



## Newsletter 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023

# ALPINGTON & BERGH APTON

## Church of England VA Primary School

**Matthew 5 v 16**

Dear parents

Welcome back to a new school year! We are delighted to have everyone back. We have had a really positive start to term with the children settling quickly into their new classes. There has been a shuffle round of classrooms for KS2 but the children have taken this in their stride! From Monday we are looking forward to welcoming our new Robins, starting school for the very first time!

We are really pleased to welcome Mrs Fowler (Swallows class) and Mrs Lloyd (Owls class) to the Alpington team! I am sure you will get to meet them over the coming weeks.

All the classes have begun to update their "Class in action" pages of the website which is a great place to keep up to date with what the children have been doing in school. The class page has important information about curriculum, routines and timetables which will support you and the children as you get back into the rhythms of school life. This includes information about the days your child has PE which may have changed from last year.

Communication between home and school is really important for the children's wellbeing and learning. You can catch me on the gate most mornings, or contact me by email [head@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:head@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk). Alternatively contact Mrs Reeman to make an appointment. Class teachers are on the playground at the end of the school day. Class email addresses are as follows:

[robins@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:robins@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk)  
[kingfishers@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:kingfishers@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk)  
[swallows@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:swallows@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk)  
[owls@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:owls@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk)  
[eagles@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:eagles@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk)

Please do keep in touch. No issue is too small; we know that little things make a big difference!

### **Apple Watches / fitbits and smart watches**

Please could parents ensure that children are not wearing smart watches to school. They are expensive and have internet connectivity, connectivity to

### Diary

#### September

Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> – Whole school flu immunisation;  
Wed 27<sup>th</sup> – individual school photographs

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

Contact Details:  
Alpington CE VA Primary School, Wheel Road, Alpington, Norwich NR14 7NH  
Tel. 01508 492700  
[www.alpington.norfolk.sch.uk](http://www.alpington.norfolk.sch.uk)  
[office@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk)



phones and many have cameras which make them impossible to monitor safely and therefore inappropriate for school. Children can wear an "ordinary" watch to school if they would like to. This will need to be removed for PE. Thank you.

## **Friends and the Summer Fayre.**

A note from Mel!

Dear all

*I wanted to send a note to say a big thank you everyone who came along to the summer fayre. Despite the weather trying to sabotage us, it was an amazing success! :-)*

*Our treasurer, Jacquie Raywood has been busy counting up and we are delighted to share that the event generated £2999.50! Only £100 less than last year, and considering the weather conditions, I'm sure you will agree that's a simply wonderful result!*

*I'd like to start by thanking the children who ran a stall (and their respective parents/carers for supporting them) - great job and brilliant ideas.*

*I would also like to thank all the parents/carers who kindly donated raffle prizes:*

*Laila from Eden Beauty*

*Jacquie Raywood for the Clear Interiors voucher*

*Amelia Reynolds for the Jannette Liggins voucher*

*Nikki Chang for the Groundhog Voucher*

*Sammi Wilcockson for the Onyx voucher*

*Jess Wilcockson for the Botany and Beans voucher*

*Danny Searle for the Yalm voucher*

*James Aldiss for the lovely fruit hamper*

*And those who volunteered and helped to set up/ run a stall/the bar/the BBQ:*

*Rach Cochrane, Laura (Ruby's Mum), Michelle Barber, Danny Searle, Katie Searle, Emily Hewkin, Becs Harris, Corta Callow, Laura Aitkin, Helen Hyett, Lorna Hemmant, Jess Wilcockson, Andy Baker, Joe Horton.*

*We really, really couldn't do this without you, so huge thanks to you all.*

*I'd like to give a special mention to the core team who dedicated a huge amount of time to organise and run the event and made it the success it was, Jacquie, Amy, Lizzie, Kate, Steph, Jasmine, Nikki & Sammi.*

*And a really big thank you to the teachers for clearing out their classrooms (and those of you that stayed to help clean up), to Mr Colbeck for keeping the kids occupied, to Mrs Welch for being so positive, supportive and helpful. And finally to Karen, for being so completely wonderful and helping us with so many communications and logistics.*

*Now to start planning the Christmas Fayre! 😊*

*Thanks again everyone*

*Mel*

I would like to add my huge thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make the fayre such a success despite the inclement weather conditions!

The Friends' AGM is coming up in the next couple of weeks – more details to follow. New Friends are always welcome so please come along; there is something for everyone to get involved in, whatever your talents, interests and availability!

