AJS WEEKLY BULLETIN 4/9/26

WELCOME BACK!

Welcome back!

We are delighted to welcome you back to a new school year at AJS. I hope you enjoyed a great summer break. Having read feeedback on last year's parent survey, we are going to streamline communication to parents so that you don't feel as bombarded by emails! This Bulletin will be emailed each Friday with key dates and reminders (today's is a bit longer than usual!). We will then produce a termly celebration newsletter at the end of each term. Please don't forget to follow AJS on Instagram which is the place to go for photos of events and great learning experiences which take place at school.

This week, all classes have been reintoduced to our School Values - Teamwork, Resilience, Energy and Kindness. Please do ask them about this at home. Also, don't foget to check the Arbor App for notification of when your child earns an AJS Housepoint for demonstrating the values in school! We are all looking forward to a great school year at AJS - thanks in advance for your support..

Best wishes, Mr Fry, Headteacher



Free School Meals

Updated Department for Education guidance has introduced changes to Free School Meals (FSM) categories and eligibility rechecks:

- Key Stage 1 (Rec–Y2): All pupils receive free hot meals. However, registering for Targeted FSM if you receive Universal Credit is vital—it secures over £1,400 per child in Pupil Premium funding for classroom support and unlocks free holiday club (HAF) access.
- Key Stage 2 (Y3–Y6): Coverage includes Targeted FSM (Universal Credit net income £7,400 or less) and Expanded FSM (Universal Credit income above £7,400).
- Annual Rechecks: Transitional protection rules have ended, requiring annual checks to verify ongoing entitlement.
- Next Steps: Please update your details via the local authority portal.
- . Contact the school office in complete confidence if you need assistance.

Staff Update

We welcome Mrs Bi (Year 4), Miss Betts (Year 2) and Mr Peres (Reception) to our teaching team this term. Ms Taylor married over the summer and is now Mrs Honour. Congratulations!

Attendance Update

Please direct any student absence by emailing pupilabsence@ajs.education or by leaving a voicemail on 01733 202403 option 2 before 8.30am. Please state your child's name, class and the reason for their absence. You can also notify us of your child's absence using the Arbor app.

If you are unsure whether your child is well enough to attend school, please check out the NHS 'Is my child too ill for school'?' web page.

Mobile Phones in School



The Government has updated it's guidance regarding children's use of mobile phones in school (Keeping Children Safe In Education 2026). To maintain a safe, distraction-free environment in line with this national statutory guidance, our school operates as a mobile-free site:

- Before School: Phones must be turned off and kept out of sight in bags before entering the playground.
- During the Day: Devices must be stored in classroom lockers from arrival until home time and then placed back in bags when leaving school.
- Phones must not be used during school trips and events, like discos.

Children are allowed to wear step tracker watches e.g. Fitbit, but not smart watches where they may be able to access games or other apps via wifi or 5G.

Dates for the Diary

- Friday 4th September: Meet the teacher
- Sunday 13th September - Choir performing at Whittlesey Festival
- Friday 18th September - School Photos
- ? September - Book Fair after school
- Friday 25th September - Macmillan Cake Sale
- Monday 28th September - Year 3 trip to Flag Fen
- Friday 9th October - Year 4 Bikeability
- Monday 12th - Thursday 15th October - Y5 Bikeability
- Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th October - Parent Evenings
- Monday 19th October - Y4 Peterborough Museum Trip
- Monday 19th October- Pre-School 2027/28 Open Sessions
- Tuesday 20th October 9:45am and Wednesday 21st October 1:30pm - Reception 2027/28 - Open Sessions for parents/ carers
- Wednesday 21st October - LAST DAY of HALF TERM (22nd/23rd October are Teacher Training Days)
- Monday 2nd November - Half term 2 begins

School Clubs

Following feedback from the parent survey, we have been reviewing the offer of after-school and lunchtime clubs for children to enjoy. We learnt at the end of the summer term that Sports Premium was being stopped this year. Sports Premium was a Government grant which helped fund transport to tournaments, sports coaches and enabled school subsidise the cost of specialist sparts clubs.

In addition, we have teachers who kindly run after school clubs like Netball, running, STEM NFL Flag Football and choir. We also have staff who volunteer their lunchtime to run clubs like reading, drawing, Lego and chess.

Next week, an email will be shared entitled 'Extended School Clubs' where parents can sign children up to clubs run by staff and by external companies like YDP and Rebound. You will be able to book and pay for these clubs online.

If you or a grandparent have a particular interest or hobby (cross sttich, gardening, coding, knitting, painting etc) and would like to run a small club for children, please do get in touch!

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Please see this year's uniform expectations below: Please remember that hoodies are no longer to be worn in school (phased out over the past 2 years). Please also remember to LABEL EVERYTHING! We are overwhelmed with lost property every year.



- Plain black shoes, plain black trainers or plain black ankle boots (no open toes or white/ coloured trainers). Trainers may be brought into school to wear during play times.
- White or red polo shirt or white collared shirt or blouse.
- Red sweatshirt or red cardigan (no hooded tops/ hoodies).
- Grey skirt, grey pinafore dress, smart grey trousers, smart grey school shorts – (no leggings or jogging bottom material)
- Red/white checked gingham dress or playsuit
- Red, white, black or grey plain socks or tights
- No nail varnish, make up, fake nails or false eyelashes
- Plain headbands in school uniform colours only (no novelty headbands
- Small hair accessories in school colours only e.g: small red or white bow/scrunchie/clip
- Stud earrings only (no other jewellery to be worn)
- A watch may be worn (no smart watches with internet access)





PE Uniform:

- Suitable trainers (no football boots or astro-turf trainers)
- Long hair must be tied up
- All earrings and watches must be removed
- Plain red or white t-shirt (no football tops or large brand logos)
- Plain black shorts, plain black jogging bottoms, skort or plain black leggings/cycling shorts (no hotpants) Plain black or red sweatshirt (with or without school logo – no hoodies)

Uniform can be purchased from most big retailers including Tesco, Asda, Morrisons and Sainsburys. It is not compulsory to wear uniform with a logo, however if you would like to purchase an item of AJS branded clothing. items can be bought online from the AJS uniform shop, Total Clothing. www.totalclothingshop.co.uk/ajs



Alderman Jacobs Value Polo

From £7.75



Alderman Jacobs Raglan Sweatshirt

From £14.25



Alderman Jacobs Cardigan

From £15.80



Alderman Jacobs Polar Fleece

£19.45