



SCHOOL YEAR 2023/24- NEWSLETTER NO 9

Dear Friends,

There must be something about this time in March! This time 5 years ago we had just had our last Ofsted inspection. This time 4 years ago the country had gone into lockdown and school was closed to all but 3 or 4 children. This time 3 years ago we said good bye to our Head teacher, Mrs Read. While all 3 of those events were momentous in the Aldborough story, undoubtedly the events that have had the most long term effect on the children are those which took place in March 2020. We see and feel the implications of this unusual time every day.

For many of our children the effect is most noticeable in their social and emotional well-being and their communication skills which lead to playground altercations and arguments. Video games and on-line content are 'played' out on the playground with a surprising amount of aggression by some children. This is an issue not only in their 'play' but also in their story writing and their vision of relationships and friendships. Undoubtedly this has an effect on the children's behaviour and also on their mental well-being as they struggle to work out the unfairness of the adult world with a child's mind.

Untangling this for the children takes a significant amount of staff and learning time, but we never let an incident go unchecked, unexplained, or leave the children unsupported.

You regularly ask us what you can do to help. Reading to and with children gives them an imaginative world to explore and enjoy and cannot be measured in terms of mental health and well-being. It also encourages listening which has become very difficult for children. Secondly – PLAY (not on a screen, but with other children)! It costs nothing, it supports everything and it gives children a vision of the future to look forward to whilst helping our families get to know each other.

What a legacy to give to our children that they will learn how to live in a world with the skills to compromise, negotiate and empathise. What a tragedy it would be if the events of March 2020 were allowed to affect the lives of the next generation of children.

*Wishing you a playful weekend and a lovely Easter holiday,
With Best Wishes,
Mrs Bearman and the Aldborough Team*



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



Aldborough Working Together

ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL – All absences from school must be reported by an adult either in person or phone call. Many thanks for your support in this.

SCHOOL DROP OFF / PLAYGROUND / SAFETY – It is lovely to see so many of you arriving at school bright and early and enjoying the spring sunshine. Just a reminder that children should stand with their parents while they wait for the member of staff to arrive on the playground at 8.45 a.m. We know how difficult it is to stop children from running around, however, it is a very busy time in school and staff are not available to provide first aid should accidents happen. Secondly, children should not be dropped onto the playground before a member of staff has arrived. We had a number of unaccompanied children last week who appeared in the classrooms as early as 8.35 a.m. Staff are not available to monitor children until the start of the school day at 8.45 a.m. as they are preparing their classrooms and liaising with other members of staff. Finally, we have had a few heart stopping moments when some of our children have run up the road between cars at school drop off and pick up time. Please, please encourage the children to hold your hands as they would when crossing any road. We would be heartbroken should any accidents occur – little people can be hard to see from the driver's side of the car.

YEAR 6 YEARBOOK – It is getting towards the time of year when the Year 6 yearbook needs to be compiled. This is always done by the year 6 parents with one parent generally taking overall responsibility. Once the year 6 parents have decided who is going to be involved, could you inform the Office so that we know who to liaise with. This decision will need to be made as soon after Easter as possible – we look forward to hearing from you.

YEAR 6 DATE FOR YOUR DIARY- On Monday June 17th the pastoral team from Aylsham High School will be leading a workshop for parents/carers and children in year 6 to support the children in their transition to high school. The workshop is for all year 6 children regardless of which secondary school they are moving on to. The workshop will start immediately after school at 3.15 p.m. and run for about an hour. There will be separate advice and guidance for parents/carers and children. We really hope that you will all be able to attend this important session.

EASTER BONNET PARADE – What a wonderful day we have had today. The children looked amazing in their Easter bonnets. A first for Aldborough but definitely the start of a new tradition. We had 5 worthy winners (1 from each class) and all the children in school were given a special Easter treat. Thank you to The Friends for giving the children such a lovely last day of term and to everyone who supported the children in making their Easter bonnets – what amazing families we have!

FAMILY LEARNING AFTERNOON – Thank you to everyone who was able to join us for our Family Learning Afternoon and charity fundraising day. We raised just over £126 which has been gratefully received by The Big C. Thank you as always for all of your support. Our next Family Learning Afternoon is on Tuesday May 21st (PLEASE SEE LONG LIST OF SUMMER DATES BELOW!)

SWIMMING – Next half term a selection of children from across KS2 will be going swimming on Monday afternoons. Please look out for your email invitation. These sessions will be for invited children only.

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.** The days for the Summer half term are as follows:

C1: Wednesday

C2: Thursday

C4: Tuesday

SCHOOL MEALS – Unfortunately, we have to increase the cost of school lunches due to rising food and energy costs. We are so lucky to have Tracy and Kerry in our kitchen who provide our children with a delicious, well-balanced nutritional meal every day – it makes such a difference to the children’s learning in the afternoons. From Monday April 15th school lunches will cost £2.60. C1 and C2 children continue to have free school meals and free school snacks. Parents and carers of children in those classes should not send snacks in with the children. Children who have free school meals in KS2 will continue as normal.

NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS –The next event needing your support will be the Class 1 Cake Sale on April 26th. Please get baking!

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.

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 2024</u>	
	<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.
	<u>MAY</u>
Tuesday 7th May	Year 4 + 5 trip to Norwich Cathedral
Monday 13th May – Friday 16th May	End of KS2 SATs (all year 6 children – no term time holidays!) Year 5 Bikeability (Most year 5 children)
Tuesday 21st May	Family Learning afternoon
Friday 24th May	Yr 6 + Reception joint trip to Amazona Zoo
Monday May 27th – Friday 31st May	HALF TERM
	<u>JUNE</u>
Sunday 16th June	<u>FRIENDS FUNDRAISER BOLWICK HALL</u>
Monday 17th June	Yr 6 Transition Meeting (All yr 6 children, Parents and Carers) 3.15 p.m.
Wednesday 19th June	Class Photo Day
Saturday 22nd June	AHS Family Learning Day – Aylsham High School
Wednesday 26th June - Friday 28th June	AHS transition days (Yr 6 children who are going to AHS)
Wednesday 26th June	5.00p.m.-6.00p.m. Reception 2024 Parents’ Meeting

Thursday June 27th	Whole school transition day – new classes for Sept 2024
	<u>JULY</u>
Monday 1st July – Tuesday 2nd July	North Walsham High School transition days
Monday 8th July	Sports Day 9.00a.m.-10.30a.m.
Monday 15th July	KS2 Summer Production 1.30 p.m. (families with young children only)
Tuesday 16th July	KS2 Summer Production 6.00 p.m.
Wednesday 17th July	KS2 Summer Production 6.00 p.m.
Friday 19th July	Last day of the Summer Term