

# Alderman Jacobs School (Academy Trust)

## October 2017 Newsletter

### Dear Parents and Carers

We are almost at the end of the first half term and it has been a particularly busy time with almost all year groups enjoying a curriculum related trip to inspire their learning and their writing.

The work to the school roof is progressing, albeit at a slower rate than we would have liked, due to the weather. We will also be having further work completed over the next few weeks to improve our energy efficiency and support our whole school ethos *Energy for learning, life and the environment*.

Our out of school care is proving to be really successful, children enjoy their new environment and the range of activities on offer. If you need childcare please contact the school office for a registration pack.

**Cathy Carlisle ~ Headteacher**

### Website

We are currently in the process of updating our website and we would like suggestions and feedback from you. Our website is a key tool in communicating with parents and the wider field and we welcome your ideas and comments. Our new site should be launched early in December but we will let you know nearer the time.

All feedback should be sent to

[NBaker@aldermanjacobs.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:NBaker@aldermanjacobs.cambs.sch.uk)



### Pupil Achievements

*Don't forget, if your child has achieved something out of school that they are proud of, let the School Office know and we can put them in the newsletter.*

Congratulations to the following pupils ~  
Keep up the good work!

**James R** ~ Passed ASA level 5 in swimming and received 25 metre distance award

**Jamie M** ~ Achieved Red Belt in Kickboxing



**Attendance ~ up to 6/10/17 ~ 96.9%**

### Internet Safety Tea Time Talk

Having led ICT at AJS for many years I have heard plenty of advice on Internet Safety. The key message from everything I've heard is to keep the lines of communication open. Discuss all the good things about the internet and make sure everyone is aware of what could go wrong and how to fix it. The more often you can have an honest discussion about these topics, the more likely children are to come to you if they have a problem. I will be posting a suggested topic for the 'Tea Time Talk' each month that could open up these line of communication. As always if you need further support please pop into school to see me or go to [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

### October Internet Safety Tea Time Talk ~ Internet Friends

Friends are always a good thing and we all encourage our children to make new friends but what about online friends? Most online games and often apps have 'friends' with whom they can chat. Even if your child doesn't use the chat feature they will often get friend requests from other users. If they accept the requests then they are open to receive messages from their new friends. Can they see the good and bad issues involved in this? What would they do if they got an inappropriate message from an internet friend? Who could help? Can you both set up some rules for who your child can have on their friend list?

**J Smith**

## History at AJS

Here at AJS we believe that history should be stimulating and exciting for the children. They are given the opportunity to investigate history with a hands on approach, incorporating role-play so the children can develop an understanding of what life was like for people living in the past.

Many trips are organised throughout the school year, as well as days in school such as Viking day. Year 6 are going to Duxford this term and Year 3 to Flag Fen.

This term, Year 3 are finding out about the Stone Age to the Bronze Age and I wanted to share some of the learning they have been doing.

Each classroom has the role play area where the children can recreate Stone Age life through stories and play. After researching cave paintings the children have been experimenting with natural materials such as beetroot juice, turmeric and charcoal to make dyes and paint their own. As you can see from the photo they have recreated some amazing cave art.

In Year 1, the theme is "To The Rescue" so the children have been researching important people from the past such as the heroine Grace Darling. The children will also explore the Great Fire of London. They will investigate how difficult it was to fight fires in those days, even trying it out for themselves by passing water filled buckets along a line of children. They too will have the opportunity to develop an understanding of the past through their role-play.

We look forward to many more exciting history learning throughout the year.



## Would you make a good Parent Governor?

You should have recently received a letter notifying you of the vacancy for one Parent Governor. If you can answer YES to these questions, why not find out more about the role of a parent governor?

1. Do you have a child at Alderman Jacobs School?
2. Can you spare some time?
3. Would you be prepared to attend an induction course to find out more about your role?
4. Are you enthusiastic about your school and the education of the children.

The governing body acts collectively and the first loyalty of every governor must be to the school. Governors support the staff and Headteacher of their school but also act as a 'critical friend'. The role is strategic not operational with the head and staff managing the day to day running of the school.

You would need to commit to a minimum of:

1. attending 1 full governing body meeting per term
2. serving on at least 1 committee which generally meet once per term
3. conducting at least 2 school monitoring visits per year attending governor training when appropriate

If you have any questions please email Jocelyn Sumner (Clerk) [clerk@aldermanjacobs.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:clerk@aldermanjacobs.cambs.sch.uk) or Laura Holland (Chair) [governor5@aldermanjacobs.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:governor5@aldermanjacobs.cambs.sch.uk)

### Year 3 Flag Fen Trip

On Monday 25th September, Year 3 had the opportunity to spend the day exploring pre-historic life at the Flag Fen centre in Peterborough. We started the day sorting objects into the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age - we even saw fossilized animal droppings!!! We saw some amazing artefacts from the Stone Age, including a preserved wooden walkway which is the only one of its kind to have been found in the UK! We enjoyed going back in time for the day and our favourite part was our Stone Age story around the camp fire.

**E Suttle**



### Grandparent's Day

Grand Parents come back to school!

