



Newsletter 10<sup>th</sup> November 2023

# ALPINGTON & BERGH APTON Church of England VA Primary School

Matthew 5 v 16

Dear parents

“Let Every Light Shine”



On Monday, we took thirteen Year 3 and Year 4 children to Loddon Junior School for a basketball tournament. From the start, you could see the skill and determination in our players. They dribbled skillfully, passed thoughtfully, blocked and defended accurately and enjoyed every minute. We were due to play two matches in our league followed by a play-off for 1st, 2nd or 3rd. We drew our first match, won the second and then had to wait for the other teams to finish their matches to find out which play-off we would be in. Finley assured me that if we had the same points as another team, the decision would be based on goal difference and we had scored well in both our matches. As we waited, we were able to show our Alington Empathy by helping out another school with only one girl on their team. Our girls took it in turns to play alongside her, putting their hearts into playing well for the other school. Finally, the results were in - we would play against Thurton for 1st place. We had a quick team chat, the children had identified which of the Thurton team needed particular marking and came up with a strategy. By the end of the tournament, the children had played their best, played fair and played as a team. We also came away with first place medals. Well done, team. You are amazing!

## Diary

### November

**Thurs 16<sup>th</sup>** – non-uniform day  
Bring a donation for Children in Need and a contribution to the chocolate tombola or raffle hampers

**Fri 17<sup>th</sup>** – School Disco

**Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> from 2.15pm** open afternoon for our parents

**Fri 24<sup>th</sup>** – Robins and Kingfishers trip to see “The Gruffalo’s Child”

**Thurs 30<sup>th</sup>** – Years 5 & 6, Xmas cake baking

### December

**Thurs 7<sup>th</sup>** – Xmas cake icing, Years 5 9-10.30am, Years 6 10.45-12.15am

**Sat. 9<sup>th</sup>** - Christmas Fayre

**Tues 12<sup>th</sup> and Wed 13<sup>th</sup>, 2pm** – Years 1 and 2 Nativity, further details to follow

**Thurs 14<sup>th</sup>, 9am** – Reception “Nativity”

**Fri 15<sup>th</sup>, 9am**, Carol singing at local church, all welcome

**Tues 19<sup>th</sup>** – Christingle (see attached for details) and Xmas dinner, further details in due course

**Wed 20<sup>th</sup>** – Class Xmas parties (Last day of term)

### January

**Thurs 4<sup>th</sup>** – Children return to school

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## **Alpington Reporters**

We are delighted to publish the first edition of Alpington Reporters – school in the children’s own words! We hope you enjoy it. You can click here to read the website edition, or read the attached PDF.

<https://alpington.norfolk.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Alpington-Reports-Nov.pdf>

## **Getting out and about!**

The whole of Key Stage 2 had a fantastic day at Minsmere as part of their “Fantastic Creatures” topic. They had a great day exploring the variety of habitats and their amazing inhabitants! We were, as always, especially proud of the children’s behavior which was commented on by centre staff and volunteers, who noticed their knowledge, enthusiasm and engagement as well as lovely manners. There are pictures on the class pages of the website and on Tapestry.

This week we took members of Owls and Eagles classes to Framingham Earl High School to take part in a computing lesson. The children took the high school experience in their stride, concentrating and listening beautifully, showing off their computing skills and learning some new ones and generally being a credit to Alpington! Well done everyone. Thank you to Framingham Earl for having us. There are other opportunities for children to work with teachers and students from Framingham Earl coming up – watch this space.

Today our Years 1 and 2 travelled to Gt Yarmouth and visited the Time and Tide Museum and Elizabethan House. Our next newsletter will feature an article from our young reporters.

Next Wednesday we have several Key Stage 2 children representing the school in a cluster swimming event – have fun and do your best, we look forward to hearing all about it.

We are delighted to be taking all the children in Robins and Kingfishers to **see a performance of the Gruffalo’s Child at The Playhouse, Friday 24<sup>th</sup>**. Please click here for details:

<https://forms.office.com/e/9BwAGuErKX>

## **Parent survey / SEND forum feedback**

Thank you to everyone who completed the parent survey and attended our forum for parents of children with SEND. Thank you also to parents in Robins and Kingfishers who completed the children’s survey with their children. The older children have completed the survey independently on line.

The response to all the surveys, parents and children, has been overwhelmingly positive. Thank you for all your feedback, it really does help us to improve. Where parents have raised a specific issue and have given their name, I am endeavoring to get back to you individually. Similarly, teachers have the children’s survey results for their class and are having conversations with children who have raised particular issues or whose responses raise concerns. The overall results from the surveys are being collated and we are formulating an action plan which I will share with you in the next newsletter. Actions arising from the children’s survey will be acted on by the school council, supported by myself and Mrs Eland.

