



Dear Parents and Carers,

Over the past few months, children and staff have been thinking about our school values. The children know that our values are like words written in a stick of rock at the seaside! They are at the centre of everything we do. Children and staff discussed which values were important to each class, we then chose the 4 most popular values which sum up what we are about at AJS. The values are:



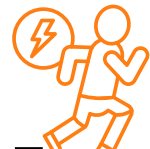
Teamwork



Kindness



Resilience



Energy

Alongside our values we follow our school rules:



Ready



Respectful



Safe

School leaders have also re-written our vision statement for AJS to include these changes:

'At Alderman Jacobs School, we inspire a lifelong energy for learning, life and the environment. Guided by our values of kindness, resilience, energy and teamwork, we empower every child to grow, thrive and achieve their very best, regardless of their background or starting point.'

Our inclusive school community develops confidence, creativity and healthy lifestyles, ensuring that each child feels valued and supported. We actively promote our school rules: being ready, respectful and safe in everything we do.

Through a rich, exciting and challenging curriculum, we equip children with the knowledge, skills and concepts they need to understand and contribute to the world around them. With high expectations and a nurturing environment, we champion each pupil's academic, social and personal development.

*We are **ambitious** for every child to experience **joy** and **success** at school - we are **Team AJS!***

With hard work, energy and close collaboration between home and school, I am confident we can realise this vision for every child at AJS. It's an exciting time to be part of our school team!

Thank you for all your support so far this term and a very warm welcome to all new parents of children who have started in our Reception classes this year. I wish all our families a happy and safe half term break when it arrives.

Best wishes, Mr Fry
Headteacher



THE BUTTERCROSS BUZZARDS



THE FENLAND FINCHES



THE MANOR MALLARDS



THE KINGSDYKE KITES



Introducing our new House Captains!

In Year 6, over 20 children put their names forward to be elected as a House Captain this year. After uploading a video speech onto Google Classroom, all the classes voted for the Year 6 person who they thought would show our school values and represent their House the best. We were very proud of everyone who was brave enough to put their name forwards - well done!

The votes were counted and these children achieved the highest number of votes:

- Buttercross Buzzards - Holly and Ella
- Fenland Finches - Ezra and Alannah
- Kingsdyke Kites - Millie and Oliver
- Manor Mallards - Roxy and Paris



House Captains are exemplary role models in our school. They help organise events and competitions and represent our school in the community. Their first job will be to attend the Whittlesey Remembrance Service on 9th November and lay the AJS poppy wreath at the cenotaph.

Firedoor Building Project

Our Trust was successful in securing funding to replace over 100 internal doors across our school to ensure they are compliant with recent fire regulations. The work starts at the end of November and will continue until February. The contractors will be working after the end of the school day and working into the early hours of the following morning to ensure disruption to the everyday running of the school is kept to a minimum.





ATTENDANCE



AUTUMN TERM 1 2025

Class attendance
this half term:

Y4 FIJI 97.27%
Y3 CANADA 97.1%
Y3 USA 96.98%

Y2 KENYA 96.66%
Y1 SPAIN 96.66%
Y2 EGYPT 96.39%
Y5 CHILE 95.35%
R JAPAN 96.19%
Y4 NEW ZEALAND 96.15%
Y1 FRANCE 95.98%
Y6 NORWAY 95.38%
Y4 AUSTRALIA 95.37%
R CHINA 95.12%
R INDIA 95.12%
Y6 SWEDEN 94.53%
Y1 ITALY 94.12%
Y2 MOROCCO 93.7%
Y3 JAMAICA 93.13%
Y5 PERU 92.44%
Y6 DENMARK 91.15%
Y5 BRAZIL 90.59%

OVERALL SCHOOL
ATTENDANCE THIS HALF
TERM

94.9%



TARGET FOR THIS YEAR
95%

A huge thank you to all parents, carers and child-minders for adapting to our new school times so brilliantly. By being more punctual in the mornings and adding 5 minutes onto the end of the day, children in all classes have gained approximately 1 hour of extra learning time per week.

Being in school on time and ready for learning makes such a difference to the start of each day for every child. We know that there are times when children might be anxious about coming to school. Please do speak to your child's teacher or catch a member of staff on the playground in the morning to let us know. We have many experienced staff members who can use a range of different strategies to support children who are anxious or worried. The best place to solve problems about school is in school!

A reminder that term time holidays will not be authorised and may result in a penalty fine. If requests are made for term time holiday due to a medical or special need, then we would require a letter or email of support from health professionals/ GP to be able to consider authorising.

Message from

Mr Isley

**Attendance
Officer**



REPORTING PUPIL ABSENCE

Should your child be too ill to be present at school, please call the school before 08:30am and select option 2 from the menu.

The email address is:
pupilabsence@ajs.education
Please note, these are the only two ways that pupil absence should be notified.

COMMUNITY AND CHARITY LINKS



Helping Our Ukranian Friends (HOUF)

Mr Bennet from HOUF popped into AJS to collect 2 boxes of hoodies which are no longer stocked in the uniform shop. We have donated these to children in Ukraine to help keep them warm this winter as the conflict in their country continues.

As last year, we will be creating children's Christmas boxes for Mr Bennet to take to Ukraine and refugee camps in Poland. More information about this will follow after half term.

Helping Whittlesey

We are delighted to be working with the 'Helping Whittlesey' charity this academic year. One of the founders of the group, Anna, will be visiting AJS after half term to speak to Key Stage 2 children in assembly to raise awareness of the great work they do to support people in the town. The Community Pantry provides free food for Whittlesey families and can be found at the Falcon pub on Tuesday & Thursday 1-2pm and Sundays 5-6pm. There is also a Community Cabin found at Coates Primary School.



