



SCHOOL YEAR 2023/24- NEWSLETTER NO 6

Dear Friends,

We hope that you have had a happy start to 2024. Despite the chilly weather there is a warm atmosphere here at school and our new year has been filled with fun, purpose and learning. We have some new initiatives for the New Year to help the children with their learning and well-being. As you know, we encourage the children to 'Be Ready, Be Respectful and Be Responsible'. For 2024 we have added 'Be Resilient' to our list of values. The children in KS2 have had a series of assemblies reflecting on the meaning of resilience and the strategies that they can use should they find themselves being overwhelmed. They might best explain resilience using the phrase, 'Being able to bounce back'. We hope that you will support us in developing this important life skill with the children.

We are continually mindful of the children's mental health and well-being and look for ways to support the children wherever we can. With that in mind we now have 10 play leaders in year 5 who lead playground activities for the other children. They do a wonderful job in enabling the younger children to join in with playground games and promoting physical activity – it is a joy to watch. The play leader initiative reflects the value based PE curriculum that we have here at Aldborough and which the children enjoy so much on their PE days. We know that many of our children enjoy taking part in the Blickling Junior Park Run which takes place every Sunday morning at 9.00 a.m. If you are not aware of this it is a free 2km run for any ability and it is a wonderful way to support children's mental health and well-being.

Not everything in 2024 has to be new – tried and tested strategies can be some of the most effective. Parents and carers often ask what they can do to help to continue to support the children in their learning. The staff are unanimous in their answer: Hear your children read as often as possible and help them to practise their multiplication tables. With those two skills, children are so much happier in their learning. If you are still looking around for a New Year's Resolution (or if your existing ones have run out of steam!) then please make reading and times tables your goal with the children – it really does make a huge difference.

*Wishing you warm, restful and resilient weekend,
With Best Wishes,
Mrs Bearman and the Aldborough Team*

Please go to: www.aldborough.norfolk.sch.uk



Aldborough Working Together

SCHOOL GATES / CAR PARK – You may have noticed that some mornings the front gates to the staff car park are now closed. We have asked many times that parents do not walk through the car park in the mornings or after school, however this continues to happen. Staff worry that they will knock a child over as they reverse in or out of their parking spaces; this is a worry that they shouldn't need to have. We really hope that closing the gates will deter parents from continuing to do this as all other attempts have failed.

TERM TIME HOLIDAYS – It has felt like a very long January with the cold and wet weather. We are sure that many of you, like the staff, are looking forward to spending time in warmer climates. However, we ask that you do not plan holidays in term times especially the children in Year 6 who will be working towards their SATs over the next few weeks. Statistics show that missing a week from school leads to a 10% lower score in any assessment and this is true for all children of any age.

READING MEETING – Mrs Cuthill invites all Reception and Year 1 children to a meeting all about supporting children's reading on Tuesday 6th February at 9.00 a.m. Please look out for the letter in children's book bags and come along if you can. Reading is at the heart of our curriculum and is integral to success in every area of life.

CLASS ASSEMBLIES – We are delighted to be able to invite parents and carers to class assemblies this term. The assemblies will start at 9.05 a.m. and should last no longer than 20 minutes. Parents and carers are welcome to sign in at the Office immediately after school drop off. The dates for the assemblies are as follows:

Class 1: March 8th 9.05 a.m. (special invite to all C1 Mothers!)

Class 2: February 9th 9.05 a.m.

Class 3: March 22nd 9.05 a.m.

Class 4: March 15th 9.05 a.m.

Class 5: February 16th 9.05 a.m.

SPARE SOFA? – We would really like a new sofa for our Learning Street so that we can create an extra reading space. If any families have a sofa that is no longer needed but still in good condition then we would love to take it off your hands. (If you could get it to school then even better!) Please let Mrs Bearman or Mrs Cuthill know if you can help.

CLUBS – We had hoped to resume after school activity clubs after the half term break, however, the short term and staff development activities have made this impossible. We hope to be back with a full programme of summer activities for KS2 in the Summer Term.

