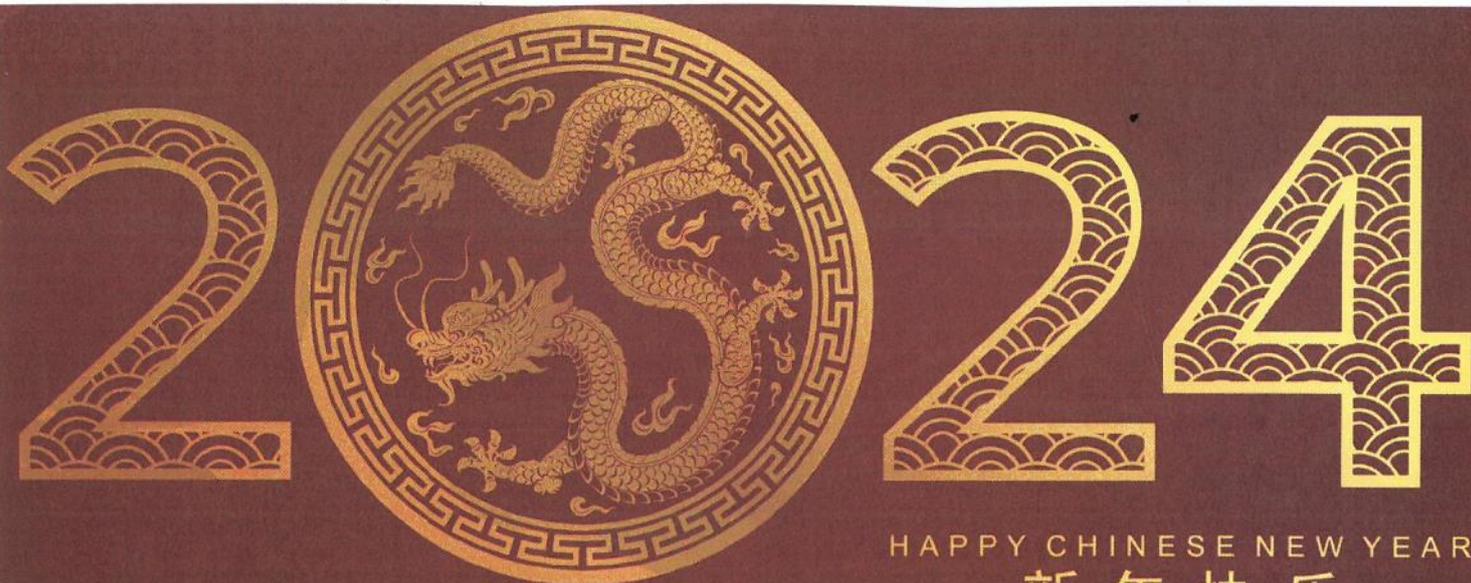
Website: www.aldermaston.org.uk

Healthy Living Week



Healthy Living Week





HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR

新年快乐

Thursday 8th February

CHINESE & LUNAR NEW YEAR MENU

CHAR SUI CHICKEN WITH SAVOURY RICE

VEGGIE STIR FRY NOODLES

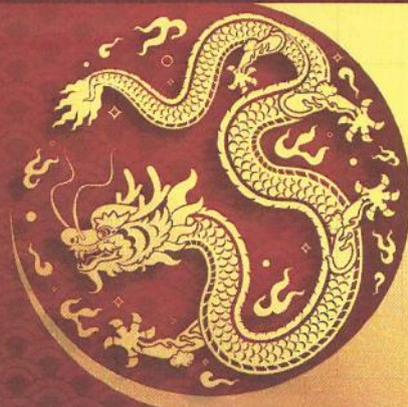
JACKET POTATO WITH CHEESE OR BAKED BEANS

RAINBOW VEGETABLES OR TIGER SALAD

DRAGON BISCUIT

FROZEN YOGHURT

FRESH FRUIT



HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR

新年快乐

2024

YEAR OF THE DRAGON



ALDERMASTON SCHOOL

HALL FOR HIRE

Our school hall is available for hire evenings, weekends and during some holiday periods, for any activities you may need a venue for. With secure grounds, easy access and ample off road parking our site is ideal for:

**Family/Birthday Parties • Social Events • Dance Clubs • Amateur Dramatics
Health & Wellbeing Sessions • Art/Photography Clubs
or any other event.**

Our school hall leads on to a decking area with sun awnings and outside lighting. The large playing field which can be used for all parties hiring the hall, is included in the hire cost. 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 or for further information, please visit our website:

<https://aldermaston.w-berks.sch.uk/community/hire-of-hall>

or contact us at: enquiries@aldermaston.w-berks.sch.uk.





HELLO ALDERMASTON

**Come and meet
the local community.**

Saturday 27th January 2024

4pm – 6pm

in Aldermaston Parish Hall

Light refreshments

Free event

All the family are welcome but please leave dogs at home

Further info: aldermastonparishhall@gmail.com