



Newsletter – 12 August 2026

Welcome

This newsletter is coming out a bit later than intended but I want to say a heartfelt thank you to all our children, families and staff for making Alderman Pounder such a special place to learn and grow.

I hope you enjoy looking back at some of the highlights from across school and have a restful, happy summer break.

– **Mr A Butterworth-Drury**
Headteacher



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Notices and reminders



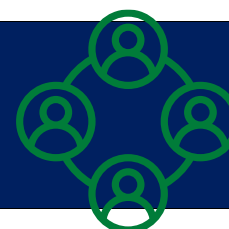
Thank you for parking considerately by avoiding parking on the yellow zig-zag lines and across drives.



Did you know that research shows that if you read with your child every day (including discussing the book and asking questions), it can help them make an additional 12 months' worth of progress by year 4?

As well as being a no smoking site, we are also a no vaping site. For the comfort of all members of our community, please refrain from smoking or vaping on school site.

PTFA: new recruits wanted



Our PTFA do a brilliant job supporting school events and fundraising for resources and experiences for our children. They will be looking for new recruits in September, so please do consider getting involved if you can. Keep an eye out for the date of the PTFA coffee morning, which will be a good opportunity to find out more and meet others who are interested in helping.



Parent and carer survey



Thank you to everyone who completed our parent and carer survey. Your feedback is really valuable and helps us understand what is working well, as well as where we can continue to refine what we do for children and families.

We were very pleased to see so many positive responses with 93% of families said their child is happy, feels safe at school, and receives the right support to learn well. We are particularly pleased that 100% of parents and carers whose child has SEND said the school gives them the support they need to succeed. It really shows that our efforts to create an inclusive school are having an impact on children's experiences.

Families also shared some lovely comments about children being happy, enjoying learning, the care shown by staff and the range of experiences children have had this year. We are grateful for these comments and will share them with the team.

We also really value how some families took the time to suggest ways that we can further improve. Many of these are things that we're already working on.

You said	We did
It would be helpful to have key dates earlier.	We have put together a calendar with many of the key dates for the year. This will be sent out at the start of September when the last few dates are confirmed. We will also continue to post key dates on ClassDojo.
Some families would like us to review online reading logs and certificates.	We are reviewing how reading is recorded and celebrated, so that it continues to encourage regular reading while remaining manageable for staff and families.
Share a Story sessions are valued, but can feel busy or difficult for working parents to attend regularly.	We will review the frequency and organisation of these sessions, including holding them on different days of the week to help accessibility for families.
Families welcomed school trips and experiences, while also noting the importance of cost and travel.	We will continue to plan memorable experiences and aim to get a better balance of lower-cost options alongside larger trips.



A look back on Reception



What a year it has been! Looking back, it is incredible to see how much the children have grown in confidence, independence and resilience since their very first day in Reception. They arrived with smiles, a few wobbles and lots of curiosity, and they leave us as enthusiastic learners who are ready for the exciting challenges of Year 1.

Our enquiry curriculum has taken us on some amazing adventures. We have explored what makes us special, celebrated traditions from around the world, travelled through Antarctica and China, discovered the world around us, and asked big questions such as Can anyone be a hero? Along the way, we have baked, painted, built, investigated, performed, designed and created, making memories that will stay with us for years to come.



Some of the highlights have included visits to Highfields Park, the University of Nottingham and Twycross Zoo, meeting community heroes, performing our Nativity, celebrating World Book Day, developing our outdoor learning environment and sharing our learning with families throughout the year.



The progress the children have made has been remarkable. They have developed into confident readers, thoughtful writers, enthusiastic mathematicians and curious investigators. More importantly, they have learned how to be kind friends, resilient learners and valued members of our school community. Every child has something to be incredibly proud of.

As they move into Year 1, we hope they continue to ask questions, embrace new challenges and believe in themselves. We know they are more than ready for the next stage of their learning journey, and we cannot wait to see all they achieve in the years ahead.

We are so proud of every single one of them. Have a wonderful summer, and good luck in Year 1!



Parent and Family support



Over the summer break, our Family Support Worker (Clare Goodyear) will be contactable for the first four weeks of the summer holiday should you need and support, signposting or advice about issues relating to your child or school. She can be contacted by email, ClassDojo or by phone (to the Beans phone number).

She is also planning to continue the parent support group again next year. If there are any topics you would find helpful, please get in touch. We really welcome suggestions from families so that the sessions are practical, useful and shaped around what would support our school community best.

