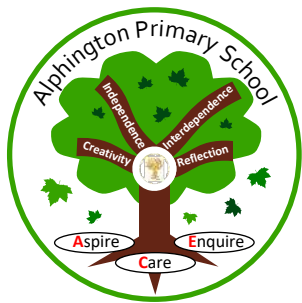




Alphington Primary School

Newsletter

28/04/2023



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents / Carers,

It has been a busy but lovely start to the new summer term, although we could do with the weather catching up!

As you may be aware Miss Nairn is leaving at the end of the school year as she moves somewhere closer to her home in Somerset. Miss Nairn has been an integral part of the school and will be greatly missed. This week we have been interviewing for her replacement and I am delighted to announce that Vicky Stables will be joining us in September. Vicky is an experienced leader, and I am sure that she will continue to build on the great work that Kirsty has started.

Curriculum maps and videos:

We are delighted to share our new curriculum maps and videos for this term with you. Please see our website for more details and to find to what your child has been learning.



Coronation Celebrations:

On Friday 5th May, we are delighted to be celebrating King Charles III's Coronation! For the day, the children can come dressed up in either one or of all of these colours: red, white or blue.

During the afternoon, the children will enjoy a garden style party on the field with their class, there will be singing, music, party food and games. The school will provide finger sandwiches (which children will make in the morning) and ice lollies for the children. If you would like to send your child with a special snack to enjoy in the afternoon during the event, please send this in a container or within their lunch box. **No nuts please.**

His Majesty, King Charles III, is passionate about the environment and so are we. As a school, we would like to take this opportunity to develop our school grounds. We have created this 'wish list' of plants on below: ferns, lavender, rock plants, herbs (sensory Jubilee/ Coronation Garden) and perennials. We would be very grateful for a contribution towards this project by buying a plant ready for us all to plant during the celebrations, or any donations of plants / money to help. All plants will be collected in the school hall on Friday morning and any financial donation towards this, can be paid via the school gateway app. Thank you for your support with this.



Mystery Athlete:

We are pleased to tell you that the mystery athlete event has been rearranged for the 21st of June where the children will be able to take part in their sponsored event and meet David Hill. Children will be finding out more about David over the coming weeks. Please can we remind you that all sponsorship money must be paid online by following this link

<https://sportal.sportsforschools.org/events/landing>



Strike action:

I wanted to update you regarding the planned NEU Teacher Strike Action taking place on Tuesday 2nd May. This is the result of a national pay dispute between Education unions and the government – it is not due to any actions taken by the school.

Please know that in preparing for strike action, we must consider the fact that there is no requirement for a union to inform their employer which or how many staff will take strike action and union members are under no obligation to inform employers of their union membership, or to inform employers in advance of their intention to strike.

Based on the information we have gathered, the school will need to restrict attendance on the 2nd May,

In line with government advice, and following consultation with governors, attendance has been prioritised for the following groups:

- **Pupils in receipt of pupil premium**
- **Pupils with an EHCP (educational health plan)**
- **Pupils in pre-school who would normally attend on this day.**
- **Children in year 6**
- **Children in year 2**
- **Children in Owl class**

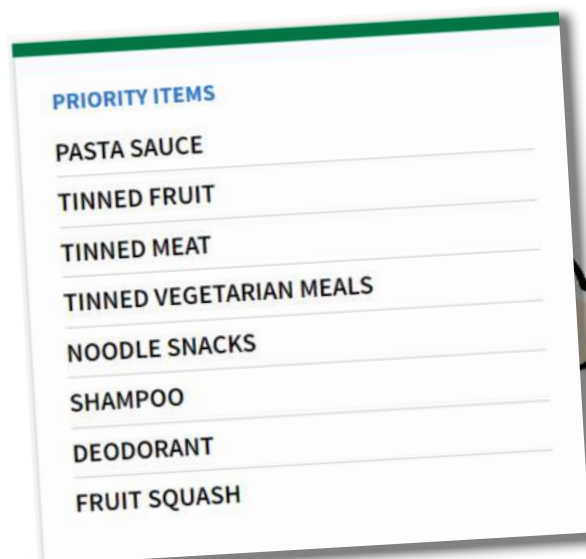
If your child is within these groups, please ensure that they attend school as usual. Please note that some children will be working in mixed age classes and will be off timetable on this day. We have prioritised our year 2 and year 6 children due to their upcoming National Curriculum tests and will be keeping their timetable as normal as possible. There will be members of staff on the gate in the morning to help direct your child. If your child is in one of the above groups and has a booked space at either breakfast or afterschool club, they will be able to attend these sessions. There will be no other afterschool clubs running this day.

If your child is not within these groups, we apologise for the inconvenience and understand any frustration you may feel – the decision has not been taken lightly and is due to reduced staffing numbers which means we can only assure the safety and wellbeing of a limited number of pupils on these days. Work will be set for pupils who have to remain at home. If your child is not in school this day and they normally attend wraparound, then we will refund these sessions.

We will keep you up to date with information and in the event that negotiations between the government and the Education unions see the strikes called off or postponed, the school will be able to open as normal on this date.

Food bank:

We are delighted to be a Food Bank collection point. If you are able to donate you will find the collection point in the foyer. The current priority list is below:



Dates for your diary:

Monday 1st May: Bank holiday

Tuesday 2nd May: Industrial action

Wednesday 3rd May: Year 1 multi skills festival - Westex School

Friday 5th May: Kings Coronation celebration event

Monday 8th May: Bank holiday

Tuesday 9th May-11th May: Year 6 SATs week

Monday 15th May-Friday 19th May: Year 6 residential - Great Potheridge House

Monday 22nd May-Friday 26th May: School sports week

Monday 29th May-Friday 2nd June: Half term

Friday 23rd June: KS1 sports day

Friday 7th July: KS2 sports day

Friday 14th July: End of year reports to come home

Monday 17th July- Wednesday 19th July: Year 5 residential

Monday 17th July: Year 6 leavers show to parents

Tuesday 18th July: Open evening for parents

Wednesday 19th July: Year 6 leavers fish and chip night

Friday 21st July: Year 6 leavers assembly

Friday 21st July: Last day of term

