# Aldersbrook Primary School Newsletter



# Learning & Leading

10.11.23



#### **Remember Them**

In Flanders Field short days ago, We fought amid the guns below. Beside the poppies that grow and grow, No man could choose to stay so low.

We sacrificed our lives, For the children and the wives, So they could have a better life, While I'm in the afterlife.

On the 11th of November every year, People hold a silence to remember those dear,

They lay wreaths,

Made of poppies and leaves.

On the steps of the Cenotaph, On soldiers' behalf. War is cruel, war is painful, War is tears, war is hateful.

I am not a piece of paper, I am not a pretty pin. I am a symbol of the past, A reminder not to sin.

We are the dead, Short days ago, We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow. Loved and were loved Now we lie in Flanders Field.

# The First Poppy

I am not just a badge, I am not just a piece of rubbish I am not a little symbol, I am much much more.

I am a father or a son who fought In the war. I am a loving soul, Who had a home.

I bravely defended you and me. I am someone.

#### Kobe 5S



Year 6 visited the Wanstead War Memorial this week, took rubbings of some of the names of fallen soldiers and researched into their lives. They used them to write letters to the fallen soldiers. Please see around the school fence for some examples of their beautiful work. **10 Nov** Curiosity Shop starts for Years 1-6

**13 Nov** Y5 rescheduled visit to Mosque

**13-17 Nov** Anti Bullying week in school

**15 Nov** SEND coffee morning (by invitation)

**16 Nov** Y3 Science Museum visit

16 Nov 5B Sharing Assembly

17 Nov Children in Need

17 Nov Y5 British Museum

20 –24 Nov Road Safety Week in school

**22 Nov** Y5&6 Unlimited Worshop in school

22 Nov 4HK Sharing Assembly

**27 Nov** Online Safety Day in school

**27 Nov** 8pm Virtual E-Safety Training for parents—by zoom

**30 Nov** Y4 Synagogue Visit

**30 Nov** 6M Sharing Assembly

**1 Dec** Non uniform day in school—bring in a donation for a family who might be struggling this Christmas

Our Value of the month: is...



Emily Gorham 5I

#### The results are in!

Thank you to all of the families that took the time to complete the **parent/carer survey.** We ARE human after all so it was lovely to see such kind comments come through and to see that almost all families are delighted to be a part of the learning community at Aldersbrook. There were also a lot of helpful suggestions that we can use to make the learning even better (see below). If surveys are anonymous then it is impossible for us to address specific things with those families, but we are in the process of working through constructive comments made and someone will be in contact soon to discuss these with you. Thank you again for such a positive response.

Parent/ Carer Survey Results 2023/24 (215 responses)	Strongly agree/ Agree
My child enjoys school	98.6%
My child feels safe at school.	98.6%
My child is making good progress at the school.	98.6%
The school meets my child's particular needs.	98.6%
My child is taught a broad and balanced curriculum at school.	100%
The school helps my child to develop skills in communication, reading, writing	99.1%
There is a good standard of behaviour at the school.	99.1%
I would feel comfortable about approaching the school with questions or a prob-	99.6%
The school seeks the views of parents and carers and takes account of their sug-	99.6%
The school informs me about my child's progress.	98.6%
The school deals with any cases of bullying effectively.	49.3% (51.5% This does not apply to my child) Total 96.5%
There is effective communication from the school	97.7%
The arrangements for my child to settle in when he or she first started at school	95.4%
Overall, I am happy with my child's experience at this school.	99.5%
I would recommend this school to others.	99.5%

#### Thank you! Some examples...

Aldersbrook is fantastic. I feel very lucky that both my children are there. Thank you.

Couldn't be more grateful for our experience so far , we've found the school to be such an amazing, supportive community which really invests in giving the children a wonderfully broad all round experience. All of our interactions with staff have also been so friendly, welcoming and supportive. Wish every child had a chance to experience a school community like this (One of us is a headteacher so we don't make these comments lightly!)

I appreciate how innovative the school is with it's approach. It is clear children are everyone's priority. There is a friendly welcome from every person in the school team (teachers and non-teachers).

We feel very lucky that our son attends Aldersbrook. The environment is fun and friendly, the staff support and challenge the children and leadership are diligent, responsive and seek to inspire the children.

