

Aldryngton Primary School

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Headteacher: Mark Wieder



23rd September

Dear Parent/ Carer,

Last week, we had the PTA AGM and I would like to highlight how successful the PTA have been over the last year. The funds raised have once again been significant and the events have been fantastic. Thank you to all of you that have contributed to the PTA over the last academic year. At the meeting, I had to request funds in order to continue to release staff for children to continue with the same extra-curricular offer that we were able to provide last academic year. Thankfully, the PTA were supportive and we will be able to continue with things like the cross-country league and choir events. There is a national funding crisis for schools currently and being a school that receives the national minimum funding guarantee, we are massively impacted by this funding crisis, despite being full in most year groups. I will provide more details on the reasons why within the financial update section.

Car Seats/ Seatbelts

It has been brought to my attention that some families are transporting children to school without appropriate car seats. There have also been reports of children being seen travelling into school in cars without wearing seat belts. I was very concerned to hear these reports as this is both dangerous and against the law. I have notified our linked police officer to make them aware of the situation. I am also attaching a link to the rules regarding car seats below:

<https://www.gov.uk/child-car-seats-the-rules>

Financial Update

We have now reached the point where Aldryngton Primary School will be entering a deficit financial position this term. The reason for this deficit is in the main to school costs having an average inflation rate of around 6% per year in recent years, yet additional income averaging 1% per year. There are other contextual factors linked to the deficit. These are:

- Receiving the lowest income per pupil possible under government funding.
- Having a larger proportion of more experienced staff than a typical school. This is a huge benefit in regard to what this can offer the children, but this does come with a financial cost.
- A 45 intake also means that we miss out on over £60K worth of funding as we subsidise one particular year group (currently Reception) with two smaller classes. Funding received by a school is on a per pupil basis.
- A shortfall in funding provided for children with Special Educational Needs that we are having to subsidise from our main school budget as the funding received does not match the provision that is required. This is a national issue.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all families and the PTA in particular as without the funding raised in recent years, we would have been in this situation much earlier than this.

As the school is entering a deficit, we will need to work on and submit a deficit recovery plan. Any debt created is cumulative. To support the school with benchmarking against other schools, a School Resource

Management Advisor, will be working with the school this term. This will help develop further strategies as part of an agreed deficit recovery plan.

In recent years, we have reduced the amount of office hours and the number of teaching assistant hours by not always recruiting when a member of staff leaves or agreeing to a reduction in hours when a staff member has requested this. We are going to need your support more than ever and please consider fundraising/ match funding opportunities with the PTA if you have any spare capacity to give.

Parent Governor Election Update

We received applications from two parents by the deadline this morning. Therefore, an election will take place. This will take place electronically and details will be sent out on Thursday 25th September.

National Fitness Day (Wednesday 24th September)

Children will be completing additional sporting activities throughout the day on Wednesday 24th September. Please could you ensure that your child comes into school wearing their P.E. kit that day rather than the usual school uniform.

Events List

This week I have added the dates that the Litterbug Club will be taking place at lunchtimes. These are highlighted in yellow.

Date (Time)	Event
Wednesday 24 th September	National Fitness Day (children arrive and stay in P.E. kit for the day and complete additional fitness activities)
Thursday 2 nd October	MS RE Inspired
Tuesday 7 th October	PTA Bags to School Collection
Wednesday 8 th , Thursday 9 th and Friday 10 th October	MS trips to Reading Museum
Friday 10 th October	World Homeless Day (assembly to raise awareness and non- uniform day to raise funds for local charities)
Wednesday 15 th October	Harvest Assembly and Collection
Monday 13 th October	Individual School Photographs
Monday 13 th October (2:30pm)	Lower School Diwali Assembly
Tuesday 14 th October (8:50am)	Accelerated Reader Parent Presentation (in person)
Thursday 16 th October	Flu Vaccinations
Friday 17 th October (9:30am)	Prospective Parent Tour
Friday 17 th October	Show Racism the Red Card (children wear red)
Tuesday 21 st October	Litterbug Club
Tuesday 21 st October (3:30pm)	RWI Parent Presentation (online)
Thursday 23 rd October	LS trip to Windsor Castle
Thursday 23 rd October	US RE Inspired
Thursday 23 rd October	PTA Disco
Week beginning 27 th October	Half Term
Monday 3 rd November	INSET Day (No pupils in school)
Tuesday 4 th November	US Science Dome

