

Newsletter 22nd September 2023

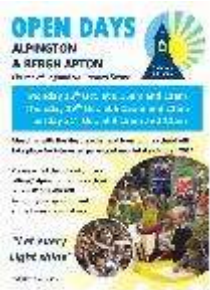
ALPINGTON & BERGH APTON Church of England VA Primary School

Matthew 5 v 16

Dear parents



A very warm welcome to all our new Robins who are nearing the end of their 2nd week in school! We are so proud of the way that they have settled and adapted to school, making new friends, adapting to new routines and getting to know their Robins' grown ups. They have loved having Huxley in the classroom too. As always at Alington, the older children have been caring and welcoming to the new arrivals, looking out for them at playtime and lunchtimes, taking them under a wing when they have needed it and thinking of great games to play and things to do.



The process of applying for places for children starting school in September 2024 is beginning! We have several open days in the coming weeks. Please pass this information to any parents with children of a relevant age. The flyer is attached.

The Friends' AGM is on Tuesday 26th September at 7pm in the school hall. New Friends are always welcome so please come along; there is something for everyone to get involved in, whatever your talents, interests and availability!



Friends are collecting used logoed uniform for resale. We are actively promoting second hand uniform – it's great for the environment as well as for everyone's wallet! If you have any school jumpers, PE shirts or PE hoodies which your child has grown out of, please pop it in the labelled bin near the school office. There will be regular uniform sales each term. Thank you!

Diary

September
Mon 25th – KS2 trip to RSPB Minsmere
Tues 26th 7pm Friends AGM, school hall
Wed 27th – individual school photographs – smart school uniform please
Thurs 28th – Harvest Festival

October
Thurs 5th, change to school menu, see contents of this newsletter
Wed 11th – KS2 cross country at Langley
Mon 16th – 9.15 & 11am Open Morning
Tues & Wed 17 & 18 parents' evening – details to follow
Thurs 19th, 9.15 & 11am Open Morning
23rd – 27th Oct half-term
Wed 25th Art Club Day

ALLERGY AWARE – please keep lunchboxes and snacks **nut free** and remind you child not to share their food.

We politely remind parents to inform us of any changes in your contact details

Contact Details:
Alington CE VA Primary School, Wheel Road, Alington, Norwich NR14 7NH
Tel. 01508 492700
www.alington.norfolk.sch.uk
office@alington.norfolk.sch.uk

KS2 Trip to Minsmere

ALL KS2 Children are off to Minsmere on MONDAY! Please make sure you have given permission and paid by clicking here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/wNaje9L1jS>

Further details about what to bring / wear are on the form. Thank you

Food allergies

It has really been brought home to me this week just how brave parents have to be to send their children to school knowing that they have life threatening food allergies. We have rigorous procedures in place at school to make sure that children do not come into contact with foods they are allergic to. Our school lunches are provided by Norse and are completely nut free. Norse are very good at providing special menus for children with allergies and other dietary requirements. Our staff are all aware of which children are affected and know what action to take should a child have a reaction. We are especially aware of our youngest children, who may not be able to explain exactly how they feel or understand what is happening.

However, keeping children with allergies safe in school has to be a whole school community effort. Norse have 100% control over what food they buy and serve, but school cannot control what children bring in their lunchboxes or for snack time. If we all pack our lunchboxes (staff included!) as if it was our own child who had the allergy, we will know that we have all played our part. Please keep nuts of all kinds out of lunchboxes, including peanut based cereal bars. Please be especially aware of sandwich fillings such as Nutella or peanut butter. We also have children with allergies to sesame so watch out for this too – especially in spreads or cereal bars. Other children have allergies to dairy, gluten and eggs which can also cause a serious reaction so please make it clear to your child that they are not to share their food with anyone else. We have also backed up this message in school. Thank you so much for your support. I just want every parent to know that their child is safe in school.

Change to school lunch menu – Thurs 5/Fri 6 Oct.