#### Things that you would like us to work on:

- Booking in & paying for CICI Club/ Clubs on Arbor- it is like trying to get tickets for Glastonbury!
- More forward notice of events coming up and consider timings of tickets being available to purchase (see newsletter & website for calendar dates to forward plan)
- Almost a perfect split between wanting 'more' academic subjects and 'less' focus on academic...hopefully for most of you we get that balance right but for any individual concerns please see myself or Ms Crouch any day.

## Ofsted Help

Last newsletter we mentioned that we are well overdue an Ofsted inspection. We will be informed the **day before** an inspection starts; so that we do not overload you with information at that point, here are some things that you can do **now** to help the school through that process and also help with your child's learning in practical ways:



- Log on to **ParentView** (you can do that now- https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/) and complete the Ofsted survey- the team will look closely at these. Often the 'happy majority' leave this as they think everyone feels the same so it would really help us if *everyone* takes a little time to do this so that the team get a more balanced overview.
- Make sure your child brings home a reading book each day and spends some time (with you, a sibling or by themselves!) reading it. Talk to them about what they have read, what could happen next etc.
- Talk to your child about what they are learning in school- how does it link to anything that they have learnt before? What do they remember about their learning? Do they have any questions they can bring back to school to deepen their learning? We want children to love to talk about their learning!
- When Ofsted do visit- don't take no for an answer! Speak to an inspector at the start or end of the day if you would like to get a message across to them- again a balance of these views so that positives are shared also, would really help.

We will endeavour to not mention Ofsted again and just get on with the learning as usual! If you have any concerns or questions, please speak to myself or Mrs Crouch any day at the gate.

# Thoughtful Thursdays

We all know tough times are ahead in terms of rising costs. We want to do something to help our families if we can.

We have **'Thoughtful Thursdays'** each week. A shopping trolley (kindly 'donated' by Leytonstone Tesco) is in the playground for anyone that can drop off any items that may help another family through this tough time. It can be something from your cupboard or an extra item in your weekly shop and only if your family can manage that. We will use these donations to create food hampers for families or to take to the food bank to help the wider community. The trolley will be there each week.

# Suggested items could be:

Tinned food- soup/ vegetables/fruit/sauces/baked beans, pasta/ pasta sauce, rice/couscous, breakfast cereals, washing powder, long life milk, toilet roll, jams/ spreads

If you are struggling and could do with some of these items, please see Mr Hughes or Mrs Crouch confidentially any day on the gate or email in to the school office and we can arrange a time for you to come and collect some supplies.



# Sat 9th Dec, 11am - 3pm

Gershron

Forest Trail, Carols, Brass Group, Bar, Cake Stall, Hot Dogs, Kids Crafts, Raffle, Santa. Aldersbrook Primary School

### Non-Uniform Day

**Friday 1st December** will be our usual 'non-uniform day' to gather things for winter PTA events. Again this year the PTA have decided to use this day as a way of helping families that are struggling at the moment.

If your child comes in non-uniform we ask that they bring a food/drink item that could be added to make a **Christmas hamper** for a family that needs it. If you can stretch to it, a donation could alternatively be a small wrapped present with a label (eg Boy: Aged 8-10 Plastic truck) that we could give to a family. We are also happy to wrap it for you if you just want to drop the present.

Non-uniform theme is Christmas!

### Thank you!

Thank you to all of the families that donated books for our home reader collection.

We now have a full set of texts and that means that everyone in the class can take a book home to read.

The generosity of families at Aldersbrook is quite astounding!

Thank you.



### **Anti-Bullying Week**

Aldersbrook Primary School is proud to actively participate in Anti-Bullying Week 2023 through a range of impactful initiatives. This year, we're thrilled to announce that workshops will be delivered by a passionate ex-student who understands the challenges young people face. Their personal journey and insights promise to inspire and empower our pupils.

In addition to this, we have special assemblies planned in collaboration with the Christian Education Project. These assemblies will focus on promoting kindness, empathy, and respect, while addressing the importance of creating a safe and inclusive environment for all. We're excited to come together as a school community to raise awareness and stand up against bullying during this important week.

#### Safety Ambassadors

Do you want to be a safety Ambassador? Do you have a passion for ensuring everyone is safe on the road, online and around the school?



This is a VERY important role and we want safety experts (you!) to apply. If you are interested, see Mr Hughes for an Application form!

#### **Children in Need**

Children in Need day is coming up on **Friday 17th November.** 

Please **wear spots** & bring a donation that will go towards the Children in Need charity.

Wrist bands will be for sale that week in the KS1 playground, before & after school.



