



Newsletter – 31 October 2024

Welcome

Welcome to the latest edition of our school newsletter!

First and foremost, a huge thank you to everyone who was able to attend our recent parents consultations. It was fantastic to share your child's progress and receive such positive feedback. If you have any further questions or there is anything you would like to discuss, please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's class teacher.

Our Key Dates list below has been updated so please take a look to stay in the loop with all the exciting activities planned at school. You'll also be receiving a separate letter in a couple of weeks with details about our 12 Days of Christmas celebration!

We're also looking for a new Parent Governor to join our school body, and it could be a great way for you to get more involved. Details are below and in the attached letter.

Thank you, as always, for your support. Here's to a fantastic half-term ahead and we look forward to welcoming children back on Tuesday 5th November!

- Mr A Butterworth-Drury
Headteacher

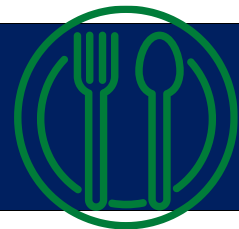


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Top marks for top meals



It's always nice to be able to start by recognising the hard work of members of our school community and their achievements. We're incredibly pleased to say that our catering team, led by our school Chef, Miss Brookes, have once again achieved the highest possible [Food Hygiene rating](#) from the Food Standards Agency.

This is not an easy thing to achieve as FSA inspections are no-notice and so this goes to show the high level of care that goes into preparing the delicious meals on offer at school every day.

Please remember that all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to receive a Universal Free School Meal, so we encourage all families to give them a try if your child doesn't already have them. If your child has diagnosed allergies or requires a special diet, please ask to speak with Miss Brookes.





Warm hearts, warm hands

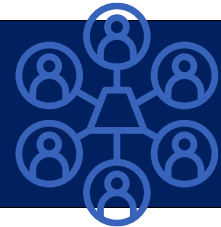


Although it's early to be mentioning Christmas, as the weather is getting colder, some families may be looking to get new winter clothing (or sorting through older clothing). Every year, we theme our Christmas tree for the Christmas Tree Festival around 'Making a difference' (taken from our motto: 'Making a difference as we grow together').

This year, we are collecting woolly hats, gloves, and socks which are clean and in good condition to go on our tree before being donate to a local homeless charity. If you have any at home, please bring them to the school office.



Become a Parent Governor today



We are pleased to share that we have two vacancies to join our Local Governing Body (LGB) as a Parent Governor. This is a voluntary position which will give you the opportunity to support our school by bringing your ideas, perspectives and experience to the Governor team.

The LGB is passionate about our school and is committed to continuous improvement to ensure the best possible outcomes for our pupils.

JOIN OUR TEAM
PARENT GOVERNOR

Salary: Voluntary role
Term: 4 years
Closing: 3:30pm on Monday 18th November 2024

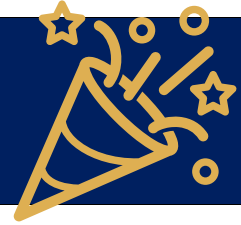
Find out more or apply at:
<http://www.aldermanpounder.notts.sch.uk/vacancies>

We recognise that our current membership doesn't fully represent the diversity of our school community and we would really like to encourage all of our parents to think about nominating themselves. We know that a diverse governing body will best support our school to be the best it can be, and commitment, energy and enthusiasm to learn is the most important thing we are looking for from our Parent Governors.

If you would like to find out more about this important role, further details can be found in the [attached letter](#) and also on our [website](#).



Celebration Assembly invitation



Many of you will be aware that every Friday afternoon we hold a special Celebration Assembly for children in Reception to Year 2. Every week, 2 children in every class are nominated by their teachers to receive a certificate for displaying one of our children's characteristics (aspiration, kindness, effective communication, confidence, pride, curiosity, responsibility, resilience and problem solving). Our team of Midday Supervisors and Play Leaders also nominate children to receive a lunchtime award.



It's lovely to see smiles and surprised faces when children receive their certificate (as they don't know beforehand) so we'd love to start sharing this moment with you!

