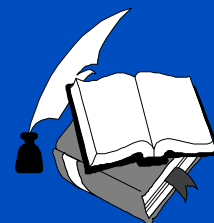


Alderman Payne Primary School

Newsletter

11th September 2026



Dear Families,

We welcomed our new Reception starters in to school this week. They have had a wonderful time learning about the school, getting used to their environment and routines. Our older pupils have also supported them at lunch times.

This year, we have made a slight change to lunch times, all children in Key Stage 2 will now eat in the hall whereas before packed lunches were eaten outside or in the classroom. Some children may have spoken about having to wait a little longer to eat, but they are already getting quicker now the routine is in place and we are seeing less mess and wastage.

Over the summer, we have had some decorating done. This is part of a larger project to freshen up the school. Currently, the main office and all corridors have been decorated. We have also decorated and repurposed our Nest Classroom. This is our therapeutic classroom designed to support children with regulation and to create a classroom space for quieter work and activities for use by children across school. The children who have completed group work in there so far have commented on how much they love it as an alternative to the classroom.

Our new website is also now live. There are some pages that are still developing as they have required a significant update of content. Teachers will be working on this over the coming weeks.

Thank you to those of you who gave feedback regarding parental engagement. Whilst not overwhelmed with responses, in the main, the comments and feedback aligned with the review of staff. We will be looking to make parent events more engaging and interactive with the children. Whilst family assemblies are regular and offer an opportunity to hear first hand about what has been happening in school, parental interaction is limited. Feedback indicates that less frequent, but more meaningful or interactive opportunities would be welcomed. For this reason, we will no longer be having family assemblies in the existing style. Instead, each class will have specific events for which families are invited to attend instead of the weekly family assemblies. These will involve class activities, class assemblies and performances. Other events for families such as school performances, our parent lunches, Holi dancing, sports days and picnics will continue and we are looking to introduce other opportunities for events in a similar way. We strongly value the partnership with our families and wish to continue to have a number of events together. We hope that you will feel positively about this change and please bear with us as we plan these in. Dates will be shared with plenty of notice for those who need it at the end of each newsletter.



The Nest—our therapeutic classroom

Attendance

Whole school attendance this week is 94.1%

Whole school attendance this year is 94.5%

Class Information

Class 1—R/1 Donaldson Class

Teacher: Ms Harrison

Support: Mrs Causer, Mrs Bartlett

Class 2—1/2 Potter Class

Teacher Mrs Wardill

Support: Mrs Mascall, Mrs Wainwright, Miss Duffy

Class 3—3/4 Dahl Class

Teacher Mr Turner

Support: Mrs Oldale, Mrs Ainley, Mr Jameson

Class 4—5/6 Rauf Class

Teacher: Mrs Topping

Support: Ms Godwin, Miss Hazzard, Miss Ahmed

Weekly Round Up - by our young reporters

Donaldson Class have been learning class routines. They have also been talking about expectations and getting to know each other. They have looked around different parts of the school, met their buddies and have even practiced where to go if there is a fire drill. They have also been painting a class portrait.

Potter Class have started their phonics in their phonics groups. They have been learning about speech bubbles. In RE they have been learning about how God created the world from a Christian perspective. In their writing, they have been writing labels. In art, they have been mixing primary colours to create secondary colours.

Dahl Class have been learning about partitioning numbers in maths. In literacy they have been writing about 'The mini rabbit who didn't get lost.' In swimming they have been learning to float and glide. Dahl Class also took part in a live lesson with Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler looking at Gruffalo Granny and taking part in a live illustration tutorial

Rauf Class have been learning how to divide by two digit numbers using bus stop method. In art they have been learning about shades and tints. In literacy they have been learning about writing spooky stories. In Spanish they have been learning about animals. In science they have been learning about electric circuits.

Special Mention

School Values

Community Responsibility Diversity Integrity Courage Aspiration



This half term our focus value is **Community: Teamwork and Cooperation**

This week, our classes have voted for their School Council members. Our School Council will be meeting regularly with Mrs Topping throughout the year.

The class representatives are:

Mason
Etta
Delilah
Lennox
Pippa
Bailey
Clara
Verity

Our Eco Council and other roles will be announced soon.

School Update: Policies

A reminder of our communication policy. School staff aim to respond within five working days to parental communication. Parents can have brief handover conversations at the start and end of the day but more detailed conversations may need a different space or more attention. Please contact the school office and they will either answer your query or direct it to the relevant staff member. School use Class Dojo to share information with parents but this is not the platform used for parents to communicate with school. If you need to get in touch, please do so via the school office.

We have updated our mobile phone policy in relation to updated guidance for schools. This can be found on the school website. The guidance and policy relates to use of mobile phones by staff, pupils, parents and visitors. We ask our parents to support the school in the enforcement of rules for pupils using devices and to consider the use of devices in the family home. Within school, using their own devices, we ask that parents adhere to the guidelines in the policy and visitors guide. A reminder that we have children in school that must not have their photos taken and shared and we take this very seriously.

Both policies can be found on our school website [here](#).

