



Newsletter – 17 November 2023

Welcome

It's been a busy first two weeks back after half term with lots of wonderful learning taking place in school.

We are all incredibly proud of our children for showing such respect during our Remembrance Commemoration last Thursday. It was also lovely to hear that some families chose to join us for this – thank you! Hopefully you'll also have been able to take a look at our wonderful Remembrance display in our main entrance. Well done to our Foundation Stage children for the wonderful artwork!

This week was Anti-Bullying Week where we've all been learning to Make a Noise About Bullying! We want everyone to know that bullying is not welcome at Alderman Pounder, a school where we celebrate differences! Hopefully you've enjoyed looking at the pictures that we've posted on Class Dojo and our social media. We're also in the process of updating our Anti-Bullying policy – have a look later in this newsletter.

All families have been sent a letter and order form for our annual 12 Days of Christmas fundraising festival. This is always an exciting time of year with a careful mixture of both free and paid-for activities which you can take part in – please make sure you return your form with money by 24th November. We can't wait to see families getting involved, having fun and raising money.

We pride ourselves on being a friendly, supportive, and welcoming school, and we know that our community is what makes us truly special. Thank you for your ongoing support, and we look forward to the opportunities for you to come into school over the next few weeks!



– Mr A Butterworth-Drury
Headteacher

Proud to be
part of the



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Classroom update



This week was Anti-Bullying week with the theme 'Make a Noise'. In school, we've been talking about the importance of speaking out and telling someone when we see something wrong. We've also talked about how we might not always get on with everyone, but we should still show respect to each other. This links nicely with our school expectations (or rules):



Be ready, Be respectful, Be safe

EYFS update

We love to encourage a love of reading from an early age and so all of our classes have areas where children can curl up with a book. In both Nursery and Reception, we've overhauled our outdoor reading areas (Nursery now have a reading snug!) and it's been wonderful seeing the children using them.



In the Early Years, we pride ourselves on providing an attractive and carefully planned environment that encourages children to learn through play. Recently, we have been focused on improving our outdoor provision which not only looks inviting but also provides a fun learning environment for all our children.

- Making a difference as we grow together -



Our next exciting project is working with the children to develop the area outside Chestnut classroom, next to the shed. This area will be transformed by the children in Chestnut and Willow classes as part of their enquiry. They will be deciding how to make the area more enjoyable for everyone, leaving behind a legacy for future classes across the school to enjoy and benefit from.

KSI update

It's been a fantastic start to the second half of the autumn term! Our highlight from last week has to be making and tasting vegetable soup inspired by Mary Seacole and Florence Nightingale and the way they looked after soldiers in the Crimean war. As we near the end of our 'What impact do our choices have?' enquiry we are beginning to plan our outcome – thinking about how we would like to have an impact and how we can share our ideas.



We've also really enjoyed 'Share a Story' this week. It was great to see and hear so many adults enjoying books with children and lovely to have even more time for stories! Thank you so much to all the parents and carers who welcomed other children to read with you during the afternoon – it's fantastic and heartwarming to support each other in this way. It really showed what our school community is all about.



Anti-Bullying Week

What an amazing week it's been! In school we've been talking about the importance of telling a trusted adult if something is wrong or we have a worry. We've also been talking about what banter and bullying are. As a school, we use the Anti-Bullying Alliance's definition of bullying which is:

"The repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. Bullying can be physical, verbal or psychological. It can happen face-to-face or online."



Every year, we update our Anti-Bullying policy in line with the Local Authority's model policy to check it meets the needs of our children. As part of this, we would like your opinions about the draft version to check that the policy and our processes are clear. If you'd like to respond, please [click here](#) or scan the QR code.



The policy and a 1-page summary for families can be found on the [policies](#) page of our website in the 'Behaviour and attendance' section (or attached to this if you've received it by email).



Admissions for September 2024

APPLY NOW



We are excited to announce that the school admissions application window is now open! If your child is due to start in Reception next year, you can apply for place on the [school admissions hub](#).



Our school is a wonderful place for children to learn and grow, and we want to share that with as many families as possible. During our open events last Friday and Saturday we showed lots of prospective families around and had great feedback about our school.

We know that word of mouth can be a powerful tool, so we ask that you help us spread the word about our school. If you know someone who is looking for a great school for

their child, please encourage them to apply. We believe that every child deserves a great education, and we strive to provide that every day.

If you have a child in Year 2, please remember that your child will not automatically transfer to Eskdale at the end of the year. We encourage you to apply for a place with them using the [school admissions hub](#).

As always, we are here to answer any questions you may have about the admissions process or our school in general. Please don't hesitate to reach out!