Invitations to Celebration Assembly



If your child is being awarded a certificate that week, we will send a text message to the primary contact number on our records inviting up to 2 adults to attend our Celebration Assembly on the Friday. Invitations will be sent on Wednesday afternoons (by 2:00pm) which we recognise is short notice, but this allows us to recognise current/recent achievements. If no one from your family can attend, rest assured that they won't miss out and we will still present the certificate to your child during the assembly. Unfortunately, we cannot hold certificates for later weeks.

How to attend

To help ensure a smooth experience, we ask that families arrive at the school office by 2:40 pm on Friday. A member of our team will guide you to the hall just before the assembly begins at 2:45pm.

A special surprise

To help make the experience even more memorable for your child, please avoid letting your child know about the invitation if you are able to attend so that it's a surprise for them when they receive their certificate in front of their friends and adults.



- Making a difference as we grow together -

APPLY SOON

Admissions for September 2025

The school admissions window for September 2025 Reception places and Year 3 (Junior school) transfers opens on 4th November 2024 until 15th January 2025.

If you know anyone with children who will be of school age from next September, please let them know about our upcoming admissions open events by sharing our posts on [Facebook](#), [X](#) and [Instagram](#). Our open events are taking place on:

- Friday 8th November from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
- Saturday 9th November from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM



We're also incredibly excited that we have arranged for Imagine Avenue to attend the events to deliver **free play sessions** for any children who attend!

Places can be booked at: <https://bit.ly/APopenevents>





Open Events



Do you have a child who will be starting Nursery soon or Reception in September?

If you live in Nottinghamshire and are looking for a school or nursery place for September 2025, come along to one of our open events to find out more about our school.

Friday 8th November
5:00–7:00pm

Saturday 9th November
10:00am–12:00pm



Bring your child to join in with our **free Imagine Avenue play sessions** as you look round our school.



Book now:

<https://bit.ly/APopenevents>

No booking? No problem

*Come along anyway,
we'd love to meet you!*

☎ 0115 925 2928

✉ office@aldermanpounder.notts.sch.uk

Do you have a child currently in our Nursery?

Although your child currently attends our nursery, we aren't allowed to automatically offer them a school place so please fill out the school application form when the window opens. If you'd like to find out more, you are welcome to attend our open events too! We'll be sending out more information over the next half term so you don't miss out.

- Making a difference as we grow together -

Do you have a child currently in Year 2?

As your child will be leaving us at the end of this year, please don't forget to apply for a place in Year 3. We'll be working with Eskdale to send more information to you over the next half term to make sure you don't miss out.

Support and safeguarding



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



Adam Butterworth-Drury

Headteacher

Senior Designated Safeguarding Lead

Designated Teacher for CLA

Anti-Bullying Coordinator

Attendance Champion



Sue Ingram

Deputy Headteacher

Deputy Safeguarding Lead

SENDCO



Clare Goodyear

Extended Services Manager

Safeguarding Officer

Attendance Champion



Caitlin Begley

Pastoral Lead

Safeguarding Officer



Rachel Van Krimpen

Chair of Governors
Designated Governor for
Child Protection and Safeguarding
(oversight role)

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.

Notices and reminders



We ask that children read at home as often as possible, ideally every day, and this is marked in their home-school diary.



If you haven't already, please don't forget to pay the donation for your child for the Year 1 and Year 2 Partake session. If you are experiencing financial difficulties, please speak in confidence to your child's teacher or the office.



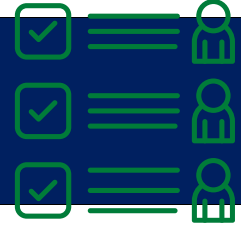
Donations of hats, gloves and scarves (clean and in good condition) for our Christmas Tree Festival tree can be handed in to the office.



It's wonderful to see so many families walking to school, riding, scootering or using public transport to reduce the amount of traffic around school. We know that some families aren't able to get to school using these methods and so thank these families for parking considerately (and not on the yellow zig-zag lines outside of school).