## **Attendance**

Our attendance for this term to date is 97.7%. The number of children classed as “persistently absent” has dropped to 5%. I am so pleased – thank you for all your efforts, it is really making a difference.

## Dates

Please check the calendar on the front page for upcoming dates.

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November will be a non-uniform day. We will be raising money for Children in Need AND collecting donations for hampers and chocolate tombola for the Christmas Fayre. Further details to follow.

We are aware that parent teacher meetings were early in the term, so we would like to invite parents to an open afternoon on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November from 2.15pm. This will be an informal opportunity to look at work in books and on display and talk to the children about what they have been learning.



### **SCHOOL DISCO - FRIDAY 17TH NOVEMBER – Flyer attached.**

#### **Multi-Sports/Disco – Fri 17<sup>th</sup>**

Mr Colbeck's multi-sports will still go ahead on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Nov., however if the weather prevents the children from being outside, he will organize something for them in a classroom. Multi-sports finishes at 4.05pm and the disco for Key Stage 2 is not due to start until 4.30pm, therefore children will need to be collected at 4.05pm. For some parents the distance involved in getting the children home and back may mean it is easier for their child to bring their "disco" clothes to school to change into after multi-sports.



### **CHRISTMAS FAYRE - SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER**

**Reminder – Non uniform day Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November.** Bring a donation for Children in Need and a contribution to the chocolate tombola or raffle hampers.

**Bakers wanted –** We will be looking for cakes, cookies and sweet treats for the bake stall and sausage rolls for the café. Please let Mel and the team know if you are able to help. More details to follow.

**Raffle Prizes –** If you are able to donate a raffle prize, please let Mel and the team know. Thank you for your support.

We will be sending out a form asking for helpers in the coming days, including help to set up and organise the grotto. Please sign up if you can – we need lots of pairs of hands to make the preparations and the day run smoothly and every little really does help. Thank you.  
Many thanks,

Mel Vince and the Friends of Alplington

P.S. if you would like to join the Friends of Alplington, or have any questions regarding the charity, please get in touch with Mel ([melaniewilcockson@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:melaniewilcockson@hotmail.co.uk))

## **Christingle – Tuesday 19th December**

Always a bit of Christmas magic, and we are really pleased to be able to invite parents again. Please see attached for details. You will need to check which “Alpington Family” your child is in so you know which service to come along to. Ask your child (they should know) or check with your class teacher or Mrs Reeman in the office.

Once again we are supporting “The Children’s Society”:

### ***How Christingle helps young people***

***Over the last 50 years, Christingle celebrations have raised millions of pounds to support our life-changing work with children and young people. The money you raise can help connect them to our services, and rekindle the hope they deserve.***

*The generosity and support shown at Christingle services is overwhelming and every year we are reminded of the compassionate Christinglers that help bring hope to young people across the country.*

We will not be making a collection at church, but ask that donations are made online:

[www.justgiving.com/Alpington-Primary-School1](http://www.justgiving.com/Alpington-Primary-School1)

Thank you.

### **Start and end of the school day**

As I know you are aware, the end of the school day particularly can pose a challenge keeping all the children and their families safe on the roads. The roads around school are narrow and with 150 children being collected at 3pm there is bound to be lots of cars and traffic around. We have an increasing number of our older children who are walking home independently and we need the roads around school to be safe for them. Please be mindful of other parents and children and our school neighbours when collecting your children. We have an ongoing arrangement with The Wheel and the village hall which enables parents to use these car parks at pick up time to take the pressure off parking around the school. Please don't park in or block the staff car park at pick up time. Thank you.

There have also been some issues collecting children from clubs and dropping off at breakfast club. The yellow road markings are there for a reason – to keep children coming out of school safe. Please do not stop or park here for any reason at any time.

Finally, **please do not bring your dog onto the playground.** Dogs outside the gates should be on a lead at pick up and drop off. We don't want any accidents and we have one or two children who are very frightened of dogs. Thank you.

### **Trainers**

Please could all children have a change of shoes in school on PE days, a pair for inside and a pair of trainers for outside.

We are now generally using the playground for playtimes and lunchtimes. However, as last year, we will try to give the children the opportunity to play football on the field on a Friday – weather permitting! Please could children have a change of shoes in school to prevent us trekking mud through the school. No boots with studs please.

### **Second-hand sofa!**

The Year 6 would like to furnish “The Nest” to make it more comfortable and relaxing for reading. If you have an old sofa you no longer require, please see Mr. Stowers. Thank you.

Rosie Welch and the Alpington Team

**Attached**

- **Alpington reporters**
- **Neon disco**
- **Christingle poster**