MACMILLAN CAKE SALE

A huge THANK YOU to our amazing parents and carers.

Thank you for your generosity and support at our recent cake sale. we raised an incredible **£504.85** for Macmillan cancer support.

Every slice and penny donated will help make a real difference. we are so proud of our school community for coming together in support of such an important cause.

Thanks also to Friends of AJS for helping with the paper plates and raising money for Macmillan through a raffle.

**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**

*thanks
for your
support*

BOOK FAIR



Thank you to everyone who came to the Book Fair and in turn, have contributed to supporting our school with getting free books for the library. We managed to raise **£1386** to be spent on wonderful books for our pupils.

*thank
★ you ★*

Severe Allergies



We have been trialling new procedures this term to support children who have severe allergies which require the use of epipens and specialist medication. We have made it easier for children and staff to locate medicines at break and lunchtimes, trained more staff as paediatric first aiders to support our younger children and also installed a KITT box in the lobby which holds emergency epipens. All staff have been trained how to use this in the event of a child having an anaphylaxis shock. Thank you to parents of children who have severe allergies for your feedback and support in shaping our policies and procedures at AJS.

TUCK SHOP

The tuck shop has reopened and all items will remain the same price as last year - 70p

When sending in money for the Tuck Shop, please can you send in small change where possible (20ps, 10ps 5ps etc) as we struggle to find change to give when children bring in £1 coins. No notes will be accepted.

Thank you for your continued support, it is much appreciated.

Mrs Revell has applied for AJS to achieve the Healthy Schools Award - we will let you all know how we get on!

Mr Isley has a question for former pupils... did you lose a ring years ago?!

While metal detecting on the field with one of the pupils, Mr Isley found a little gold ring, it was quite deep so likely lost some years ago. We would love to re-unite it with its owner, it is distinctive.

If you think it might be yours please contact Mr Isley via the office. Please spread the word!



STAFF NEWS

We say goodbye to Mrs Smith who has worked in our pre-school for a number of years. Mrs Smith has secured a new job working for Peterborough City Council. We thank her for her work with our youngest children over the years and wish her every success in the future.



We welcome Miss Ciarla-Nunn to AJS who will be working as a High Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA) across the school this year.



Congratulations to one of our team in EYFS, Miss Tame, who recently got married and will now be known as Mrs Ostler!



WHITTLESEY SCHOOLS COMMUNITY

Belonging & Diversity Group



Parents and staff from Alderman Jacobs, Coates, New Road, Park Lane Primary Schools and Sir Harry Smith Community College met last month at AJS to talk about celebrating diversity and belonging in our community and to share ideas about planning a joint 'World Picnic' in the Spring Term.

The next meeting has been planned to take place on Thursday 13th November 5pm at AJS.

PLEASE EMAIL OFFICE@AJS.EDUCATION TO LET US KNOW IF YOU'D LIKE TO JOIN THIS MEETING.

Diary Dates



October

Thursday 23rd - FOAJS Halloween Disco 4.30-6pm
Thursday 23rd - Last day of Autumn Term 1

November

Monday 3rd - Start of Autumn Term 2
Wednesday 5th - Pre-School 2026/27 Open Sessions start 9.15, 10 & 10.45am
Wednesday 5th - Year 6 Maths Cafe 9-10am
Thursday 13th November - Belonging and Diversity Group Meeting 5pm
Friday 14th - Children In Need Charity Day
Tuesday 18th - Year 4 Reading Cafe 9.15-10.15am
Wednesday 19th - Year 5 Reading Cafe 2-3pm
Thursday 20th - Year 2 Reading Cafe 2-3pm
Thursday 20th - Year 1 Fire Station Trip
Tuesday 25th - Year 3 Reading Cafe 2-3pm



December

Tuesday 2nd - Rock Steady Concert 9-10am (parents and siblings of children who have Rocksteady lessons)
Wednesday 3rd - Flu Vaccinations catch up session
Thursday 4th Christmas Extravaganza tickets, sold on the playground 3.15pm
Tuesday 9th - EYFS Nativity Adults Only 9.30-10.30am
Wednesday 10th - EYFS Nativity Adults Only 9.30-10.30am
Thursday 11th - Pre School Christmas Singing 9.30-10.30am
Thursday 11th - EYFS Nativity (children and siblings welcome) 2-3pm
Friday 12th - Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day
Monday 15th - Y3, 4, 5 & 6 Carols in the playground 2.15-3pm
Tuesday 16th - Y4, 5 & 6 - Carol Service St Mary's Church 1-3pm
Wednesday 17th - Y1 & 2 Carols in the Playground 2.30pm
Wednesday 17th - Y6 Panto Trip
Thursday 18th - Last Day of Autumn Term 2



School Term Dates 2025/2026

Autumn Term 1: Wed 3rd Sept-Thurs 23rd Oct

Half term: Mon 27th Oct- Fri 31st Oct

Autumn Term 2: Mon 3rd Nov-Thurs 18th Dec

Half term: Mon 22nd Dec- Fri 2nd Jan

Spring Term 1: Tues 6th Jan - Fri 13th Feb

Half Term: Mon 16th Feb - Fri 20th Feb

Spring Term 2: Mon 23rd Feb - Fri 27th March

Half Term: Mon 30th March- Fri 10th April

Summer Term 1: Mon 13th April- Fri 22nd May

Half Term: Mon 25th May - Fri 29th May

Summer Term 2: Mon 1st June - Fri 17th July

Professional Days

2025/2026

(School closed to children)

Monday 1st September

Tuesday 2nd September

Friday 24th October

Friday 19th December

Monday 5th January

Monday 20th July