School Update: Autumn Curriculum

Our learning for the Autumn Term

Class 1	Communities	This project teaches children about themselves, their family and their school community before looking at the wider community and the range of people who help us.
Class 2	Movers and Shakers	This project teaches children about historically significant people who have had a major impact on the world. They will learn to use time-lines, stories and historical sources to find out about the people featured and use historical models to explore their significance.
Class 3	Invasion	This project teaches children about life in Britain after the Roman withdrawal. Children will learn about Anglo-Saxon and Viking invasions up to the Norman conquest.
Class 4	Maafa	This project teaches children about Africa past and present, with a particular focus on Benin. It traces the development of the slave trade and explores Britain's role in the transatlantic slave trade, the causes and consequences of the European colonisation of Africa.

Teachers will send out regular information about what has been taught in class. Our young reporters also provide a weekly roundup. Additional learning at home using a range of sources can support children if they have been absent or if they need to review any areas. You might consider using the following:

[Oak Academy](#) [BBC Bitesize](#) [Top Marks Maths Games](#) [Top Marks Literacy Games](#)

Key Dates

September 2026							1st	Inset Day — school closed for children
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	2nd	Inset Day — school closed for children
	1	2	3	4	5	6	3rd	Years 1-6 Return to school
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	7th	Reception Children start school
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	24th	Reading in Reception Parent Information session. Donaldson parents invited 2:40
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28th	Teambuilding day
28	29	30						

October 2026							1st	International Day – Parents invited from 2:45 for team assembly
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	8th	Individual photos
			1	2	3	4	TBC	Harvest Festival – All parents welcome
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	23rd	Inset Day — school closed for children
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	26 th – 1/11	Half Term
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
26	27	28	29	30	31			

November 2026							2nd	All children return to school
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	11th	Remembrance Service at the Memorial – All families welcome
						1	13th	Children in Need
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	w/c 9th	Pupil Progress meetings with families (Days and times TBC)
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	17th	Flu vaccinations
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	19th	Rauf Class Assembly – Rauf Class parents welcome from 2:45
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	26th	Dahl Class Assembly – Dahl Class parents welcome from 2:45
30								

December 2026							3rd	Flu vaccinations (round 2)
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	TBC	Donaldson and Potter Nativity Assembly - Times TBC for Donaldson and Potter Class parents
	1	2	3	4	5	6	15th	Christmas Lunch
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	17th	Whole School Pantomime Trip
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	18th	Christmas Sing-a-long Last Day of Term
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	21 st - 3/1	Winter break
28	29	30	31					

	Parent Information
	Parents are invited to attend



Alderman Payne Primary School Lunch Menu Autumn Term Week 1

Weeks Commencing

31st Aug, 14th Sep, 28th Sep,
12th Oct, 2nd Nov, 16th Nov
30th Nov, 14th Dec

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main 1	Butchers Sausage Rolls	Pasta Bake Selection	Stir fried beef and vegetables	Cottage Pie	Fish Fingers
Main 2	Jacket potato Cheese/beans/tuna	Jacket potato Cheese/beans/tuna	Jacket potato Cheese/beans/tuna	Jacket potato Cheese/beans/tuna	Jacket potato Cheese/beans/tuna
Side	Potato Wedges Sweetcorn	Broccoli	Rice Green beans	Mixed Veg	Chips Peas / Beans
Packed Lunch	Sandwich box Cheese/ham/tuna	Sandwich box Cheese/ham/tuna	Sandwich box Cheese/ham/tuna	Sandwich box Cheese/ham/tuna	Sandwich box Cheese/ham/tuna
Dessert	Fruit Salad	Cornflake Cake	Yoghurt and fruit	Lemon Sponge	Peaches and ice cream



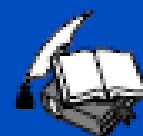
Alderman Payne Primary School Lunch Menu Autumn Term Week 2

Weeks Commencing

7th Sep, 21st Sep, 5th Oct,
19th Oct, 9th Nov, 23rd Nov
7th Dec

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main 1	Chicken burger	Spaghetti Bolognese	Chicken Curry	Sausages and Roast Potatoes	Fish Fingers
Main 2	Jacket potato Cheese/beans/tuna	Jacket potato Cheese/beans/tuna	Jacket potato Cheese/beans/tuna	Jacket potato Cheese/beans/tuna	Jacket potato Cheese/beans/tuna
Side	Sweetcorn Carrots	Garlic bread Peas	Rice Broccoli	Mixed Veg Yorkshire pud	Chips Peas / Beans
Packed Lunch	Sandwich box Cheese/ham/tuna	Sandwich box Cheese/ham/tuna	Sandwich box Cheese/ham/tuna	Sandwich box Cheese/ham/tuna	Sandwich box Cheese/ham/tuna
Dessert	Yoghurt and fruit	Shortbread	Fruit salad	Chocolate Chip Cake	Jelly

Alderman Payne Primary School



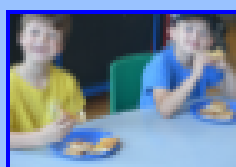
Wrap Around Care 2026-27

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club provision daily 8 - 8:45am

Children can join us for a positive start to the day with play based activities and a healthy breakfast.

Free to attend



After School Care

After school care daily 3:15 - 5:00pm.

Play and leisure activities using both indoor and outdoor areas (including our woodland area) such as sport, cooking, craft, construction and quieter relaxing activities.

A healthy snack such as veg and dip, crackers, cereal, crumpets will be provided at approximately 4:15.

£8.00 per child, per session. Booking on Arbor will need to be made in advance. Emergency on the day booking via phone will be considered but is not guaranteed.

To find out more or to book, please use Arbor call or email the school office 01945 700275 office@aldermanpayne.cambs.sch.uk