Monday 10 th November	Prospective Parent Tour
Monday 10 th to Friday 15 th November	Anti-Bullying Week (wear odd socks on the 10 th).
Tuesday 11 th November	Remembrance Day
Friday 14 th November	Children in Need
Week beginning 17 th November	Road Safety Week
Friday 21 st November	Junior Music Festival @ Hexagon
Week beginning 24 th November	Parent Evening Week
Tuesday 25 th November	Litterbug Club
Tuesday 25 th November	US trip to Butser Ancient Farm
Tuesday 2 nd December (9:30am)	Prospective Parent Tour
Thursday 4 th December	MS RE Inspired
Monday 8 th December	FS RE Inspired
Wednesday 10 th December (9:15am and 2:30pm)	Lower School Christmas Assemblies
Thursday 11 th December	LS RE Inspired at church
Monday 15 th December (2pm)	Foundation Stage Christmas Performance
Tuesday 16 th December	Litterbug Club
Tuesday 17 th December (AM)	Pantomime
Wednesday 17 th December (2pm)	Foundation Stage Christmas Performance
Friday 19 th December	Last Day of Term Progress reports to parents
Monday 5 th January	INSET Day
Friday 9 th January	Poetry Competition Launched
Wednesday 7 th January (9:30am)	Prospective Parent Tour
Week beginning 12 th January	Team Newsletters out alongside knowledge organisers
Week beginning 2 nd February	Children's Mental Health Week-
Tuesday 3 rd February and Thursday 5 th February	US trips to Reading Museum
Friday 6 th February	NSPCC Number Day (dress as a number in return for £1 donation to NSPCC)
Week beginning 9 th February	Poetry Competition Finals
Monday 9 th February	Chinese New Year Assembly
Tuesday 10 th February	Safer Internet Day
Thursday 13 th February	PTA Disco
Week beginning 17 th February	Half Term
Tuesday 3 rd March and Thursday 5 th March	Middle School trips to Waltham Farm
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day (Children can come in dressed as a book character)
Thursday 5 th March	US RE Inspired
Week beginning 16 th March	Neuro-Diversity Celebration Week
Week beginning 23 rd March	Parents' Evening Week
Monday 23 rd March	Foundation Stage RE Inspired
Wednesday 25 th March (2pm)	Foundation Stage Easter Performance
Thursday 26 th March	Middle School Eid Assembly

Friday 27 th March	Last Day of Term Progress reports to parents
Monday 13 th April	Children Return to School
Week beginning 20 th April	Team newsletters out alongside knowledge organisers
Monday 4 th May	Bank Holiday
Week beginning 11 th May	Key Stage 2 SATS Week
Thursday 14 th May (6-8pm)	PTA Disco
Friday 15 th May	Middle School Maypole Dancing
Weeks beginning 18 th May	Y6 at Little Canada
Week beginning 18 th May	Multiplication Championship
Friday 22 nd May	Cultural Diversity Day
Week beginning 26 th May	Half Term
Monday 1 st June	INSET Day
Monday 1 st to Friday 12 th June	Y4 Times Table Check Window
Thursday 4 th June	LS RE Inspired at church
Thursday 4 th June	MS trip to Wisley
Monday 8 th June	FS RE Inspired
Monday 8 th to Friday 12 th June	Y1 Phonics and Y2 Phonics Retakes Window
Wednesday 10 th June	Class Photographs
Friday 12 th June	KS2 Sports Day
Wednesday 17 th June	FS trip to Wooley Firs
Week beginning 29 th June	Sports Week
Monday 29 th June (AM)	Inter-House Cross Country- Middle School
Monday 29 th June (1:30pm)	Upper School Swimming Gala
Wednesday 1 st July (1:30pm)	Middle School Swimming Gala
Wednesday 1 st July (AM)	Upper School Cross Country
Thursday 2 nd July (2pm)	Foundation Stage and Lower School Sports Day
Thursday 2 nd July	US RE Inspired
Monday 6 th July (2pm)	Upper School Production to Foundation and Lower - dress rehearsal
Tuesday 7 th July	Transition Morning
Wednesday 8 th July (7pm)	Upper School Production to Families
Thursday 9 th July (7pm)	Upper School Production to Families
Tuesday 21 st July (AM)	Y6 Leavers Assembly to Children
Tuesday 21 st July (PM)	Y6 Leavers Assembly to Parents
Tuesday 21 st July	Last Day of Term

Yours Sincerely,



Mark Wieder
Headteacher