Attendance matters

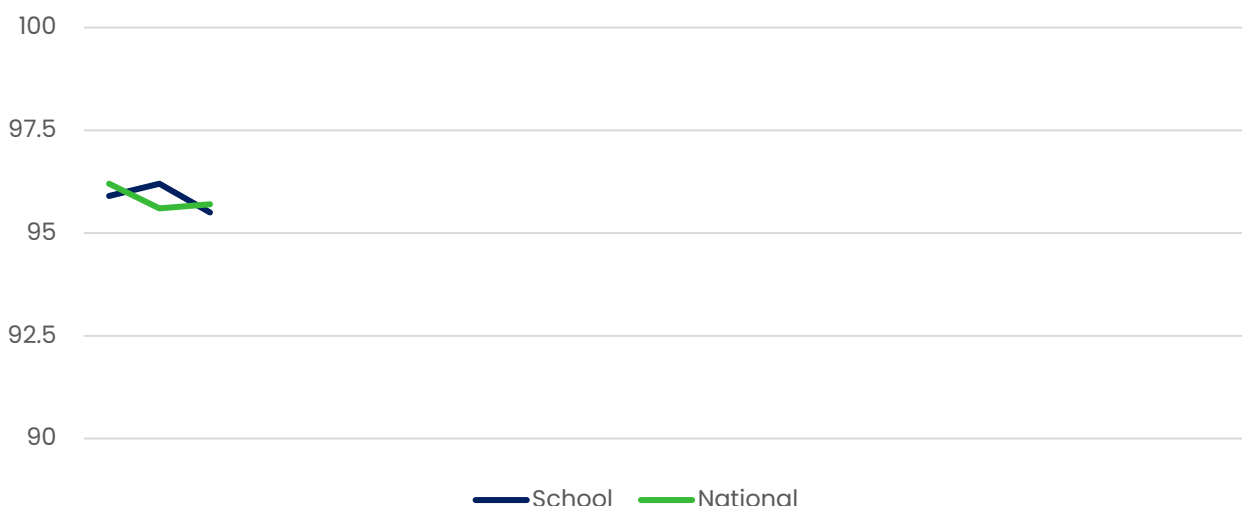


All schools are required to closely monitor children's attendance and offer support if absence levels begin to cause concern. Children are defined by the government as being *persistently absent* when attendance drops below 90% (no matter the reason). To help reduce the likelihood of this happening, we review the attendance of all children at least weekly. We will also keep all families up to date on their child's attendance at least half-termly.

When we return on the INSET day, we will be sending a text message to let you know your child's attendance level during the first half term of this school year. If we have concerns, we will also contact you separately to raise this and offer support where appropriate.

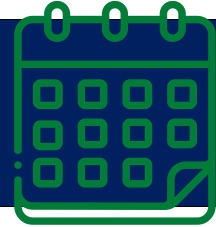
We are proud that last year we received an award as our attendance was in the top 25% of primary schools nationally and would like to continue working with you to ensure that all children are in school as often as possible to maximise their learning. If you have any questions about your child's attendance, please get in touch with Ms Goodyear or Mr Butterworth-Drury who lead on attendance.

School attendance (Year to date)





Key dates



Updates and additions since the last edition of our newsletter are shown in [blue](#).

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



Monday 4th November – INSET day Alderman Pounder only (school closed to children)

Monday 4th November – [School admissions window opens](#)

Tuesday 5th November – Children return to school

Tuesday 5th November – Bonfire themed lunch

Friday 8th November – Fire and Rescue service visiting school (Years 1 and 2)

Friday 8th November 5:00–7:00pm – Reception 2025 Open Event

Saturday 9th November 10:00am–12:00pm – Reception 2025 Open Event

Monday 11th to Friday 15th November – Anti-Bullying Week

Monday 11th November – Remembrance Day

Tuesday 12th November – Odd Socks Day

Thursday 14th November 3:15–:00pm – Movie Night (Inside Out 2) – *tickets £3*

Friday 15th November – Children in Need and Friendship Friday

Monday 18th to Friday 22nd November – UK Parliament Week

Monday 18th November 3:30pm – Parent Governor nominations deadline

Tuesday 19th November 9:00–10:00am – Individual school photo mop-up session

Friday 22nd November – Non-uniform day for £1 donation (proceeds used towards Christmas Panto)

Monday 25th November 2:45–3:15pm – Share a Story (Reception to Year 2)