Once again the classrooms were filled with visitors as over 100 grandparents took time to join their grandchildren at Alderman Jacobs School for the morning.

Walking around school, it was a pleasure to see so many visitors actively involved in learning opportunities. Each class welcomed their visitors on the playground and brought them into school for registration. Having spent time in the classrooms, the visitors were then offered a refreshing drink before making their way home.

This has proved to be one of our most popular open events and we welcome both new and familiar faces each year.



### Parking

At our most recent parent working party the subject of parking raised its head again. It would seem that this is a bigger problem now as it has ever been and the children's safety is our main concern. We are not able to provide a larger parking space near to our school and therefore we do depend on your cooperation around dropping children off and collecting them.

Our site has a clear "Drop off zone" that is meant for that, and is not a parking space. When this is being used correctly the traffic does move and children are dropped off successfully. The roads nearest to school are all very busy so please think before you park.

I know that, along with us, you too are concerned about the safety of our children and I am sure that if we set our alarms just 5 minutes earlier and parked a little further away a brisk walk would do us all some good.

We remind our children regularly about road safety both in the classrooms and via assemblies and we are pleased to announce that we will be taking part in a national competition to design a poster around road safety. The details of this will be sent out separately but please have all entries in to school by Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October so we can get them sent off in time to meet the deadline.

**Please help us make our local area safer**

**N Baker**

# Diary Dates

## Class Assemblies/Learning Markets

Wed 15 Nov ~ Class France  
 Wed 22 Nov ~ Class Italy  
 Wed 29 Nov ~ Class Spain  
 Wed 24 Jan ~ Year 4 TBA  
 Wed 31 Jan ~ Year 4 TBA  
 Wed 7 Feb ~ Year 4 TBA  
 Wed 21 Feb ~ Year 3 TBA  
 Wed 28 Feb ~ Year 3 TBA  
 Wed 7 Mar ~ Year 3 TBA  
 Wed 14 Mar ~ Year 5 TBA  
 Wed 21 Mar ~ Year 5 TBA  
 Wed 28 Mar ~ Year 5 TBA

9 am starts ~ All Welcome

Tue 5 Dec ~ Early Years Nativity 9.30 am  
 Wed 6 Dec ~ Early Years Nativity 2.00 pm  
 Tues 10 & Wed 11 Jul ~ Year 2 ~ times TBA  
 Tue 17 & Wed 18 ~ Year 6 ~ times TBA

## Professional Days

School will be closed to pupils on the following days:-

Fri 20 Oct 2017                      Wed 3 Jan 2018  
 Mon/Tue 23 & 24 Jul 2018      Tue 4 Sept 2018

## School Term Dates 2017/18

Half Term ~ Mon 23 ~ Fri 27 Oct 2017  
 Autumn Term Closes ~ Tue 19 Dec 2017  
 Spring Term Opens ~ Thu 4 Jan 2018  
 Half Term ~ Mon 12 ~ Fri 16 Feb 2018  
 Spring Term closes ~ Thu 29 Mar 2018  
 Summer Term opens ~ Mon 16 Apr 2018  
 May Bank Holiday ~ Mon 7 May 2018  
 Half Term ~ Mon 28 May ~ Fri 1 Jun 2018  
 Summer Term Closes ~ Fri 20 Jul 2018  
 Autumn Term opens ~ Wed 5 Sep 2018

## OCT

11 **Wed** Lion King Trip  
 17 **Tue** Parent Consultations  
 18 **Wed** Parent Consultations  
 Yr 6 York Residential Information  
 Evening 6 ~ 7 pm  
 19 **Thu** Year 5 Diwali Day  
 Flu Vaccinations EY-Yr4  
 Pyjama Day for Sick Children's Trust  
 20 **Fri** Professional Day ~ School closed to  
 pupils  
 23~27 Half Term  
 W/C 30th Year 2 Café's For All ~ TBA

## NOV

13~17 Anti-Bullying Week  
 17 **Fri** Children In Need  
 24 **Fri** Passport Day  
 W/C 27th Early Years Café's For All ~ TBA

## DEC

5 **Tue** Early Years Nativity ~ 9.30 am  
 6 **Wed** Early Years Nativity ~ 2.00 pm  
 8 **Fri** Coffee and Carols  
 11 **Mon** Year 6 Panto  
 12 **Tue** Years 4/5/6 Carol Service  
 at St Mary's 1.45 pm  
 13 **Wed** Years 1/2/3 Christingle  
 at St Mary's 10.00 am  
 15 **Fri** Christmas Jumper Day  
 Christmas Dinner Day  
 Show and Share 2.30 pm  
 19 **Tue** Autumn Term closes

## JAN

3 **Wed** Professional Day ~ School closed to  
 pupils  
 4 **Thu** Spring Term opens  
 W/C 8th Year 3 Café's For All ~ TBA  
 26 **Fri** Passport Day

## FEB

2 **Fri** NSPCC Number Day  
 6 **Tue** Safer Internet Day  
 12~16 Half Term  
 19~23 Sponsored Spell  
 W/C 26th Y6 Mock SATS week

## MAR

2 **Fri** World Book Day  
 7~9 Year 5 Grafham Residential