FAMILY LEARNING DAY – Our next Family Learning Afternoon will take place on **Tuesday 19th March**. We will be full of the joys of Spring by then so we do hope you will join us.

COFFEE, COOKIES AND COUNTING - Following the daytime delivery of the successful maths workshops, TACT Families are pleased to announce that they will be offering an evening option for all Nursery, Reception, Years 1, 2 and 3 parents and carers to attend. 'Please join us for this upcoming workshop and learn valuable skills to help your child's learning in a relaxed and fun way. This workshop will take place on Thursday 8th

February from 6.30pm to 8pm at John of Gaunt Infant and Nursery School, Hungate Street Aylsham NR11 6JZ ‘

For more information, please contact our Family Learning Co-ordinator, Monica Harding, at mharding@aylshamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk or call 07780 887348 to book.

AGE APPROPRIATE INTERNET USE – All of the classes are reinforcing safe use of the internet as part of our PHSE/RSE curriculum this term. The stories the children tell us about what they have viewed on the internet at home are quite revealing and at times very shocking. There is advice on our website about how to keep children safe on the internet should any parents be struggling with this.

NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS – The Friends are hosting their spring/summer meeting on the 1st February at 9 am. Everybody is welcome.

‘If anybody is interested in the treasurer role it would be a great time to come and see what we are all about. Thank you’

PARENTS’ EVENINGS – Our Spring Term Parents’ Evenings will take place on Monday 25th March and Wednesday 27th March. Please add the dates to your diaries.

SCHOOL PAYMENT ACCOUNTS – We would be most grateful if you would keep an eye on your accounts and settle any outstanding payments to your child’s school account as soon as you are able. Thank you, we really do appreciate your support in this.

PE KIT - A reminder that all KS2 children will now be coming to school in their PE kits on the day of their PE lessons.

Tuesday = Class 3

Wednesday = Class 4

Thursday = Class 5

PE kit is a white T-shirt, black or navy shorts and black or navy track suit bottoms/leggings and trainers. The children should wear a sweat shirt for outdoor PE.

FOREST SCHOOL – Please make sure that the children have appropriate clothing for their Forest School sessions next half term. **Children need boots or sturdy shoes and gloves and hats.** The days for the Spring half term are as follows:

C1: Wednesday

C2: Thursday (Please note that not all children in class 2 will be doing FS every week)

CAKE SALES – Please see below for the dates of The Friends Class cake sales. Keep Baking!



Aldborough Information



AT ALDBOROUGH WE ARE COMMITTED TO PROVIDING ALL CHILDREN WITH THE BEST EDUCATION POSSIBLE. IN ORDER TO DO THIS WE NEED ALL CHILDREN TO ATTEND REGULARLY AND PUNCTUALLY THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

MORNING PLAYGROUND DROP OFF – IF YOU ARRIVE AT SCHOOL BEFORE 8.45 OR BEFORE THE MEMBER OF STAFF ARRIVES, PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE YOUR CHILDREN UNATTENDED ON THE PLAYGROUND.

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL - If your child is absent from school, please call the office number 01263 761264 at the earliest opportunity and leave a message. Please call each day of your child's absence, giving your child's name and reason. Please do not email, although we appreciate it can be easier for you to quickly do this, we cannot guarantee that the email has been received and therefore your child would be registered as 'Missing in Education', which then prompts Safeguarding measures to be taken. **Attendance is reviewed regularly.**
ATTENDANCE AT LESS THAN 90% WILL INSTIGATE ATTENDANCE INTERVENTION

NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS – Please keep your eye on The Friends of Aldborough Primary School Face Book page for ways in which you can help. **Please speak to the committee about different ways that you could help us.** Thank you as always to The Friends for their enthusiasm and energy and for all of the parents and carers for supporting the different events.

MEDICATION IN SCHOOL – Parents and carers are reminded that any medicine that comes to school must be handed in to the school office and the appropriate paper work must be completed. Please ensure that all prescription medication is in the original pharmacy container/packaging, which includes the child's name and the necessary dosage/instructions. If prescription medicines do not have this information then school staff are unable to administer the medication.