The deadline for applications for primary school places for September 2024 (both Reception and Year 3) is Monday 15 January 2024.

Christmas Giving Tree



We are very aware that, like last year, in the current climate with increased costs of living, some of our families may struggle this Christmas. As a caring community we want to support those who need a helping hand this year. With this in mind, we are planning to turn our tree in the school entrance, near the office, into a Giving Tree.

How does it work?

We will attach labels onto the tree that will specify who the gift is for e.g. a girl in Year 1. Anyone can simply take one of the labels and then return it with a suitable gift, placing



it under the tree. The gift doesn't have to be expensive - it can be anything suitable for that age of child, no matter how big or small. There's no need to tell us if you are taking a label simply take one if you feel in a position to help, and return it with a gift when you can. It would be very helpful if the gift could please be wrapped and the label securely attached.

Towards the end of term, our team will discretely distribute the gifts to those families we are aware of who might appreciate a helping hand.

If you would like to be on the receiving end of this scheme, please speak to the school office.

We are immensely proud of the care and support our school community frequently shows, both to us and to others.

Christmas Film Club



We're pleased to announce that the Christmas Film Club (pre-bookable as part of our 12 Days) will show the following films:



FS2 – All I want for Christmas is You 

KS1 – Saving Santa 

The club will run from straight after school until approximately 5pm.



Early Reading and Phonics at AP



At Alderman Pounder, we strive for all children to leave us at the end of Year 2 as confident readers with a love of reading. We believe that teaching children to read is a team effort and so we would like to invite you to a phonics workshop on **Wednesday 29th November 2023 at 3:15pm.**

This workshop is open to all year groups, however, will be aimed more towards our younger children in school (Reception). During the workshop, we will be focusing on how you can support your children to learn/retain codes, blending to read and how to make the most of their decodable books.

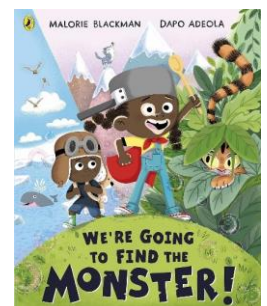
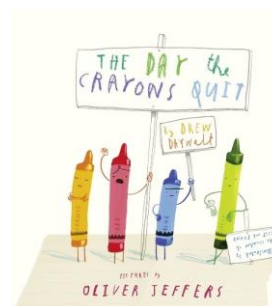
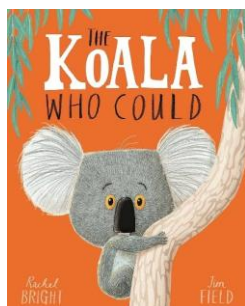
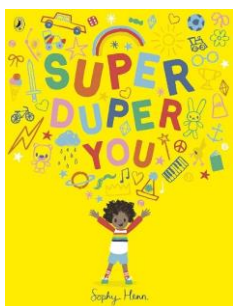
If you would like to attend, please complete the form or scan the QR code: <https://forms.office.com/e/rwvWyrrHYT>



Alderman Pounder Virtual Library



Click below for links to some super reads to share and watch at home!



Notices and reminders



Please return 12 Days of Christmas letters and order forms by Friday 24th November. Paper forms were given out this week ([downloadable here](#))



Thank you to all those who took part in the sponsored Matchbox Challenge during the half term break; the money raised from this will be used to help support our Reception classes enquiry projects (see EYFS update above).



If you have any non-urgent questions, please contact your child's teacher in the first instance. They will respond within two working days. Please be aware that our team will not respond when teaching and outside of their working hours.



We ask that families read with children every day. All children have two decodable reading books which they keep for two weeks (one changed each week).



On Wednesday (22.11.23), Jude from the Mental Health Support Team (who often has a table in the entrance on parent consultation evenings) is coming in to deliver a short workshop to all Key Stage 1 classes about Resilience and how it helps us.



If you are going to be late or someone else is collecting your child, please phone the school office to let us know. If you are going to be late, it is important to let the school office know as soon as possible and by 9.15am so that a dinner can be ordered for your child.



We request that all members of our school community refrain from using inappropriate language on (and around) our school site. Thank you.

Support and Safeguarding



We're very pleased to announce that Miss Caitlin Begley, our new Pastoral Lead, will be starting with us on Monday 20th October. As our pastoral lead, she will join our safeguarding team as one of our Safeguarding Leads.

Miss Begley's role will involve working with children across the school, supporting their mental health, wellbeing and emotional. I know we'll all welcome her to our school community!

