



Alphington Primary School

Newsletter

10/01/2025



Message from the Headteacher

Welcome Back to School!

Dear Parents / Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a restful and lovely holiday, and were able to spend some time with your friends and families. As we start a fresh term, we are excited to welcome all of our children back to school and look forward to a term filled with learning, fun, creativity, and growth. The children have already thrown themselves into their learning with new topics, and are enjoying their hook days, with more to come.



Thank you for your continued support in making our school an amazing place to be.

We are so excited about the opportunities this term will bring and look forward to working with you and your children.

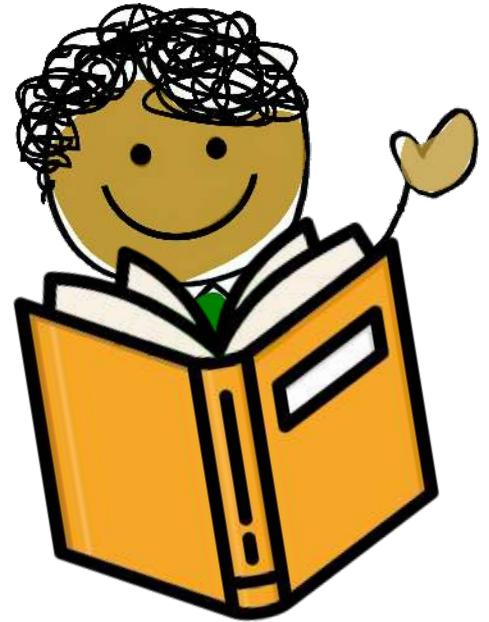
Reading at Home:

As always, we are focussing on reading, because without reading children struggle to access the wider curriculum. Please can we ask for your help and support in reading with your child at home. Research has shown that children who read with an adult at home are more likely to develop advanced literacy skills, a broader vocabulary, and a deeper understanding of the world around them. Regular reading sessions can also improve concentration, spark imagination, and promote empathy by exposing children to diverse characters and experiences.

Studies indicate that just 15 minutes of reading each day can expose children to over 1 million words per year, significantly enhancing their academic performance and preparing them for future success. Furthermore, children who read for pleasure are more likely to perform well across all school subjects, including mathematics and science.

Whether it's a bedtime story, sharing a chapter of a book, or discussing their school reading material, your involvement makes a significant difference in your child's confidence and academic achievements.

This term, please try to set aside at least 15 minutes each day for reading together. If you are unsure of what to read, your child's teacher will be happy to provide recommendations.



Dogs:

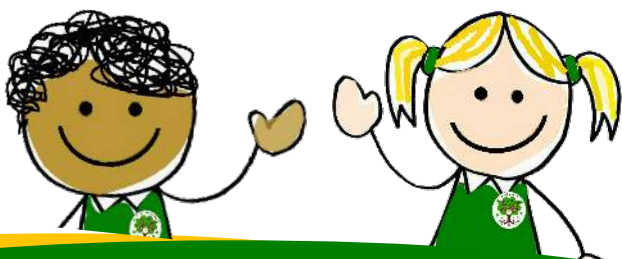
Please can we remind you not to tie your dogs to the school gates. Having to walk past dogs that are barking and jumping up is causing some children real anxiety in the morning, so thank you for your help with this.

Uniform Reminder:

As we return to school, please ensure that your child is in full school uniform, including appropriate footwear. The PTFA have a fantastic pre-loved uniform shed, so please do contact the school office if you need some support with uniform.

Please can we also ask that you remind your children that the only jewellery allowed in school is a watch and stud earrings. Smart watches are not allowed.

Due to the lack of storage space, we are also asking children not to bring large bags into school, so please can you support with this at home. Thank you.



Dates for Your Diary:

Monday 13th January: Year 4 Hook Day

Wednesday 22nd January: Reception and Year 6 height and weight measurements

Friday 31st January: Year 1 trip to Dartmoor Zoo

Week beginning 3rd February: Children's mental health week.

Week beginning 3rd February: SEND parents meetings

Week beginning 10th February: Parents evenings. (details to follow)

Friday 14th February: Year 4 Dentist visit

Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February: Half-Term Break

Monday 24th February: Children return to school

Friday 28th February: Year 3 Dentist visit

Thursday 7th March: World Book Day

Week beginning 10th March: Science week

Friday 14th March: Red Nose Day

Week beginning 17th March: Children will be completing their AR reading tests

Friday 21st March: World Poetry Day

Week beginning 24th March: Book Fair in the hall after school

Tuesday 1st April: Author in school for book signing

Wednesday 2nd April: International children's book day

Wednesday 2nd April: Rock Steady concert

Friday 4th April: Last day of term

Tuesday 22nd April: Children return to school