SCHOOL WEBSITE – We are continually updating our school website to include information about the children's learning in each term and in each class. Please do familiarise yourself with the website as it provides lots of information about the curriculum. You will also find our safeguarding, SEND and behaviour policies on the website along with many others. **We are often asked to provide work for children who are going on holiday during term time.** This is not something that we do due to the pressure that it puts on teacher workload in addition to the additional workload involved with helping the children to catch up when they return to school. The website is an excellent source of information for those parents who wish their children to work during term time holidays. **AT ALDBOROUGH WE ARE COMMITTED TO PROVIDING ALL CHILDREN WITH THE BEST EDUCATION POSSIBLE. IN ORDER TO DO THIS WE NEED ALL CHILDREN TO ATTEND REGULARLY AND PUNCTUALLY THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.**

HEALTHY SNACKS, LUNCHES AND BIRTHDAY TREATS – Please ensure that the snacks and packed lunches that the children bring to school are healthy and nut free. We work very hard as a school to support health and well-being and the contents of some lunch boxes make consistent messages difficult for the children to understand. It would be much appreciated if birthday treats, which are shared with the class, are also sugar free and consistent with children's health and well-being. Please avoid sugary lollipops in particular. Thank you for your continued support in this matter.

JEWELLERY AND HAIR - The only jewellery allowed in school is one pair of stud earrings, which need to be taped up for PE. No other jewellery is allowed. For your child's comfort and hygiene please ensure that all long hair is tied up every day.

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT – Aldborough Primary has 3 'Mental Health First Responders' on site to help members of our community should they have a need. If you think we can help you in anyway please do not hesitate to contact either via email: office@aldborough.norfolk.sch.uk or phone 01263 761264. Confidentiality is guaranteed.

ALDBOROUGH AFTER SCHOOL CLUB – Please email enquiries/bookings to afterschoolclub@aldborough.norfolk.sch.uk. Further information and booking forms are available on the school website. There will be plenty of outdoor play and art activities available with ASC staff working hard to plan and provide activities. The team continue to provide tasty snacks.

BREAKFAST CLUB – Breakfast Club is available daily from 8am in the dining room. Pre-booking is advised to be guarantee a place, however children can attend on the day without the need to pre-book. PLEASE BE AWARE THAT THE DOORS TO BREAKFAST CLUB WILL NOT OPEN UNTIL 8.00a.m

FSM APPLICATIONS – Have your family circumstances changed? If so your child/children may be eligible for Free School Meals. Money provided to the school can also be used to provide additional support for a child's learning or financial help with learning opportunities/resources. It is always worth making an application. Please go to: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools/school-meals-and-milk> If you need help or have any queries, please contact Mrs Knight in the office who will be very happy to help you. All information will be treated confidentially.

FOOD BANK- If you aren't already aware, Aldborough Primary is able to refer families in need to the Foodbank; please don't hesitate to contact us if you need some help. All support is provided confidentially.

<u>DATES LIST 2023</u>	
	FEBRUARY
Tuesday February 6th	Reading Meeting for Reception and C1 parents. 9.00 a.m. in C2.
Friday February 9th	Class 2 assembly 9.05. Class 2 parents and carers welcome
Friday February 15th	Class 5 assembly 9.05. Class 5 parents and carers welcome
	MARCH
Friday March 1st	Class 2 Cake Sale 3.15 p.m.
Friday March 8th	Class 1 assembly 9.05. Class 1 parents and carers welcome
Friday March 15th	Class 4 assembly 9.05. Class 4 parents and carers welcome
Friday March 22nd	Class 3 assembly 9.05. Class 3 parents and carers welcome
Monday March 25th Wednesday March 27th	Spring Term Parents' Evenings
Wednesday March 27th	Last day of Spring Term
	<u>EASTER HOLIDAYS</u>
	<u>APRIL</u>
Monday 15th April	First day of Summer Term
Friday 26th April	Class 1 Cake Sale 3.15 p.m.