### **Lunches**

Attached is the school menu which runs until the end of October when a new Autumn/Winter menu will be issued. Paper copies are available from the school foyer. However, please note the packed lunch option does not offer a choice:

Monday = Cheese sandwich  
Tuesday = Ham sandwich  
Wednesday = Cheese salad wrap  
Thursday = Cheese and Tomato Pasta Pot  
Friday = Ham Salad Wrap

Children in Robins and Kingfishers are entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals. Messages from Norse to support new parents are attached.

Once children reach year 3, parents need to pay for school lunches. Children having a school lunch will need to tell their teacher what they would like from the menu each morning. School lunches and breakfast clubs need to be paid by Friday, 9am. Payment may be made weekly, monthly, half-termly in advance as long as we receive payment for meals consumed by the end of the week. School lunches are £2.50 and are paid direct to the school bank account:

Please make payment to “NCC Alington & Bergh Apton CE VA Pri. School”, sort code: 20-62-61, account No. 70668451, enter child's surname followed by description, e.g. Surname – Lunches.

Mrs Reeman sends out regular reminders!

**Please note that we have children in school with severe allergies to nuts and other foods such as dairy and eggs. Please keep packed lunches and snacks nut free, including peanut butter or nuts as snacks. School lunches are nut free. There are also other food allergies in school so please could you remind children not to share lunches or snacks with their friends. Thank you!**

### **Free School meals and the Pupil Premium**

The impact of rising fuel prices and the cost of living is being felt right across the country. It is possible that if your family circumstances have changed you may be entitled to free school meals. This is SEPARATE to the universal infant free school meals described above which are for all infant aged children. The school also receives money from the Pupil Premium to support the learning of children in school. You can complete the form here: Please do this even if your child is in Robins or Kingfishers and has the universal infant meals as the school will receive funding for them.

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

### **After school clubs**

Clubs will begin again from next week. We are just waiting for confirmation from Rachel that Gym club is able to start next week. Contact details are below. You will need to contact the clubs directly to reserve a place and make payment. (Clubs are available for those in Years 1-6, apart from Friday's Little Ones Football which Reception children may attend.)

Club	Day	Contact
Gym Club with Rachel Perry	Tuesday	<a href="mailto:Gymfinity15@gmail.com">Gymfinity15@gmail.com</a>
Art Club with Ms Godbold	Wednesday	<a href="mailto:egodbold@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk">egodbold@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk</a>
MPA dance with Harriet	Thursday	<a href="http://www.maysperformingarts.co.uk/book-class">www.maysperformingarts.co.uk/book-class</a>
Multi Sports (KS2) Little ones Football (KS1 / EYFS) (details were emailed earlier this week)	Friday	<a href="mailto:procoach@btinternet.com">procoach@btinternet.com</a>

### **Drawing and talking and Parent support and advice**

As you are aware, we have Monika Firago working with us on a Friday. She has two roles in school; she is our PSA (parent support advisor), which means she is available to offer support to parents with all issues great and small! There is nothing too trivial or too big – please contact Monika directly on [psa@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:psa@alpington.norfolk.sch.uk) or pop in on a Friday morning for a chat.

Monika is also trained in Drawing and Talking, which is a programme designed to get children exploring their feelings and ideas through drawing. This can be done in small groups or as individuals. Monika is running at least one group each term, and the children who have taken part have loved it and got a huge amount out of it. Because the groups run regularly, lots of children will have the chance to take part during their time at Alpington. If we are able to offer this to your child, we will contact you to let you know. If you think your child would particularly benefit, then please let Mrs Welch know (email me or give us a ring), and we will try to prioritise them.

### **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.

Attached is the letter from the Local Authority, outlining the procedure if a child has unauthorised absences, which would include term time holiday. If it is essential to take children out of school during term time, please complete the request form from the office. Term time holiday will not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Thank you for your support.

### **Guitar lessons**

Mr Ian Cooper who is employed by Norfolk Music Service has spaces for children in Years 2-6 wishing to learn to play the guitar or ukulele.

Mr Ian Cooper will be in school next Friday 15<sup>th</sup> and is offering a taster session to anyone interested. If you require more information please speak to Mrs Reeman.

### **Flu Vaccination**

Attached is important information about the upcoming flu vaccination in school. Please read! An e-consent link will be emailed to you next week.

Rosie Welch and the Alpington Team

## **Attached**

- Lunch Menu
- Information from Norse to YR parents regarding school meals
- Local Authority attendance warning letter
- Primary School Flu information