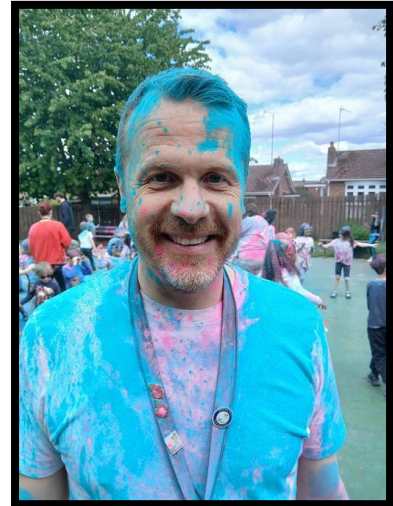


A look back on Year 1



Year 1 has been packed with adventures, creativity and plenty of fun!

Our trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park was a huge highlight, with lots of incredible animals to spot. The LCH Colour Run was definitely a Year 1 favourite too, with plenty of running, laughter and colourful faces!



We also unleashed our creativity during our artist workshop, took home our own canvases and helped to create a colourful Key Stage 1 collage that is now proudly displayed in school. Throughout the year, we have loved learning about different artists and have enjoyed every opportunity to be creative, exploring a range of techniques and expressing our own ideas through art. We finished the year in style with THRIVE and our fantastic whole-school art gallery!

There have been so many smiles, laughs and special memories along the way. We are incredibly proud of everything the children have achieved and how much they have grown.

Good luck in Year 2! Keep being curious, creative and completely brilliant!

Support and safeguarding



Our school safeguarding team can be contacted for non-emergencies, including during school holidays on safeguarding@aldermanpounder.notts.sch.uk.

If you have urgent concerns for a child or suspect that a child has been abused in any way, please call the MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub) team on 0300 500 80 80.

If you require an urgent response outside of working hours (08:30–17:00), contact the MASH Emergency Duty Team (EDT) on 0300 4564546. In an emergency call 999. To report a crime, call 101.

A look back on Year 2



As we reach the end of another wonderful year, we want to celebrate our amazing Year 2 children as they prepare for their exciting next step into junior school. This term has been packed with opportunities, and they have approached each one with enthusiasm, determination and plenty of smiles.

They have continued to work hard in the classroom, embracing new learning and showing just how much they have grown throughout the year. Alongside this, they have created some beautiful artwork this term, demonstrating their creativity and care in every piece. The children have also worked incredibly hard preparing for their leavers' performances, learning lines, songs and routines that they were excited to share with their families. Their leavers' performance was absolutely amazing, with every child shining like a true stage superstar. We were all incredibly proud of them, especially Miss Barker and Miss Towlson, who loved seeing all the children's hard work come together to share with the people who are most special to them.

As if that wasn't enough, they have successfully navigated assessments and begun their transition to junior school, meeting new teachers, exploring new environments and taking these important next steps in their stride. In the middle

of all this hard work, they even enjoyed a cinema trip, making memories together and sharing lots of laughter.



One of the highlights of the term was our Stay 'til 8 event, where the paddling pools, water balloons and sunshine provided the perfect way to celebrate a fantastic year. The children (and staff!) threw themselves into the fun, especially when Mr Butterworth-Drury became the target of some particularly accurate water balloon throws!

We could not be prouder of our Year 2 children. They have shown kindness, resilience, confidence and friendship throughout the year, and it has been a privilege to watch them grow together. While we will miss them enormously, we know they are ready for their next adventure and we cannot wait to see all they will achieve in the years ahead. Good luck, Year 2!



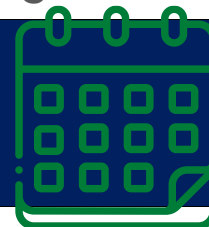
Thank you Children's Government!



A big thank you to our Children's Government for all their work over the year. They have represented the views of children across school, shared ideas and helped to make our school an even better place to learn and belong. We are very grateful for their commitment and the thoughtful way they have taken on this responsibility.



Key dates



A downloadable calendar of our term dates can be found [on our website](#).

2026/2027 academic year term dates

Tuesday 1st September – Admin day – school closed to pupils

Wednesday 2nd September – INSET day – school closed to pupils

Thursday 3rd September – School reopens to children for Autumn term

Thursday 15th October – Break up for half term

Friday 16th October – INSET day (school closed to children)

Monday 2nd November – Children return to school

Friday 18th December – Break up for Christmas

Monday 4th January 2027 – Children return to school

Friday 12th February 2027 – Break up for half term

Monday 22nd February 2027 – INSET day (school closed to children)

Tuesday 23rd February 2027 – Children return to school

Thursday 25th March 2027 – Break up for Easter holidays

Monday 12th April 2027 – Children return to school

Monday 4th May 2027 – Bank holiday

Thursday 27th May 2027 – Break up for half term

Friday 28th May 2027 – INSET day (school closed to children)

Monday 7th June 2027 – Children return to school

Wednesday 28th July 2027 – Break up for summer holidays

Thursday 29th July 2027 – First day of the summer holidays



Thank you for reading

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