

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been an action-packed half term at AJS. We were very proud of our Year 6 children as they completed their national SATs in English and Maths last week. Their attitude and hard work was excellent - well done! Children in Year 1 enjoyed a trip to Sacrewell Farm; Year 2 experienced a day in the life of a very strict Victorian school; Year 3 enjoyed a trip to the Cathedral and Mosque in Peterborough, visits by the Young Naturalist Group and a special World War 2 evacuee day; Year 5 children had a super time at Leicester Space Centre; Energy Squad and Gardening Club had a brilliant visit to the National Flower Show and the whole school took part in a range of activities in Walk to School Week! We have also been working with the Froglife charity to create a new pond on the school field. Look out for photos and reports about these experiences on Instagram and in our end of year newsletter in July.

Parent Survey

Thanks to everyone who completed the survey at the end of last term. I have attached the pie charts with this newsletter. It's always so useful to hear from you about what you think we do well at AJS and also your ideas about how we can be better. Here are some quotes from the survey:

Both of our children have attended AJS and the school has supported and really pushed them to succeed. The only thing we would say is to reduce the number of daily emails for busy parents.

The communication can be a bit confusing.

It would be nice if at the beginning of each school year parents could receive a pack explaining what will be taught throughout the year and how etc so we as parents have a better understanding as teaching styles have changed a lot since I was at school.

More info on after school clubs to be shared with parents. Would be nice to have an arts and crafts club. Some more after school clubs for Reception to year 2 would be good.

AJS is warm and welcoming for both children and parents. Teachers are easily approachable when I have a question or query.

Feedback like this is really valuable. As a result, we will be developing ways to simplify our communication with parents, so that you don't feel as bombarded! Also, we will be making improvements on our website to make sure information is more current and useful. In September, we will make it much clearer what your child is learning via a termly year group update which will contain curriculum information, trips, events and reminders.

We are also keen to expand the range of clubs, both at lunchtime and after school, to give further opportunities to learn new things and enjoy being with friends. For example, this term an after school theatre club has started. If any parents or grandparents would like to volunteer their time to help run a club, we'd love to hear from you. I mentioned a knitting club in a previous newsletter and we've had a request for a chess club too! Please do get in touch if you'd like to help. Thanks for all your continued support - I wish you all an enjoyable half term break.

Best wishes,

Mr Fry (Headteacher)



Every Friday in our whole school assembly, we talk about our school values and how we want them to be at the centre of everything we do at school. We also talk about how these values can be helpful at home too. If your child goes 'over and above' with kind behaviour, tries something new, makes an outstanding effort and doesn't give up and/or helps with jobs at home and during the holidays, we'd love to hear about it. Please send a short message and even a photo to office@ajs.education and we can give a 'shout out' when we share things we are proud of in our assembly. It's always great when children bring in certificates, medals and trophies to our Friday assembly too!



Thanks to everyone who supported our Walk to School Week this week. The playground discos were a hit and we'll organise those again regularly throughout the year to start the day with a boogie! The Key Stage 2 'Drop and Go' idea worked really well. This is something we could look to doing daily, but it does depend upon parents not parking in the lay by between 8:25 and 8:45a.m. The Energy Squad are going to design a banner to display on the fence as a reminder and we'll look to September to make this a new drop off routine. Unfortunately, the WOW (Walk on Wednesday) Bus was postponed due to roadworks near the Athletics Club, however, we have a new date of 1st July to give this a try. You may have noticed that local PCSOs were out and about this week at our invitation. They aren't able to be at AJS every day, but will try to make more regular visits to check that children are able to cross the road and start the school day safely.

On Thursday, Steve AKA Dr Bike was on site all day to help repair and service children's bikes. As you can see from the photo, nearly 70 bikes were brought in which was great to see! Steve worked on as many bikes as he could and also spoke to children over breaktime and lunchtime about bike safety. He is going to see if he can squeeze another visit in before the summer holiday so that he can look at the bikes he didn't get round to fixing. Steve also runs a junior cycling club in Peterborough and he's keen to recruit new members from the Whittlesey area. More information about this will follow soon.





ART GALLERY WEEK

A message from our art leader, Miss Ward



We are delighted to invite you to our upcoming Gallery Evenings, a special celebration of the creativity, dedication and artistic talent of every student across the school.

Art is a vital part of our curriculum, and this event is a wonderful opportunity for you to step into the role of a gallery visitor and admire the incredible work our children have produced this year.

