SCHOOL YEAR 2024/25- NEWSLETTER NO 5

Dear Friends,

Working in a primary school at this time of year must be a little bit like working in a supermarket over the festive period. The planning for Christmas starts in September, the excitement builds from the beginning of December onwards, the 'customers' get increasingly fractious as Christmas approaches and by the time the day itself arrives we have all moved on to planning for the New Year already. By 4.00 p.m. this afternoon our school Christmas tree will have gone onto a new home, the decorations will be boxed up and put away, the nativity costumes will have been folded neatly and put back in the cupboard and the Christmas Fair, Family Learning Day, Talent Show and whole school trip to the Pantomime will be just a distant memory (Oh yes they will!). Children, parents and staff alike will all breathe a huge sigh of relief because we have made it! We couldn't have done it without the support of the whole school community – Thank you for everything that you do for us and with us to support your children.

For the next two weeks nothing matters except family – enjoy every moment (that goes for the staff too!).

From the whole Aldborough family to all of your families, wherever in the world they may be, we wish you all a very happy Christmas.

Feliz Navidad!
Wesołych Świąt Bożego Narodzenia!
Tenha um Feliz Natal!
щасливого Різдва!

Wishing you a very Happy Christmas
and a peaceful and healthy New Year – see you on January 7th 2025,
With Best Wishes,
Mrs Bearman and the Aldborough team





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

Aldborough Working Together

THANK YOU - The whole Aldborough team would like to thank you for the many gifts, cards and good wishes for Christmas. Your generosity is unbelievable and very much appreciated.

NEW CHILDREN – There will be 6 new children and their families joining us in the New Year. We know that you will make them feel very welcome. It can be tricky for parents and children alike being the new face around the place so please do say hello when you can.

COUNTING AND COFFEE - TACT(Families) invites parents/carers of Reception, Year 1, 2 & 3 children from Aldborough Primary School to a FREE maths workshop. The aim of the workshop is to increase parents and carers' understanding of math's and discover a variety of fun and easy activities to enjoy with your child at home. Plus, you will receive a free carry case Lego set to take home! Please come along if you can. See the attached flyer for a QCR code or click this link to take you to the booking form. All places must be booked.

https://forms.gle/8qnjLuWNQmV9QNJ28

REPORTING ABSENCE – The Office receives between 150 and 300 emails every day and while we do our best to reply to every one of them it is possible that on occasion emails are missed – or buried! Sometimes parents give us advance warning of absence for medical appointments via email. Could we ask that this is always followed up by a phone call on the day of the absence. The phone line is monitored at all times and answer phone messages are always listened to.

NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS - A big thank you to all who have helped with fundraising this term, in total an incredible £2,000 has been raised. We had a record-breaking Christmas Fair raising over £1,800. Thank you to everyone who baked, donated goods and raffle prizes, volunteered their time and supported us on the day. Your generosity has enabled the whole school to enjoy the Christmas show at the Little Theatre this year. Asda cashpot for schools has now ended raising £82.20, thank you to those who signed up. Thank you also to those who have signed up to Easy Fundraising. It's free and easy to use. Sign up now and shop with over 7,500 online retailers and we'll receive a free donation at no cost to yourself using Friends of Aldborough School Norfolk Fundraising | Easyfundraising

Or use the QR code to link to the Friends fundraising page.

During the Spring Term look out for the Bingo and Chips evening, also cake sales for Pine, Cherry Blossom and Chestnut Classes.

We hope you all have a very Happy Christmas and Best Wishes for 2025!

The Friends.

CHRISTMAS FAIR –Thank you to everyone who supported the Christmas Fair and especially to the Friends who organised the event for us. The fair raised an incredible £1,800 which will all go towards supporting the children. An amazing effort – thank you.

FAMILY LEARNING AFTERNOON Thank you to all the Parents and Carers who were able to join us for our Christmas Family Learning afternoon. We all enjoyed seeing you and the children so engaged in their activities and kicking Christmas off to a flying start. Family Learning Days 2025 will take place on Tuesday 18th March and Tuesday May 20th. Save the dates in your new 2025 diaries!

SWIMMING – Named children in Year 4 will begin their swimming sessions on Monday 13th January. Look out for swimming letters early in the new term.

ACTIVITY CLUBS – The after-school Activity clubs will resume after the February half term. Thank you to the staff for giving up their time to support the children in their different interests this half term.

SCHOOL PAYMENT ACCOUNTS – Now we are at the end of term, we would be most grateful if you would settle any outstanding payments to your child's school account as a matter of urgency. It is always difficult to rush things through right at the end of term. Thank you, we really do appreciate your support in this.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB –The Spring booking forms for After School Club are now on the website for anyone wishing to book for next term.

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 Autumn half term are as follows:
Chestnut Class (C1): Wednesday
Cherry Blossom Class (C2 including yr 1 children from Chestnut Class): Thursday

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.
Monday = Pine Class (C3)
Tuesday = Willow Class (C4)
Thursday = Oak class (C5)
Chestnut Class (C1) and Cherry Blossom Class (C2) will need their PE kit in school at all times.
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.



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 95% 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 and these are not allowed to be worn on PE days. 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.

DATES LIST 2025	
	JANUARY
Tuesday 7th	**First day of the Spring Term for children**
Thursday 23rd	**Coffee and Counting. All parents and carers of children in Reception, year 1, year 2 and year 3 invited. 1.30 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.**
Friday 31st	**Pine Class Cake Sale after school**
	FEBRUARY
Monday 17th - Friday 21st	**HALF TERM**
Friday 28th	**Cherry Blossom Class Cake Sale after school**
	MARCH
Tuesday 18th	**Family Learning Afternoon**
Tuesday 25th	**Year 6 STEAM visit to Gresham**
Friday 28th	**Chestnut Class Cake Sale after school**
Monday 31st	**Parents' Evening 3.30 p.m. 5.30 p.m.**
	APRIL
Thursday 3rd	**Parents' Evening 3.30 p.m. – 7.00 p.m.**
Friday 4th	**Last day of Spring Term**