



Newsletter – 30 May 2024

Welcome

Welcome to our latest edition of our newsletter to wrap up last half term and share some exciting plans ahead.

Firstly, we'd like to celebrate the incredible creativity that children have shown. Art has taken the spotlight as our enquiry driver subject, and the children truly exceeded our expectations. They've been learning techniques used by famous artists to be able to create their own vibrant and imaginative artwork which we can't wait to display. We're so proud of their hard work and artistic expression.

Sports Day was another fantastic success! The energy and enthusiasm from children made it a day to remember. They showcased their athletic talents and, most importantly, their team spirit. Whether they were running, jumping, throwing or cheering on their peers, everyone contributed to an atmosphere of fun and friendly competition. A big thank you to all the families who came out to support us!

Looking ahead, we have some important preparations for the next school year. Transition sessions will soon begin (see section Key Dates below), making sure our children are comfortable and excited about moving up to their new year group. Our Year 2 children will also have the chance to visit Eskdale, helping them to confidently take the next step in their educational journey.

Lastly, as summer approaches, let's not forget to enjoy the simple pleasures of this sunny season—whether it's a picnic in the park, a family outing, or just some quality time in the garden.

Thank you for being a part of our AP school community. We look forward to another wonderful half term together!

- **Mr A Butterworth-Drury**
Headteacher



Proud to be
part of the **Flying
High
Partnership**

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Classroom update



Across the school we have been enjoying this term's art driven enquiry, learning about different artistic styles and having a go at creating works of art of their own.

In nursery we have enjoyed having a local artist in to talk about her work and inspiration. We recently enjoyed a 'stay and play' when a number of our adults were able to join us and have a go at some of the current activities available for children to enjoy. Each week we have continued to write a story together. Our first collection of short stories, from spring term, is soon to be published – watch this space!

In reception there has been a strong focus on helping all children improve on their handwriting abilities, to support their writing. They have also been learning all about the artist Van Gogh and we are looking forward to seeing their final pieces of art, inspired by his work. Their upcoming trip links to their learning about who Van Gogh was and where he came from, as they will get to see an actual windmill for themselves, not just see pictures of one in a book – bringing their learning to life.

In year 1 and year 2, children have been on a creative journey with their enquiry, "Where does a picture take you?" They've explored various painting techniques like dotting, brushing, and splashing, and learned to mix colours to create tints and tones. Along the way they've studied the works of Andy Warhol, David Abbey Paige, and Claude Monet, and looked about the features of batik and Aboriginal art. Next half term, we're excited to visit Lakeside Arts to experience an art gallery firsthand.

During this next half term all children will be taking part in some transition activities, designed to help them feel happy and secure about the next part of their learning

journey. Children will have opportunities to meet their new teachers, spend time in their new classrooms and talk about how they are feeling. You will be informed about your child's new teacher once the new classes have been agreed upon. A lot of thought and consideration goes into making sure the new classes are right for each individual child, as we want the transition to be as smooth as possible – for them and for you. More information will be shared with you in due course.

Visit from star athlete

We are thrilled to be able to share some information about our upcoming Sports for Schools event on Monday 17th June and can now announce that the athlete who will be visiting us will be James Shaw (GB Wheelchair Tennis player)!

On the event day, all children will take part in a sponsored fitness circuit run by James which is a terrific way to get all children excited about sport and realise that getting moving is really fun! James will then share his incredible sporting journey, a story of resilience and determination in a fun and interactive assembly. There will also be an opportunity to ask any burning questions in a Q&A session at the end!

Fundraising for the event will begin next week when children will be bringing home a sponsorship form. The money raised for the event will go towards new important resources to improve levels of physical activity in our school, such as new sports equipment.



D-Day themed lunch



D-DAY 80

The D-Day landings on 6 June 1944 was the largest seaborne invasion in history. Along with the associated airborne operations, it marked the beginning of the liberation of France and western Europe.

The 6 June 2024 marks the 80th anniversary of D-Day. Villages, towns, cities, organisations of all sizes across the UK will be marking the 80th anniversary with community events on the day.

- Making a difference as we grow together -

We would also like to join many other schools and organisations by playing our part in paying tribute to the thousands of brave people who sacrificed their lives for securing the peace and freedom we enjoy and so will be marking the occasion with some themed activities in school, such as boat making, along with a themed lunch.

Children are welcome to come dressed in red, white and/or blue to mark the occasion.

A special poem has been written by Roy Palmer Herald and Chelsea Pensioner, The Royal Hospital, Chelsea, which will be read out to children during a special assembly.