When to Visit

To ensure everyone has enough space to enjoy the gallery comfortably, each year group has chosen a specific day for their showcase. Please see the schedule below to find your child's designated evening:

EYFS: Monday 15th June

Year 1: Friday 19th June

Year 2: Tuesday 16th June

Year 3: Monday 15th June

Year 4: Tuesday 16th June

Year 5: Monday 15th June

Year 6: Monday 15th June



All sessions will run from 3:30pm to 4:45pm in your child's classroom. Doors will close at 5:00pm. Egypt class' artwork will be in Kenya due to after school club.

We are incredibly proud of the progress our students have made in their artistic journeys and we cannot wait to share their achievements with you.



AJS Energy Squad



The Energy Squad and Gardening Club enjoyed a great day at the National Flower Show in Chelmsford last week. Children met a florist, saw some amazing displays and enjoyed spending time in the beautiful grounds of Hylands House stately home.

The Energy Squad now turn their attention to Science Week at the end of June. There is an environmental focus this year, with children being encouraged to 're-use and recycle'. To help this, they ask that families don't throw their plastic bottles away but bring them to school! From Monday 1st June for 2 weeks, please place your bottles in the walled area outside of the Year 2 entrance. They can be any shape and size. During Science Week, the bottles will be turned into micro-greenhouses, bird feeders and musical instruments! Thanks in advance for your help!



ATTENDANCE

SUMMER TERM 1 2026



Class attendance
this half term:

3 USA	97.56%
1 FRANCE	96.74%
1 ITALY	96.73%
3 CANADA	96.27%
4 FIJI	96.18%
4 AUSTRALIA	95.76%
4 NEW ZEALAND	95.76%
6 SWEDEN	95.76%
2 KENYA	95.56%
R INDIA	95.42%
R JAPAN	95.21%
2 MOROCCO	95.14%
1 SPAIN	94.38%
R CHINA	94.31%
3 JAMAICA	93.54%
5 CHILE	93.44%
6 NORWAY	93.08%
6 DENMARK	92.5%
2 EGYPT	91.69%
5 PERU	90.59%
5 BRAZIL	89.5%



Our attendance
target this year is
95%

Our attendance this
year so far is...
94.2%

Message from

Mr Isley

Attendance
Officer



If a child is absent for 3 consecutive days or more, we like to carry out a home visit. We prioritise visits where we have not been given a reason for absence, but will try and pop round to see any child who is off for an extended period. An accusation that's sometimes levelled at us when we make home visits is that we're "trying to catch people out!", or in some way being unreasonable. Please be assured this is not the case.

The reasons we may visit your child when they're absent are;

- Knowing where absent children are during term time is a safeguarding requirement mandated by the DfE
- To let your child see a smiley face from the school so they know they've not been forgotten
- To advise parents when the child should return to school following the NHS "Is my child too ill for school?" guidance
- To help with learning while they're absent
- To help parents who may be struggling with getting their child to school
- To establish if a child is ill or on unauthorised term time leave

At AJS we simply want your child to have the best chance in life and that means every lesson counts. If a child finishes the academic year at 90% they will have missed almost 4 weeks of their education which amounts to around 95 lessons.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



**A LITTLE
PROGRESS EVERY
DAY ADDS UP TO
BIG RESULTS.**

**MISSING JUST 2 DAYS A MONTH MEANS
YOU MISS 10% OF THE SCHOOL YEAR!**

YEAR 5 MATHS CHALLENGE

Last month, 4 pupils took part in the Year 5 Maths Challenge heat at New Road Primary organised by Cambridgeshire County Council. The young mathematicians worked excellently as a team, were supportive and showed amazing problem solving skills. We are very pleased to share that our talented team won the heat and will compete at the final in Cambridge in July!



Arbor

ARBOR PARENT PORTAL



Arbor

Please can parents and carers ensure they are able to log onto the Arbor Parent Portal App, as this needs to be used to book school meals, pay for trips and give photo consent. You can also report school absence on there and be notified if your child receives AJS house points. If you have any queries or problems with logging in, please contact the school office.



SUN SAFETY



With the sunnier weather hopefully here to stay we aim to follow the 5 S's to help keep everyone safe in the sun:

SLIP (on a t-shirt) **SLOP** (on sun cream) **SLAP** (on a hat) **SLIDE** (on sunglasses) **SHADE**.

