



# Alsager Highfields Primary School

*Mighty oaks from small acorns grow*

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Headteacher: Mrs Rachel Woollam



Newsletter Friday 8th September 2023

Dear Parents & Carers,

**WELCOME BACK!**

I hope you and your families have had a lovely summer and managed to catch some sunshine somewhere! Typically, the weather always seems to be hot and sunny on our return, so please do send your child in with a hat, water bottle and sunscreen.

This year we welcome several new families to Highfields and as well as those starting in reception we have had a number of pupils join us in other year groups. The reception pupils have settled in admirably and there have been no tears to my knowledge, which is quite remarkable! I look forward to watching our newest members grow and flourish as they progress through the school as well as getting to know new families better.

As well as continuing our drive to make our education the best it can be, we will also focus on funding and improving the school grounds both at the annexe and at the main school. We hope by the end of the academic year we will have a daily mile running track as well as some designated quiet spaces. We are also hoping to complete a whole school art project of making poppies to go on the fence by the new year 6 classroom. We would dearly like to have a 'wall of remembrance' and hopefully this will be completed in time for Remembrance day in November.

Mrs Dyde and myself have also spent a great deal of time looking at the curriculum and wider opportunities over the summer. Most trips and visits have already been finalised for the year and will be on the Parentpay system at the earliest opportunity so that payments can be staggered over a greater length of time.

The new year looks to be just as exciting as the last and I am really looking forward to watching your children grow both physically and metaphorically this year.

Rachel Woollam



### **SENDCO meet and greet**

Miss Baggaley is holding a coffee morning next Thursday (14th) straight after drop off so that parents of pupils with SEN can put a face to the name and get to know her better. Miss Baggaley was previously a SEN plan writer with the Local Authority, so is well placed to take on this role. Her designated SEN time is Thursday and Friday from 10.30 until the end of the school day and this release time will be evaluated at October half term. Please be mindful that emails might not be picked up until the end of the week due to this new timetabling arrangement.

### **Swimming Lessons**

The swimming session we have been given for this year is on a Monday afternoon at 1.15pm. Due to the earlier time, pupils will be back in school for the end of the day for picking up. Last year many children took to coming to school in their swimwear instead of underwear and we kindly ask that children refrain from doing this as underwear is easily forgotten and it's not comfortable or hygienic to be wearing swim wear for lengthy periods of time. Thank you for your support with this matter. **Swimming this term is for Year 6.**



## Alsager School

An Achieving School - A Caring Community

### **OPEN MORNING**

Saturday 30th September 2023  
9.30 am - 12.30 pm

We have vacancies for September 2024 and invite all current year 5/6 pupils & their parents to our open morning.



For more details contact the school:

01270 871100 or visit: [www.alsagerschool.org](http://www.alsagerschool.org)



### **Instrument Tuition**



As a school we are passionate about the wider curriculum and giving all pupils the opportunity to learn an instrument. As a school we currently offer piano, brass, woodwind and now drum lessons. If your child is in Key Stage 2 (year 3,4,5 or 6) and wishes to learn an instrument, please contact the office. If your child is in receipt of pupil premium, the school has a commitment to funding music tuition for your child. We have a couple of spaces for drum lessons and places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Thank you

## Attendance

We have virtually had a 'full house' this first week back and this has made establishing new routines so much easier for staff. Please continue to ensure your child attends school daily—every day really does count. Thank you



## Uniform

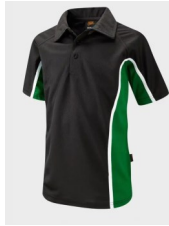
It has been wonderful to see the children return to school looking so smart. Please remember if you are entitled to pupil premium funding then school will help with the cost of uniform. In order to maintain this high standard of presentation, please adhere to our policy of:

- No jewellery should be worn (stud earrings only exception)
- No nail polish
- Hair accessories in the school colours please
- Black shoes (not trainers) on non PE days

## PLEASE ENSURE ALL CLOTHING IS

### PE tops

We are in the process of sourcing new PE tops for all our pupils which will replace the coloured T-shirts. School will provide each pupil with a new shirt initially. The new PE tops will be in the same fabric as the staff PE tops and will hopefully hold their shape and colour better and will allow our pupils to be easily identifiable when competing in sport events with other schools. Once we have sourced a shirt we will be asking for sizes from parents so we can place the order. We will hopefully have a selection of sizes for parents to look at, compare and try in the office so we can ensure that the sizes ordered are accurate for the children. We hope to have the new shirts by the end of the year.



### Clubs

After-school Clubs will resume next week and run until the 8th of December. A full list can be found on the school website and parents should book on using the Parentpay booking system.

Where club numbers are limited, places will be taken on a first come, first served basis. If pupils sign up for a club, it is expected that they will attend weekly for that term and not attend on an ad-hoc basis, as this can often prevent another child from attending.

## Reading

Well done to all those pupils who completed the Summer Reading Challenge as well as those who read and quizzed over the summer break. Any child who completed the challenge is invited to bring their certificate and medal in for the celebration assembly where they will be given 2 stars for their bookmark.



Mrs Harrison (English lead) and I have been delighted with the amount of pupils who have read at home every night this week. Please keep it up !

## Dates for the diary

Monday 11th September—swimming starts for Y6

Tuesday 10th October—Tempest photographs for all pupils

Friday 13th October - Y6 Crucial Crewe safety event

Thursday 19th October—Y3 Stone Age workshop

Monday 30th October - INSET day (school closed for pupils)

Friday 10th November—Flu vaccines for all pupils

Thursday 16th November—Y5 Cadbury's World trip

## Home time arrangements

With the change of classrooms has come a great proportion of parents accessing the right hand side of the main school through the narrow gates. In order to alleviate some of this congestion we will send older pupils with siblings in year 2 through the hall to meet parents on the main playground.

If parents with children in years 4 and 5 could walk round to the smaller playground by the forest and wait and year 3 parents wait outside the double doors (next to the year 3 classroom windows), then hopefully this will ease the pinch point by the gates. Year 6 children will be sent directly through their classroom door, so if parents collecting year 6 children could wait there or on the donkey path, that would be appreciated.

Pupils in years 5 and 6 are allowed to walk home by themselves, but we do need a letter, email or note in the reading diary giving permission for this to happen. Many pupils walking home now carry phones for safety reasons and this is wholly supported by the school. However, if your child is bringing a phone into school, then it must be handed in to Miss Eden in the office first thing in the morning and collected at home time. If there is a change in your collection arrangements, please do let the office know so that we can ensure the safety of all our pupils. Thank you