Congratulations to our new school captains,

#### Ronnie &

#### Kiara!

We wish them the very best of luck with this important

leadership role!



School Term & Holiday Dates 2024-2025

# AUTUMN TERM 1

School: Monday 2 September - Friday 25 October 2024

Pupils return to school Wednesday 4 September 2024 Pupil Conference Day Friday 25 October – school closed for pupils

Holiday: Monday 28 October - Friday 1 November 2024

# AUTUMN TERM 2

### School: Monday 4 November – Friday 20 December 2024

Holiday: Monday 23 December - Friday 3 January 2025

# SPRING TERM 1

School: Monday 6 January - Friday 14 February 2024

Pupils return to school Tuesday 7 January

Holiday: Monday 17 February - Friday 21 February 2025

## SPRING TERM 2

### School: Monday 24 February - Friday 4 April 2025

Holiday: Monday 7 April - Monday 21 April 2025

SUMMER TERM 1

School: Tuesday 22 April - Friday 23 May 2025

Holiday: Monday 26 May - Friday 30 May 2025

## SUMMER TERM 2

### School: Monday 2 June - Tuesday 22 July 2025

Holiday: Wednesday 23 July 2025 - tbc Pupils finish Monday 21 July 2025

Teacher Training Days (School closed for pupils):			Other information (School closed for pupils):	
Mon 2 September Tues 3 September Mon 6 January Tues 22 July	Teacher Training Day Teacher Training Day Teacher Training Day Teacher Training Day	Fri 25 October	Pupil Conference Day	

#### Parking

School Streets has definitely made Ingatestone and Harpenden Roads quieter at school drop off and pick up times—great news! What it has done, however, is make surrounding streets busier.

If you can, please walk, run, hop, cycle, skip, scoot to school if you can. Most of our families live close enough not to need the car to get children to school. If you do need to drive, please park considerately.

We have worked very hard over the years to foster good relationships with our neighbours. Please help us to keep these.

Thank you.

### Telephones

If you have called school over the last few days you may have noticed something different....

We have a new telephone system. You will now be prompted to choose from 3 options when you call—1 is to report your child absent , 2 is to speak to our Finance Team, and 3 or hold is to speak to the main office.

Don't forget, you can still email us on:

absence@aldersbrook.redbridge.sch.uk

Ad-

min.aldersbrook@redbridge.gov.uk

Or pop into the office with any questions or queries.







Your child could receive extra funding to support their learning.

#### Want to know more?



SCAN ME

Christmas photo special offer from Karen Zetter Photography—with percentage of sales coming to the school.

Who doesn't love a Christmas photo shoot! Karen Zetter Photography have put together a great package for Aldersbrook families.

She is offering a photo shoot which consists of family groups, the children together and children individually for the discounted rate of £100 (rather than the standard rate of £150) The school will also receive a very generous percentage of any of these packages sold.

Please look at Karen Zetter Photography on Facebook or Instagram for more examples of her work. These shoots can be arranged directly with Karen on 0777 423 0111.





# 'The 2 Johns' Parent E-Safety Workshop (Virtual)

Do you know that Minecraft, Roblox and Fortnite are not as safe as you might think? Do you know that restricting the 'chat' in games does not stop your child from talking to strangers?

Do you know that having the wrong settings on your social media apps can expose your child to grooming or put them at risk of bullying?

Do you know how gang culture and radicalisation affects your child online?

Do you know what long term effects lockdown has had on your child?

Do you know that self-generated images are now common among children in primary school years across the county?

Do you know what media sources your child forms their opinions from?

# Do you know how to keep your child safe and show them the wonders of our digital world?



'The 2 Johns' will open your eyes to a world we, as adults, didn't grow up in. Please save the date to attend this crucial parent support event.

# 8pm to 9:30pm on Monday 27th November 2023

# Click on the link or scan the QR code to sign up for the event: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83529852532

www.esafetytraining.org



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for guides.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

#### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

While TikTok's "Following" feed only displays videos from users someone tollows, "For You" is a stream of citips based on their previously watched content. Most videos on a child's "For You" feed will therefore be light-hearted and amusing, but it *could* potentially surface something unsuitable. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of lighed on inappropriate content, but the sheer volume of uploads mean they aren't manurally monitored and vetted.

## DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

Due to TikTok's immense popularity, some young people nave unfortunately been influenced by videos challenging them to perform harmful, criminal or even deadly acts. One extreme example was the blackout trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. It led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

## CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With around 1.1 billion users globally, the potential for contact from strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by over-16s (or youngsters using a false date of birth) are set to public by default. This not only means that someone's profile is visible to everyone else on the app: it also lets their videos be suggested to others and enables anyone to comment on them or download them.

TikTok is a free social media platform that lets users create, share and watch short videos ranging anywhere from 15 seconds to 10 minutes in duration. The app gained notariety for its viral dances, trends and celebrity cameos and can be a creative, fun platform for teens to enjoy. Now available in 75 languages, it has more than a billion active users worldwide (as of spring 2022) and is most popular with the under-16 age bracket. In fact, a 2022 Ofcom report found TikTok to be the most-used social media platform for posting content, particularly among young people aged 12 to 17.

# (certain features are restricted to over-18s only

RESTRICT

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase emojis in the app. These emojis are then sent as rewards (retaining their monetary value) to other users for videos they've created. Coin bundles range from £9.99 to an eye-watering £99; TiKTok's policy is that they can't be bought by under-18s, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birthdate.

# ADDICTIVE NATURE

Like all social networking platforms, TikTok can be addictive: figures show that young people are investing increasing amounts of time in fit. In the UK, children with TikTok spend an average of 102 minutes per day on the app, versus 53 minutes on YouTube. This compulsive repeated use can interfere with their sleep patterns – leading to irritability – and distract them from other cefluities.

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# TIKTOK NOW

Introduced in late 2022, the 'TikTok Now' feature lets users post a daily video or photo at the exact same time as their friends. Users receive a synchronised notification at a random time of day, giving them three minutes to take a video or raol-time photo. This addition can not only be a distraction to young people but could lead to them inadvertently sharing private content such as their location.

Advice for Parents & Carers

#### ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account with their child's and control their settings remotely. Parents can then, for example, turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content): set screen time limits; and manage their child's ability to send messages (and to whom). Children can't alter these settings without parents approval

# DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If your child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's crucial to talk about the potential risks in this type of app. For example, ensure they understand not to share any identifying personal information – and that they realise they could be exposed to inappropriate content. Thinking critically about what they see on TikTok can help children become generally more social media save

# Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.

www.nationalonlinesafety.com

# MAKE ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Although under-16s will have their TikTok account set to private by default, bypassing this setting is relatively easy. However, parents have the ability to manually set their child's account to private – meaning that their videos won't be visible to strangers and they won't be able to exchange messages with people who aren't on their friends list.

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 23.11.2021

# LIMIT IN-APP SPENDING

If your child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter the settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend that you enable this leature, as it's quite easy for a young person – without realising what they're doing – to spend a significant amount a real money buying TikTok coins so they can unlock more leatures of the app.

NOS

@nationalonlinesafety

Safew

#WakeUpWednesday

# READ THE SIGNS

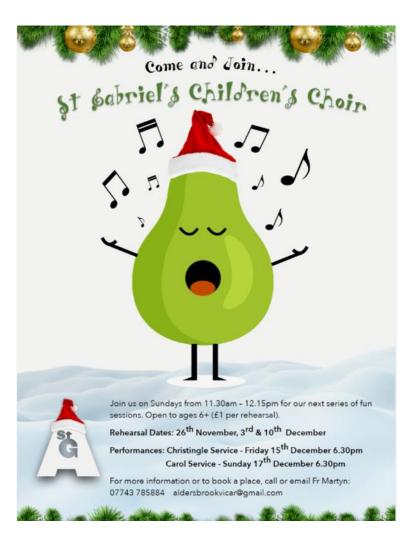
f /NationalOnlineSafety

f you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something inappropriate or upsetting that they've seen, it's mportant to know how to spot the possible signs. Increased rritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as followed by a second second second second second second second for the second secon



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Aldersbrook Children's Centre Activity Timetable: Autumn Term (6 September – 20 December 2023)



You MUST be a resident of the London Borough of Redbridge and register with Children's Centres before attending an activity. Book via clicking the link in the timetable or contacting the centre. For courses Address: Aldersbrook Children's Centre, Ingatestone Road, E12 5HE | Email: orchardcc@redbridge.gov.uk | Telephone: 020 8496 0100

you need to register your interest by contacting the centre as stated in the timetable.