Please ensure that your child has applied sun cream before school and then has some in school to top themselves up when required. Please ensure the bottle is labelled with your child's name. Please also ensure that hats and water bottles are also labelled.

Pre-school staff will re-apply sunscreen provided at the setting at lunch time for all children who stay all day. This year, we will be using Soltan Kids Sensitive & Sun Allergy Protect Lotion SPF50+.

BITE AND STING RELIEF CREAM

We use Anthisan Bite and Sting Relief Antihistamine Cream. If you do not wish your child to have this cream please let the office know.



SPORTS DAY

We welcome parents to attend this year's sports days. They will be taking place on the following dates:

Wednesday 17th June, 9.15am-11.45am - Years 2 and 3
Wednesday 17th June, 1.45pm-2.45pm - Pre-School
Thursday 18th June, 9.00am-12.00pm - Years, 4, 5 and 6
Thursday 18th June, 1.15pm-2.45pm - Early Years and Year 1



On the day the children will need to come into school wearing their summer PE kit. They will then wear this for the whole day. We would also ask that children wear a top to match their house colour, if possible. The house names and colours are listed below.

Early Years children will be notified of their house colour in due course.

Blue



**THE BUTTERCROSS
BUZZARDS**

Yellow



**THE FENLAND
FINCHES**

Green



**THE MANOR
MALLARDS**

Red



**THE KINGSDYKE
KITES**



YEAR 6 LEAVERS PERFORMANCE

Year 6 will be performing their end of year production during the Summer 2 term and we would like to invite you to watch. So that we can accommodate you all, we have 2 separate performances which will be allocated by your child's surname. If the day is not convenient to you, please let your child's class teacher know that you will attend the alternative.

The allocated performances are:

Children with surnames beginning with A-K: Wednesday 8th July at 9.15am

Children with surnames beginning with L-Z: Thursday 9th July at 9.15am

We expect the performance to last approximately 1 hour. Please be aware that only 2 adults per child may attend these performances due to hall capacity. Pre-school children are welcome but please remove them from the hall if they become unsettled as it can disrupt the children performing and undermine all of their hard work.

Thank you for your support.



COMMUNITY AND BELONGING AMBASSADOR MEETING

Our school hall was buzzing with a special kind of energy when we welcomed guest pupils from New Road, Park Lane, and Coates Primary Schools to AJS. The visiting children joined our own pupils to begin an inspiring collaboration: designing a vibrant Community and Belonging display for the upcoming Big Bash event.

The focus of the day was to plan how we will showcase our commitment to diversity and inclusion. The children shared brilliant ideas on how to represent our various celebrations, ranging from Black History Month and dedicated Cultural Days to the ways we explore global perspectives within our everyday curriculum.

It was truly a joy to witness the enthusiasm in the room. As the children worked together, their kindness and respect for one another shone through, proving exactly why they were selected for the prestigious role of Community and Belonging Ambassadors.

We are incredibly proud of the groundwork laid today. We simply cannot wait to see the final creations showcased for the whole community at the Big Bash on Sunday 21st June 2026. Well done to all involved!



Friends of AJS
SUMMER FETE!

♥ Please join us on ♥
Saturday 11th July
11am - 2pm

for lots of fun!

Entry:
50p per adult
children go free.

£30 for large stalls / attractions
£20 for small business stalls
£10 for charities.

Please contact
friendsofajs@gmail.com
to book a stall

GAMES
RAFFLE
TOMBOLA
CAKES
AND MORE!

THANK YOU
FROM FOAJS

£832.85 MADE FROM
EASTER DISCO

Diary Dates

May

Friday 22nd - Pre School Maths Cafe 2-2.45pm
Friday 22nd - Last Day of Summer Term 1