Key dates



- Friday 24th November 2023** – 12 Days of Christmas order form deadline
- Friday 24th November 2023 8:15 – 12:00** – Individual photographs
- Tuesday 28th November 2023 15:00–16:00** – Pre-loved Christmas jumper and toy sale
- Wednesday 29th November 2023 15:15** – Phonics Workshop
- Friday 1st December 2023** – Christmas Tree Festival at St. Barnabas Church
- Wednesday 29th November 2023, 15:15** – Phonics workshop ([book here](#))
- Monday 4th December 2023 (morning)** – Flu immunisations
- Thursday 7th December 2023** – 12 Days of Christmas begins
- Thursday 7th December 2023** – Festive Stay and Play (all year groups)
- Thursday 7th December 2023** – Christmas Jumper Day (donations for Save the Children)
- Friday 8th December 2023** – Film Club (pre-booking required)
- Monday 11th December 2023** – Visit Santa (pre-booking required)
- Tuesday 12th December 2023** – Stories with Mrs Claus
- Tuesday 12th December 2023** – National Measurement Programme (Reception children)
- Wednesday 13th December 2023, 10.00am** – Nursery (FS1) concert (ticketing details to follow)
- Thursday 14th December 2023** – Christmas Dinner Day
- Friday 15th December 2023, 9.30am & 2pm** – Reception (FS2) concert (ticketing details to follow)
- Monday 18th December 2023** – Deadline for decorating a toilet roll competition, please send in your £1 with your entry.
- Tuesday 19th December 2023** – Bubl  and Bacon (pre-ordering required)
- Wednesday 20th December 2023** – Prize Day
- Thursday 21st December 2023, 2pm & 5pm** – KS1 concerts (ticketing details to follow)
- Friday 22nd December 2023** – Party Day
- Friday 22nd December 2023** – Break up for Christmas holiday
- Thursday 4th January 2024** – Children return to school
- Monday 15th January 2024** – School admissions application deadline
- Monday 5th to Friday 9th February 2024** – Children’s Mental Health Week
- Tuesday 6th February** – Safer Internet Day
- Friday 9th February 2023** – Break up for half term

Monday 19th February 2024 – Children return to school

Monday 26th February 2024 – INSET day (school closed to children)

Thursday 7th March 2024 – World Book Day

Friday 15th March 2024 – Red Nose Day

Thursday 28th March 2024 – Break up for Easter holiday

Monday 15th April 2024 – Children return to school

Thursday 23rd May 2024 – Break up for half term

Friday 24th May 2024 – INSET day (school closed to children)

Monday 3rd June 2024 – Children return to school

Friday 26th July 2024 – Break up for summer holiday

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

Community notices



Over 20 stalls plus Santa's Grotto

Free Entry to the Christmas Fair

Santa's Grotto £4.00 includes a chocolate gift from Santa
(special dietary alternatives available on request)

The Village Hotel, Brailsford Way, Chilwell, Nottingham NG9 6DL

www.ForeverStars.org

Forever Stars

@FSFundraising

Foreverstarscharity

@foreverstarsnotts

- Making a difference as we grow together -

FOOD CLUB
@ST B **MONDAYS**
1.30-3.30 PM
 @ST BARNABAS CHURCH, INHAM NOOK
 (EXCLUDING BANK HOLIDAYS)

ENLIVEN ENABE
 HOPE COMMUNITY HUB

FREE TEA AND COFFEE AVAILABLE WHILE YOU WAIT



Your local Food Club* is moving from the Chilwell Childrens' Centre to St Barnabas Church, Barn Croft, Inham Nook (NG9 4HU) from 20th March, 2023. We look forward to seeing you at our new venue.





*For £3.50, receive a range of food from local supermarkets, typically worth between £10-£15.

Interested in joining the club? just email community@ccchilwell.org.uk or phone 0115 9222809

PLEASE NOTE
 ALL CHILDREN MUST BE SUPERVISED BY AN ADULT

Considering listing only ONE school?

Robin lives in the catchment area of a popular primary school.

-  Parent applies on time listing 1 preference for an out of catchment school
-  On National Offer Day, the preferred school is oversubscribed (*more applications than places available*) and a place cannot be offered for Robin
-  A place cannot be offered at the catchment school as it is also oversubscribed with preferences
-  Robin is offered a place at a school over 6 miles away - the next closest with places available

Apply online at:
nottinghamshire.gov.uk/admissions

- Apply on time
- Use all 4 preferences
- Check the admission criteria



The Healthy Family Team

(Health Visitor & School Nurse)

FREE health advice and support for families with children aged 0-19 years living in Nottinghamshire.

ADVICE LINE: Please telephone 0300 123 5436



Text: 07520 619919

A free confidential **text** messaging service for families with children aged 0-19 years living in Nottinghamshire.

A free health website for children and families living in Nottinghamshire.
www.healthforkids.co.uk



Health For Kids





Thank you for reading



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