School trips



Our trips for both reception (12th & 14th June) and KS1 (20th and 21st June) will be taking As always, we would be very grateful for volunteers to accompany us on the trips. If you are able and willing, please be in touch with your child's class teacher. Many thanks in advance for your support.

Virtual author visits



We're excited to let you know that this half term we're taking part in virtual visits from not one, but two different authors! We've loved the previous visits and so look forward to joining with other schools to hear about their writing process (and hear their stories)!

On Friday 7th June, Jion Sheibani will be Zooming into our classrooms as part of Empathy Day to share her love of reading and how empathy helps her create books. Together, we will be drawing characters and writing empathy conversations, planting the seeds for our own empathy-rich stories.

Then, on Friday 5th July, we will be joining a virtual visit from Bethan Wollvin which has been organised by the Flying High English Hub. During the visit, Bethan will discuss her writing journey to becoming an author, give us a peek inside her studio, a show and tell of her rough and final artworks, a draw-a-long with the children and a reading of her book Little Red.

THRIVE update



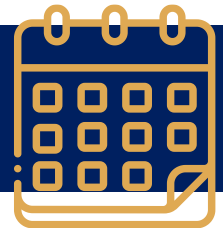
We are delighted to be able to welcome back our community summer fair on Friday 19th July!

This is an opportunity to get together as a school community, have some fun and raise some money for school.

There will be a variety of activities on offer to make it a fun event for all the family, including all the usual favourites such as a BBQ, cake stall and raffle. Tickets will be on sale soon, though you can also just pay on the day. More information to follow but make sure you put the date in your diary to come and join in the fun!

If you are interested in having a stand at the fair, or know anyone who might, please email: office@aldermanpounder.notts.sch.uk.

Key dates



Monday 3rd June – Children return to school

Thursday 6th June – Themed lunch for the 80th anniversary of D-Day

Friday 7th June – Virtual Author/Illustrator visit ([Jion Sheibani](#))

Wednesday 12th June – Willow class visit to Green's Windmill

Friday 14th June – Chestnut class visit to Green's Windmill

Monday 17th June – James Shaw (GB Wheelchair Tennis player) visiting the school!

Thursday 20th June – KS1 (Cedar & Maple class) visit to Lakeside Arts

Friday 21st June – KS1 (Beech & Oak class) visit to Lakeside Arts

Y2 to Eskdale transition starts – see dates below

Friday 28th June – CAMO day at Alderman Pounder (to mark Armed forces day)

Wednesday 3rd July – Children into new classes for next year (Y2 see below)

Wednesday 3rd July, 5pm – New-to-school parent meeting

Friday 5th July – Virtual Author visit ([Bethan Wollvin](#))

Friday 5th July – Brick-a-Brac donations for THRIVE

Tuesday 9th July – Children into new classes for next year

Wednesday 10th July, 2.45pm – Share a Story (Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 only, details to follow)

Friday 12th July – Year 2 fun (more details to follow)

Monday 15th July – Cake Donate Plate for THRIVE cake sale sent home

Thursday 18th July – Flying High Partnership Awards (invite only)

Friday 19th July – Cake Donate Plates returned to school for THRIVE

Friday 19th July – Reports out to parents

Friday 19th July – THRIVE (Summer Fair) – new families invited too

Wednesday 24th July, 2pm & 5pm – Y2 Leavers' performance

Thursday 25th July AM – Leavers' assembly for Y2 children ** **Children only**

Friday 26th July – Break up for summer holiday

Year 2 transition dates

Thursday 6th June – Eskdale teachers to visit children in class

Wednesday 19th June – Y2 Transition workshop with MHST

Tuesday 25th June – Eskdale teachers reading story to half of the year 2 children

Thursday 27th June – Eskdale teachers reading story to other half of the year 2 children

Friday 28th June – Eskdale coffee morning for Y2 parents (times TBC by Eskdale)

Wednesday 3rd July – Y2 children to visit Eskdale

Thursday 4th July – Eskdale parent information evening

Academic year 2024/25

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



Monday 2nd September – Administration day (school closed to children)

Tuesday 3rd September – INSET day (school closed to children)

Wednesday 4th September – Children return to school (Welcome back!)

Thursday 17th October – Break up for half term

Friday 18th October – INSET day (school closed to children)

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

Tuesday 5th November – Children return to school

Friday 20th December – Break up for Christmas holiday

Monday 6th January – Children return to school

Friday 14th February – Break up for half term

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

Tuesday 25th February – Children return to school

Friday 4th March – Break up for Easter holiday

Tuesday 22nd April – Children return to school

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

Monday 2nd June – Children return to school

Tuesday 29th July – Last day of term

(INSET days for 2024/25 academic year will be shared during the spring term)



Thank you for reading

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