Tuesday 26th November – Partake Great Fire of London workshop (Years 1 and 2)

Friday 29th November – Non-uniform day for donations to Christmas Raffle

Wednesday 4th December – Flu immunisations (Reception to Year 2)

Thursday 5th to Friday 20th December – Alderman Pounder 12 Days of Christmas

Thursday 5th December – Children visit the St Barnabas Christmas Tree Festival (Reception to Year 2)

Thursday 5th December – Christmas Giving Tree put up in school entrance

Tuesday 10th December – Christmas Panto (funded by non-uniform day)

Wednesday 11th December – Christmas Dinner

Thursday 12th December 10:00am – Nursery Christmas play performance

Friday 13th December – Bubl  and Bacon

Friday 13th December – Christmas Movie Night (Arthur Christmas) – *tickets £3*

– Making a difference as we grow together –

Monday 16th December – Christmas Jumper Day for £1 charity donation
(proceeds to Save the Children)

Tuesday 17th December 10:00am and 2:00pm – Reception Nativity performance

Wednesday 18th December 10:00am and 2:00pm – Year 1 Christmas performance

Thursday 19th December 5:00pm – Year 2 Christmas Concert (outdoor event)

Friday 20th December – Party Day (Non uniform – party clothes)

Friday 20th December – Break up for Christmas holiday

Monday 6th January – Children return to school

Wednesday 15th January – [School admissions window closes](#)

Monday 20th January 2:45–3:15pm – Share a Story (Reception to Year 2)

Friday 14th February – Break up for half term

Monday 24th February – INSET day (school closed to children)

Tuesday 25th February – Children return to school

Tuesday 18th March 2:45–3:15pm – Share a Story (Reception to Year 2)

Friday 21st March – Red Nose Day

Monday 24th March – Local Governing Body meeting

Friday 4th April – Break up for Easter holiday

Tuesday 22nd April – Children return to school

Friday 2nd May 2:45–3:15pm – Share a Story (Reception to Year 2)

Wednesday 21st May – Class photographs

Thursday 22nd May – Break up for half term

Friday 23rd May – INSET day (school closed to children)

Monday 2nd June – Children return to school

Tuesday 24th June 2:45–3:15pm – Share a Story (Reception to Year 2)

Thursday 3rd July 5:30–7:30pm – Flying High Partnership Awards (Invite only)

Monday 7th July – Local Governing Body meeting

Thursday 17th July 5:30–7:30pm – THRIVE Community Event

Tuesday 29th July – Last day of school year

Community notices



You are Invited to



The MHST's PARENT WEBINARS

Scan the QR codes below to join the Teams Meeting or contact the MHST on 0115 8760167.

Childrens Emotional Health & Wellbeing

11th November 2024 at 1030-12



Meeting ID: 319 919 816 478

Passcode: bQjWz8



Mental Health Support Team

Advice on sleep for primary children.
Free, online workshop available here:

https://youtu.be/lcbj_gPO6Tw



At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators TEACHING CHILDREN FIRE SAFETY

Fire safety is especially important around Bonfire Night, as fireworks, bonfires and sparklers add extra risks for families and young children. Every year in the UK, thousands of accidents occur due to improper handling of fireworks and neglecting fire safety measures. This guide offers practical tips for keeping children safe when handling everything from fireworks to space heaters.

1 BONFIRE NIGHT AWARENESS

Bonfire Night is exciting, but it comes with several inherent risks. Educate children about the dangers of fireworks and open flames. Teach them that only adults should handle fireworks and that bonfires should never be approached. Keep children at a safe distance (at least five metres away) from bonfires and explain why supervision is crucial during these events.

2 SUPERVISE FIREWORK USE

Fireworks should only be handled by responsible adults who are following UK laws and guidelines. Make sure to buy fireworks that meet British Standards and adhere to all instructions that come with them. Keep children a suitable distance from any fireworks activity and designate an adult to supervise the event. Ensure no one goes near fireworks after they've been lit.

