

The Alderton Infant School

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Headteacher: Mrs. S.A. Dalby



Wednesday 1 November 2018

Dear Parents, Carers and Governors,

Welcome back after half term. I hope you enjoyed the October parent consultation meetings and the opportunity to look at your child's work and to discuss progress. The response to our harvest appeal was overwhelming. We collected 244.7kg of donations, a superb effort!

Staffing

Recently we said goodbye to Ms Patience and Mrs Mountney. They were TAs and Middays but have left us for pastures new - we wish them well. We have successfully recruited to the team Miss Carrie Furbank, midday assistant and Mrs Anna Sayers, TA and midday assistant. I am also delighted that Miss Kirsty Johnson has been appointed Headteacher at the Junior School. She has exciting plans for the school and lots of drive and determination to make a difference!

Admissions – Year 2 moving to Year 3 in the Junior School September 2019

The junior school admission round opens on Monday 12 November 2018. Parents MUST apply on-line this year. Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. Essex is NOT sending out letters about this so please see their website for information! The statutory national closing date for applications is 15 January 2019. I strongly suggest you contact the Junior School if you are interested in a tour and catch up with Miss Johnson.

Admissions – Reception intake in September 2019

The Reception admission round opens on Monday 12 November. Again, Essex is NOT sending out letters, so if you know of any local family with a child due to start Reception in September 2019 please let them know! This applies to children born between 1 September 2014 and 31 August 2015. Parents MUST apply online at www.essex.gov.uk/admissions by 15 January 2019. Tours for prospective parents are planned, please contact the office for details.

SATS Year 2 Information Meeting – Monday 5 November from 2pm

Join us in the main hall for the latest news on the Year 2 assessment framework and tests in the summer term.

Anti-Bullying Day – Friday 9 November – Wear Blue Day!

The effects of bullying can have a massive effect on individuals whether it is at school, work or socially. Anti-bullying day is a way for us to raise awareness and take a stand against bullying. This year the national theme is "Choose Respect" and we will be talking about this in class and assembly. We are also asking children and staff to wear blue. This can be blue jeans, blue top, in fact anything blue! We will be using resources designed by the Anti-Bullying Alliance and more information can be found on their website. Help us say "NO" to bullying!

Maths information workshops – join Miss Bristow from 9am in Sycamore Classroom

- Reception parents on Thursday 8 November
- Year 1 parents on Thursday 15 November
- Year 2 parents on Thursday 22 November

Reading and Phonics workshop – join Miss Peach from 9am in Sycamore Classroom

- Tuesday 13 November – the meeting is for Reception Parents but if you are new to the school you are welcome to join us!

Special Needs Coffee Morning – join Mrs Carter from 9am in the dining hall

- Friday 7 December (this event is for Infant and Junior families – all welcome!)

Arts Week - from Monday 12 November

The children will be engaged in lots of creative activities to promote the arts. Painting, designing, making, sticking, dancing and singing – such fun!

Friday 16 November – Children in Need Sponsored Fundraiser

We are planning a special sporting challenge to raise funds for Children in Need. The children will participate in four fitness exercises for around one minute on each activity. The pace will be fast and fun! Sponsor forms are coming home next week.

Lucky Dip Tours are back! Tuesday 20 November!

Lucky Dip tours are designed to show parents the school in session. If your name is pulled from the class hat you will be invited to tour with Mrs Dalby. Groups are small, the children love it and you visit every classroom during the 45 minute visit!

Christmas dates for the diary!

Date	Event
Tuesday 4 December at 9am	Reception Christmas sing-along Children will sing a selection of songs in the main hall for their families
Wednesday 5 December at 2.15pm	Year 1 will spend the day making music with Travelling by Tuba. Children will perform to families in the main hall from 2.15pm. Every child plays an instrument!
Saturday 8 December	PA Christmas Bazaar – details to follow! All welcome!
Tuesday 11 December and Wednesday 12 December at 9.15am	Year 2 will perform “The Little Fir Tree” to families from 9.15am. Children will play instruments, sing, act and narrate this wonderfully traditional story. Please attend one concert as seating is limited.
Wednesday 12 December	Christmas Dinner for the Children Only let us know if your child does NOT want the traditional hot meal please! Staff will be on hand to serve the children and make the event truly special!
Friday 14 December	Christmas Jumper Day – donate £1 Roding Valley staff will also visit to lead multi-skills events for Year 1 and Year 2!
Wednesday 19 December	School closes at 2pm for the holidays!
Thursday 3 January 2019	School opens for the Spring term at 8.45am

Yours sincerely,
S. A. Dalby
Headteacher