June

Monday 1st - Start of Summer Term 2
Wednesday 3rd - Half of Year 1 Ramsey Heights -Half of Spain clas and all Italy class
Friday 5th - Half of Year 1 Ramsey Heights - Half of Spain class and all France class
Monday 8th - EYFS Church Farm Trip
Tuesday 9th - Y6 Duxford Trip
Wednesday 10th - Year 2 Hunstanton Trip
Monday 15th - Year 4 Kings Dyke Trip - Fiji Class
Monday 15th -Gallery Evening (in classroom) - EYFS,Y3, Y5 & Y6 3.30-4.45pm
Tuesday 16th - Gallery Evening (in classroom) - Y2, Y4 3.30-4.45pm
Wednesday 17th - Gallery Evening (in classroom)- Y1 3.30-4.45pm
Wednesday 17th- Year 4 Kings Dyke Trip - Australia Class
Wednesday 17th - Y2 and Y3 Sports Day 9.15am-11.45am
Wednesday 17th - Pre School Sports Day 1.45-2.45pm
Thursday 18th - Year 4,5 & 6 Sports Day 9am-12pm
Thursday 18th - Early Years and Year 1 Sports Day 1.15-2.45pm
Friday 19th - Year 4 Kings Dyke Trip - New Zealand Class
Tuesday 23rd - Y6 Fire Statioin Trip
Tuesday 23rd - Friday 26th Year 6 York Residential
Wednesday 24th- Y6 Hamerton Zoo trip
Friday 26th - World Cup wear a football kit to school - raising money for Whittlesey Scouts

July

Thursday 2nd- Pre School Graduation 3.30-4.15pm
Monday 6th - Y6 Transition Day to Sir Harry Smith
Tuesday 7th - Y6 Transition Day to Sir Harry Smith
Wednesday 8th - Year 6 End of year performance -Surnames beginning with A-K
9.15-10.15am
Thursday 9th - Year 6 End of year performance- Surnames beginning with L-Z 9.15-10.15am
Saturday 11th - FOAJS Summer Fete 11am-2pm
Tuesday 14th - Rocksteady Concert 10.00-11.00am (parents of children who have Rocksteady lessons)
Friday 17th - Last day of Summer Term 2

School Term Dates 2025/2026

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

The school will be closed to pupils on the following day:

Monday 20th July

The Big Bash takes place on the Manor Playing Field on **Sunday 21st June**. The AJS choir and all other Whittlesey schools will be singing the National Anthem to open the event at 10:45am followed by each school performing on the main stage. Our Community Belonging Ambassadors will also be running an information stall celebrating their work to promote belonging and diversity in our schools. There are loads of family friendly stalls, events and activities to enjoy at the Big Bash. We hope to see you there!

The Milky Bar £20 Voucher Poppy's £10 Coffee Bar Voucher

Vesuvio Italian Restaurant - food voucher
St Andrew's Hall - 2 hours Birthday hire

EPD
INSULATION GROUP

BIG BASH VI
Sunday 21st June
V.I.P. for the day
Competition

The V.I.P. will be driven to the event in a Classic Vehicle and will win all the listed prizes.

To enter the free draw simply send your child's name and age and your details to studio@radiofenland.com closing date is 30th May. The winner drawn out will be aged 8-18



Falcon Inn - Meal up to the value of £50 *****
Boorne Hair & Beauty - Voucher

EPD
INSULATION GROUP

The Big Bash
Volunteers Slurp

If you volunteer
in the
community then
please book
your free place



At the Manor Conference Hall



Join us 2pm-3pm or 3pm-4pm
for Tea / Coffee & Cakes
Sunday 21st June 2026
Free Admission
by advance ticket only

To register for limited free tickets
email studio@radiofenland.com
Please state which session you require,
you are permitted to bring a +1

**LIMITED
TICKETS
AVAILABLE**

WHITTLESEY SPORTS ASSOCIATION

BIG BASH VI
FREE Family Disco

Sunday 21st June 2026

Vibes Video Disco

4.30pm-6.30pm

Manor Conference Hall, Station Road Whittlesey

Thanks to the generosity of
EPD Insulation Group and Radio Fenland, limited tickets
are available from the control tent on the Manor Field

EPD
INSULATION GROUP

on Big Bash Day or to guarantee your tickets
email studio@radiofenland.com.

For up to date information
Facebook The Big Bash



CALLING ALL SONG WRITERS! Antoni in Year 4 has challenged children at AJS to write lyrics for a brand new school song. He has created this amazing poster. Mrs Combes will be helping to bring the words to life with music. Good luck!



ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

Energy for learning,
life and the environment.

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

SONG COMPETITION

YOUR SONG. OUR SCHOOL. OUR PRIDE.

Write a song that celebrates Alderman Jacobs School – our **values**, our **community**, our **future!**



ENTRY PERIOD

Entries open from
22ND MAY
till
13TH JUNE



THEME

ANY THEME
(SCHOOL RELATED)

Songs should reflect Alderman Jacobs School, our learning, our values, our environment and our community.



THE PRIZE

The winning entry will become the
OFFICIAL SCHOOL SONG!