



Alsager Highfields Primary School

Mighty oaks from small acorns grow

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Newsletter Friday 12th September 2025

WELCOME BACK!

Dear Parents & Carers,

It has been a real pleasure to welcome back so many familiar faces, as well as to meet the new families who have joined our school community. I've especially enjoyed hearing about all the exciting things your children have been up to over the summer break.

A very warm welcome to the families who have joined Highfields this term, with pupils starting in Pre-School and Reception. All of our pupils have settled in brilliantly, adapting well to new routines, staff, and classrooms.

Moving up a year group—with new expectations, environments, and teachers—is a big adjustment for children. It's perfectly natural for some to feel a little nostalgic for their previous year, especially as the workload gradually increases in both difficulty and volume. The start of a new school year is also when we begin to set clear expectations, both in the classroom and across the school. So please don't worry if your child seems a little 'wobbly' at first—this is completely normal. We also recognise that this period of transition can be just as significant for parents, as building new relationships with staff takes time. Please do take time to speak to your child's new teacher or message on Seesaw if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your continued support—it's great to be back!

Rachel Woollam

Pre-school—We are open!

As well as welcoming our new reception starters on the 2nd of

September, we also welcomed our first three-year olds into pre-school. The provision was finished over the summer and adaptations made to the building have enabled us to have toilet facilities within the room to encourage independence but also support toileting when necessary.

Our youngest pupils have settled in brilliantly and Mrs Ward and Miss Andrews have been thrilled with how the first couple of weeks have gone.

Our next phase of our pre-school provision is to develop the space at the front of the building into a play area and change the access into the room by knocking through the remaining white windows at the front of the building to form a double door opening. This will not only bring more light into the room, but will allow children access to the outdoors, which is paramount for the early years.

To help fund our next improvements, we have successfully applied to Tesco Stronger Starts for the consumer vote in Tesco stores. Voting will commence in store from the first week in October 2025 until mid-January 2026. Please spread the word and encourage friends and family to vote. The participating stores are listed below.



Places still available.

Stores where you can vote :

2331 Sandyford Express ST6
5EL Express
2772 Kidsgrove Superstore
ST7 1DX Superstore
5550 Audley Express ST7 8EE
Express
5782 Fegg Hayes Express ST6
6SH Express



Attendance

The return back to school always brings out some bugs and viruses and this year was no different with some pupils contracting a sickness bug. Other than that, attendance has been really good so far. Punctuality has also been much better than the end of last year over the past two weeks and I cannot stress the positive impact it has when children are all in on time ready to learn. Phonics starts for pupils at 8.55am and with two sites to navigate, latecomers really do have an impact on both staff and their peers. Thank you for helping the school get off to a great start this year by supporting us with both attendance and punctuality.

	Pre-school	Annex	Main school
Gates open	8.45am	8.45am	8.40am
Lessons start	9.00 am	8.50am	8.45am

Getting back into good habits

The positive impact regular reading for pleasure has on children is well-known. It is also backed up by many research projects. It is no coincidence that all year 6 pupils last year who were word millionaires, achieved the greater depth standard in the SATs reading test. Reading regularly exposes children to a wider range of vocabulary and in turn helps their writing.



Please support our reading policy of reading a minimum of 4x a week at home and recording in reading diaries. Pupils not reading at home will be asked to catch up at break times, which we'd prefer not to do. Thank you

Word Millionaires



We had three pupils determined to achieve word millionaire status last year and this accolade they all achieved in the summer holidays.

Huge well done to:

Mia B in year 3 (now Y4), Jakob D and Dexter D (now Y6).

Last year was our most successful year yet on Accelerated Reader. 43 children became word millionaires and 6 multi millionaires. 6 staff members also made millionaire status.

Please do check your child's ZPD to ensure they are reading within their level. Books can be checked to see if they are on the AR system at:

<https://www.arbookfind.co.uk>

Alsager Connect Communities Partnership

Please do look at the posters below to find opportunities and help from the local community. This group offers many courses, paid work opportunities as well as support for those who need it.

Shared Lives

Do you want to make a real difference to somebody's life?

Cheshire East Council are looking for Shared Lives Carers for local people who need support due to age, disability or illness

*intermediate support - where you live with the Shared Lives carer as a member of their family

*respite support - short breaks for you and respite for the family carer

*sessional support - support in the Shared Lives Carer's home or in the community (1 session is 3 hours)

- Flexible working
- Matched to the client
- Training is provided
- No experience needed—just a caring and compassionate nature
- Support from the Shared lives team
- Friendship
- Paid mileage

BECOME A SHARED LIVES CARER

Cheshire East Council

Inspiring Futures

Do you know someone with a health condition or disability that impacts them looking for, or staying in work?



We can help them take the next steps to work

- Get ready for work in as little as **four to six weeks**
- Working with employers to ensure adjustments are made to **help them thrive**
- Finding the right paid or voluntary job that supports their **health and wellbeing**
- Get 1-1 support when in work, and regular visits to check in

Why should you refer someone?

We believe a good job, not just any job, together with the right support will help people stay well, help manage their health conditions and reduce pressure on health and mental health services.

Our tried and tested approach assesses individuals on what they can do, uncovering skills and talents they might not realise they have, but are valuable to employers in the area.



Supporting people living with Dementia and their carers



CONCERT
Saturday 4th October
7.30pm

at
Alsager United Reformed Church
Sandbach Singing Sensations and
The Bakerfield Duo
Tickets £5 from
Kath Reader 01270 873975
Barbara Plunkett 01270 874244

For more info contact:
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