Stay and Play For: Parents and carers Positive Minds for Toddlers (4-week course) **Busy Babies with Self-weigh** 1.00pm - 2.00pm Booking: Eventbrite or drop-in to book For: Birth to crawling **Baby Bounce and Rhyme** For: Walking to 4 years old Active Play Book Club Time: 9.30am - 10.30am MONDAY Booking: No need to book, just drop in Time: 3.45pm - 4.15pm Information and Advice register your interest Booking: Email, phone or drop-in to Time: 2.00pm - 3.00pm For: Walking to 4 years old course) register your interest Booking: Email, phone or drop-in to Time: 2.00pm - 3.00pm For: Birth to crawling Positive Minds for Babies (4-week Booking: Eventbrite or drop-in to book Time: 2.00pm - 3.00pm For: Birth to crawling CENTRE CLOSED Time: 11.30am - 12.30pm Booking: Eventbrite or drop-in to book Time: 11.30am – 12.30pm Booking: Eventbrite or drop-in to book Time: 9.30am - 10.30am For: Birth to 4 years old Booking: Eventbrite or drop-in to book For: Birth to 4 years old 1.00pm - 2.00pm Booking: Eventbrite or drop-in to book Booking: No need to book, just drop in Time: 3.45pm - 4.15pm Booking: Eventbrite or drop-in to book For: Birth to crawling Let's Talk Baby Talk Booking: Eventbrite or drop-in to book For: Walking to 4 years old Active Play CENTRE CLOSED **Coffee and Chat** For: Birth to crawling **Busy Babies with Self-weigh** For: Walking to 4 years old **Busy Toddlers** For: Parents and carers Information and Advice Time: 2.00pm - 3.00pm Time: 11.30am - 12.30pm For: Birth to 4 years old Stay and Play Time: 10.30am - 11.30am For: Parents and carers Time: 9.30am - 10.30am Time: 9.30am - 10.30am TUESDAY Time: 2.00pm - 3.00pm PEOPLE Booking: Eventbrite or drop-in to book 1.00pm - 2.00pm Booking: Eventbrite or drop-in to book For: Birth to 4 years old Stay and Play Booking: Eventbrite or drop-in to book WEDNESDAY Time: 2.00pm - 3.00pm For: Birth to 4 years old CENTRE CLOSED **Busy Toddlers** For: Birth to crawling Stay and Play Story and Rhyme Time Time: 2.00pm - 3.00pm Time: 11.30am - 12.30pm For: Birth to 12 months old **Baby Brain Science** Time: 11.30am - 12.30pm For: Walking to 4 years old Time: 9.30am - 10.30am **Baby Bounce and Rhyme** Time: 9.30am - 10.30am For: Birth to 4 years old Hoppy Booking: Email, phone or drop-in to Booking: Eventbrite or drop-in to book Booking: Eventbrite or drop-in to book Booking: Email, phone or drop-in to Booking: Eventbrite or drop-in to book Booking: No need to book, just drop in For: Parents and carers Baby Massage (4-week course) Rhyme Time for Toddlers 1.00pm - 2.00pm CENTRE CLOSED Booking: Eventbrite or drop-in to book For: Birth to crawling register your interest THURSDAY Time: 3.45pm - 4.15pm Information and Advice register your interest For: 6 weeks to 6 months old For: Walking to 4 years old Early Movers For: Birth to crawling Time: 9.30am - 10.30am For: Walking to 4 years old Active Play Time: 2.00pm - 3.00pm Time: 2.00pm - 3.00pm Time: 11.30am - 12.30pm Time: 11.30am - 12.30pm For: Walking to 4 years old Mini Architects Baby Musicians (6-week course) Time: 9.30am - 10.30am Booking: No need to book, just drop in Booking: Eventbrite or drop-in to book Sensory Adventures for Babies Booking: Eventbrite or drop-in to book **Positive Minds for Parents and Carers** 1.00pm - 2.00pm Booking: Eventbrite or drop-in to book Booking: Eventbrite or drop-in to book Booking: Eventbrite or drop-in to book **Busy Babies with Self-weigh** Booking: Eventbrite or drop-in to book **Busy Toddlers** FRIDAY For: Parents and carers Information and Advice For: Birth to crawling For: Parents and carers CENTRE CLOSED Stay and Play For: Parents and carers Coffee and Chat For: Birth to crawling For: Walking to 4 years old Time: 11.30am - 12.30pm For: Birth to 4 years old Time: 9.30am - 10.30am Time: 9.30am - 10.30am Time: 3.45pm – 4.15pm Time: 2.00pm - 3.00pm Time: 2.00pm - 3.00pm Time: 10.30am - 11.30am