

# The Alderton Infant School

---

Alderton Hall Lane, Loughton, Essex IG10 3HE

Tel: 020 8508 7168. Fax: 020 8502 5794. Website: [www.alderton-inf.essex.sch.uk](http://www.alderton-inf.essex.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs. S.A. Dalby



Monday 12 March 2018

Dear Parents and Governors,

It is wonderful to be open again after the exceptional snow, ice and bitter conditions. Roll on spring! Thank you to everyone for supporting World Book Day. The book character costumes were amazing and the children had such a memorable time. We do enjoy a parade and book swap and photos are on the website! Donations for the PA sponsored read are also much appreciated.

The generosity of families during the recent Sportivator event was overwhelming. We raised a total of £2,634.60 which will support athletes of the future and provide PE and sports equipment for our school. Thank you to Miss Schaad for co-ordinating the event. Photos are on the website.

## **Multi-Academy Trust Update**

Following our recent application to convert to an academy, I am delighted to inform you that the DfE has agreed in principle. The Academy Order arrived last week. As you know, we held a parent and staff consultation in November, an outline of which is on our website for information. It is now full steam ahead to prepare for conversion in July! The Junior School is also converting in July because there are various land issues that need to be dealt with together.

## **Staffing Update**

I am delighted to inform you that Mrs Hambling, Miss Schaad and Mrs Ward are all expecting babies! I had to sit down when they told me, but they assure me they plan to return after leave!

- Miss Schaad's last day at work will be Friday 22 June.
- Mrs Hambling's last day at work will be Friday 29 June.
- Mrs Ward's maternity leave is likely to commence during September.

As you can imagine, we have been very busy recruiting and planning cover for the leave periods!

- Miss Rachael Smith, currently a TA, has a teaching degree. She will take over in Willow.
- Miss Poppy Russell, currently completing a final teaching practice in Elm Class, will cover a class. She may also be able to take over in Rowan Class from Monday 2 July, but we will keep you posted and she will be with us next academic year too.
- Mrs Jessie Lee is due back from her maternity leave week commencing 2 July and we are currently making preparations for her return to class teaching.

Miss Mallett is getting married during May half term - congratulations to her and Luke! Sadly, Miss Melia has decided to take early retirement this August. She has been our Deputy Head for 20 years! Her contribution, both as a superb class teacher and strong, knowledgeable senior leader, is truly significant. She is well respected by her colleagues, governors, parents and children. Her shoes will be hard to fill! However, Miss Melia has exciting plans to rest, travel and enjoy life outside of school from September! The Governing Body has started the recruitment process.

## **Year 2 Growth Mindset - special assembly, this Thursday, 15 March at 2.15pm**

On Thursday this week, we welcome Pop Up Theatre to work with Year 2. Each class will take part in a workshop to build upon the growth mindset work that staff and Lloyd Warbey (Disney's Art Attack) have been developing. Parents of Year 2 children are invited to attend a special assembly on Thursday from 2.15pm in the hall. The children will lead the event, supported by Debbie and Vicky from Pop Up Theatre.

## Parent Consultation Appointments – this week on...

- Wednesday 14 March from 3.15pm
- Thursday 15 March from 5.00pm

Please remember to use the on-line booking system for appointments. If you have any problems with the booking system do contact the office. The on-line system is expensive, but feedback from parents has been very positive! However, bookings are down this time, I wonder why? Please remember, we do need to see you to discuss your child's progress, attainment and next steps – thank you!

## School Development Update

Staff, leaders and governors continue to work hard to move the school onwards and upwards! This term we have hosted Year 1 writing moderation with Limes Farm Infant and Staples Road staff. It is always so useful to take time to look at standards and progress with colleagues. Suffice to say, our children are working hard and doing us proud!

Reception teachers have also taken part in moderation with local schools. Well done to Miss Peach and Miss Mallet who have been invited to be part of Local Authority EY Pedagogue Moderator programme.

Year 2 teachers have been busy focusing on the requirements of the end of Key Stage 1 age related expectations. They are also planning moderation with other local schools before Easter. Parents have been given handouts about expectations (also on the website) and we really do appreciate your help, in supporting your child with maths homework, reading, spellings etc please.

We continue to work closely with education consultants. Their comments this term include:

- *“From the sample of outcomes explored today, children appear to be accessing appropriately pitched activity. Children who do not grasp concepts as quickly are supported to access lesson content through scaffolding and additional support. More able children are being challenged through the development of reasoning and the use of variation.” (Paul Hargreaves 25/1/18)*
- *“The English and maths subject leaders have a clear view about what needs to be improved in their areas of responsibility. They have recently reported directly to governors about the outcomes of data analysis and monitoring.” Keith Pullen (27/2/18)*

## Wrap Around Care

The deadline for applications to take on breakfast and after school provision is this Friday. Interviews are planned for Wednesday 28 March. I have shown a number of interested parties around the facility and will keep you posted on progress and outcome as soon as possible.

## Diary Dates – see website for term dates

Wednesday 14 March	Elm Class Share-a-Lunch – see office for details
Wednesday 21 March	Ash Class Share-a-Lunch – see office for details
Tuesday 27 March at 9.00am	Year 1 spring concert – families welcome There will be a collection on the door - all proceeds shared in support of buying Easter eggs (for Norway House & EF Food Bank) and PA School Fund
Wednesday 28 March	Easter Lunch for children – just let us know if your child DOES NOT want a dinner please Year 2 Library Visit
Thursday 29 March at 2.00pm	School closes for EASTER
Monday 16 April at 8.45am	School opens for summer term
Tuesday 17 April	Year 2 visit to RAF Hendon Museum – letter out now!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S. A. Dalby