3 SPARKLER SAFETY

Sparklers are often captivating for little ones, but they can burn at extremely high temperatures – over 1,000 °C! Only allow children over the age of five to use sparklers, and make sure they wear gloves. Teach them to hold sparklers at arm's length and never wave them near others. Once a sparkler has burned out, extinguish it fully in a bucket of water – which you should prepare beforehand and always keep nearby.

4 ORGANISED DISPLAYS ARE SAFER

If possible, families should attend an organised fireworks display rather than holding one at home. These tend to be far safer as they're run by professionals adhering to strict safety regulations. Organised displays also provide a controlled environment where children can enjoy the event from a safe distance, reducing the risk of accidents.

5 KEEP FIREWORKS AWAY FROM THE HOME

If you are hosting your own fireworks display, set them off well away from homes, sheds or fences to avoid starting accidental fires. Choose a wide-open space with no flammable materials nearby and keep a means of putting out fires to hand in case of emergency – such as a bucket of water, a hose or a fire extinguisher. Afterwards, ensure that all fireworks are fully extinguished and never attempt to relight one if it doesn't go off.

6 BONFIRE SAFETY

If you're building a bonfire, place it well away from trees, buildings, fences or anything else flammable. Make sure it's structurally sound and not at risk of collapsing. Only burn natural materials like wood and leaves, avoiding petrol or other accelerants. Children should be kept far away from the bonfire, and it should always be supervised by adults. Be sure to fully extinguish the bonfire before you leave it.

7 "STOP, DROP AND ROLL"

Ensure that children know what to do if their clothing catches fire. Teach them the simple "stop, drop and roll" technique, which can quickly extinguish flames. Practice this with them before events like Bonfire Night, so they feel confident if the need to use it arises. It can also be helpful to keep another means of putting out these kinds of fires on standby, just in case. An extinguisher or flame-retardant blanket are both sound choices.

8 SECURE CANDLES AND OPEN FLAMES

Beyond Bonfire Night, everyday fire safety is also crucial. Candles can be a common fire hazard, especially in homes with young children. Teach children not to touch any open flames, and ensure candles are placed in sturdy holders away from combustible materials. Never leave candles, incense burners or other such items unattended, and always extinguish them fully before leaving a room or going to bed.

9 EDUCATE ABOUT FIREWORKS HAZARDS

Make sure children understand the dangers of playing with fire or fireworks, and how to handle such things responsibly. Emphasise that fireworks are not toys and can cause serious injuries when improperly used. Demonstrate the importance of treating fire with respect and the consequences of misuse, which can help temper any curiosity and any resultant dangerous behaviour.

10 FIRST AID FOR BURNS

Even if you have the best possible precautions in place, accidents can still happen. Keep a first aid kit on hand. Ensure you know how to apply basic first aid to burns, so you can teach children those techniques too. If someone suffers a burn, run it under cool water for 20–30 minutes. Never use creams or ointments, as these retain heat and can cause further damage. Instead, seek medical help if the burn is serious.

Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is an experienced health and safety expert who is a Chartered Member of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health. He provides services to educational settings and many other industries, helping them to maintain a safe working environment.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/fire-safety>

💡 Fundraising for our school



INTRODUCING CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS

Download and opt-in with Asda Rewards and we will donate **££s** to schools.



HERE'S HOW:

- 1** Download the Asda Rewards app and opt-in to Cashpot for Schools.
- 2** Choose your primary school
- 3** Shop in-store across Asda & George, and scan your Asda Rewards app at the checkout.
- 4** Shopping online? Simply log in to Asda.com using the same details as your Asda Rewards account.
- 5** We'll do the rest!
We donate ££s to your chosen school every time you shop, so they can spend it on exactly what they need.

With **Parentkind**



Selected stores. Minimum spend £2+. Exclusions apply including Asda Express & George.com. Subject to availability. UK 18+. App & Opt in required. 0.5% of the value of a customer's eligible shop is donated. Publicly funded primary schools, must register with Parentkind charity 1072833. Full T&Cs at asda.com/cashpotforschools. Reward T&Cs at asda.com/rewards/terms. Ends 30/11/24

Coming soon...

12 days of Christmas

Alderman Pounder Infant & Nursery School present...



- Making a difference as we grow together -



Thank you for reading

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