Thursday 5th Oct. is Census Day and it really helps the school if as many children can have a school lunch that day as possible, especially in Robins and Kingfishers. We have swapped the main meat course for our popular fish fingers, chips, peas or baked beans the veg. option is summer vegetable omelette with chips, packed lunch and pudding remain the same, Friday therefore will be chicken fajita wrap.

School Photographs

Tempest Photography will be coming into school on Wed 27th Sept to take individual/sibling photographs of all the children in their smart school uniform. (Swallows, no PE kit, school uniform please.) If you have younger children not at school you are welcome to bring them in at 8.30am. Proofs of photographs will be emailed to parents in due course.

Payments

Please make sure you are up to date with payments for school lunches, breakfast club and school trips. Mrs Reeman is sending out reminders soon.

Dates

Please see the front page for dates for this half-term. Other important dates for your diary:

October

Tues 31st - Open Morning 9.15 and 11.00am

November

Fri 10th - Robins and Kingfishers trip tbc (further details to follow)

Thurs 23rd, 2.15pm - Open Afternoon for our parents

Fri 24th – Robins and Kingfishers trip to Norwich Playhouse, The Gruffalo's Child

Thurs 30th – Christmas cake making (Yr 5 and 6). Parent help welcome.

December

Thurs 7th Christmas cake icing (Yr 5 and 6)

Tues and Wed, 12th and 13th 1.45 – Nativity performance (Years 1 and 2)

Thurs 14th 9am – Reception Year Nativity morning

Fri 15th 9am – Carol singing

Mon 18th – Christingle

Tues 19th – Christmas lunch

Wed 20th – Christmas parties (Last day of term)

Thurs 21st – Wed 3rd Jan. – Christmas holiday

January

Thurs 4th – Children return to school

Harvest Festival

We will be celebrating our harvest festival on Thursday 25th September. The children will be walking to church with their class to take part in some harvest related activities. Robins and Kingfishers classes are looking for some additional adult help. If you are able to come between 10.30 and 12.15, please contact Mrs Eland or Miss Larter on the class email addresses.

We will be collecting packets and tins for the Salvation Army. Please send your donation with your child on Thursday morning. Please check that donations are in date! Thank you.

Cross country

The morning of Wed. 11th Oct all the KS2 children will be taking part in the cluster Cross Country event at Langley school. Transport has been organised and paid for. Please could all Swallows, Owls and Eagles come to school on the day dressed in WARM Alington PE kit as we will be outside all morning. Joggers to go over shorts and plenty of layers that can be taken off while running and put back on whilst cheering on our friends would be ideal! We will be back in school for lunch. If any parents / grandparents etc. are available to help we are still looking for some extra pairs of hands. Please get in touch with Mrs Reeman in the office if you can help.

Free School meals and the Pupil Premium

Parents of children in Robins class should click the link below to see if their child is eligible for "free school meals". Meals for children in Robins are free anyway, but the school will receive additional funding for each child who is eligible. Thank you.

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools/school-meals-and-milk>

Transfer to High School

Year 6 pupils have been given letters informing parents of the procedure for applying for secondary school places. Please look out for it! The children were also given an invitation to Hobart High's open evening and an invitation from Framingham Earl High School is attached.

Art Club @ Half term

Please see the attached flyer and book a place with Ms Godbold.

Attendance

is parents' responsibility to ensure that children attend school regularly. We will be working with parents to ensure that no child at our school is persistently absent. This is defined as an attendance rate of less than 90%. If our records show that your child is at risk of dropping below this, we will be contacting you to make a plan to ensure attendance improves. A child with 90% attendance at the end of a school year has missed

more than 4 weeks of school! This will inevitably impact on their progress and children with high levels of absence are likely to do less well in school than their friends.

Attendance for the term to date is 98.5%.

Flu Vaccination

The flu vaccination team commented on the excellent take up of vaccination for children at Alington. Thank you for your support!

Rosie Welch and the Alington Team

Attached

- Our school's open days – Mon 16th, Thurs 19th, Tues 31st Oct. 9.15am and 11am
- Framingham Earl High School - Open Evening, Thurs 5th October between 4–7pm
- Alington Art Club – Half-term Art Day, Wed 25th Oct