

Dear Parents
& Carers,

Well we have avoided sending an overload of emails to you about the dreaded 'O' word (Ofsted), but given that we are well overdue an inspection, plus we have so many new families who have joined this year, we thought it was time we spent ONE newsletter feature covering it!

Congratulations if you have continued to read this far and not skipped to the next item in the newsletter! I realise that many parents/carers are more interested in the learning that their children do in school and if they feel safe, than they are in the Ofsted framework (and so are we!) but there are some important points that all families should be aware of.

Since our last inspection (December '14— see report on website) there have been many significant changes to the way that Ofsted inspect schools. In the briefest summary I can do, we would say the main changes are:

- Ofsted are now not interested in any internal school data or sitting for hours grilling schools about this. Hooray! They will use the **IDSR** (Inspection Data Summary Report) which shows all of our end of key stage results for attainment and progression over a number of years. We think this is great as the focus is now much more on the children than on numbers!
- There is now a huge focus on the **curriculum**. That is every subject that we teach and how we have adapted this for our school so that it meets the needs of our pupils. Hooray! There is a much stronger focus on the progression and coverage within all subjects so that pupils get a balanced and rich learning experience....not just test skills in English and Maths. Hooray! Art is just as important as English and PE is just as important as Maths. This is amazing news and what we try to deliver every day...but we are still working on our curriculum to ensure there is an even balance of **Seed** (basic knowledge)/ **Stem** (consolidating knowledge)/ **Soar** (applying and extending knowledge) opportunities to really challenge our learners.
- A continued focus on reading, especially for those that struggle to get their 'basics' right which could stop them accessing other areas of the curriculum.
- There is a strong focus on pupils' **personal development** & 'cultural capital' which in a nutshell are the extra opportunities that pupils have to develop character beyond the National Curriculum. Hooray! Hooray! Hooray! This is what we try to do with things like Curiosity Shop, Forest School, the school allotment, 'Memory Maker' events in every year group such as camping, school sleepovers, residential etc. This is completely in line with our curriculum intent areas of **Confidence, Independence, Curiosity & Involvement (CICI)** which are the core skills we want every child to leave our school with to carry them on to future success.

There are many other changes but these are the main ones for schools and finally puts the emphasis on the children rather than on data, which we celebrate. There has to be a 'but' and there is one- the reality for 'Outstanding' graded schools is that Ofsted expects every curriculum area to be exemplary. Ofsted data shows that only one out of seven 'Outstanding' graded schools currently retain that grading under the latest framework. Just a reality check for parents & carers to be aware of.

An Ofsted grading is not the motivation behind what and how we teach at Aldersbrook and never will be! What we shall continue to do at Aldersbrook is make sure that every day, every decision continues to be about the pupils and ensure that they feel safe, love learning and treat each other with care.

As soon as we know that we are having an inspection (the day before), we will inform parents immediately and ask you to give some feedback about your child's school experience at Aldersbrook via ParentView and also by speaking to the inspectors in the playground in person.

If you have any questions about or how you can help, please see myself or Mrs Crouch any morning in the playground or speak to your child's teacher.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr Hughes & Mrs Crouch

13 October World Mental Health Day—wear yellow

13 October PTA cake sale after school

17 October 6G visit to Gudwara

20 October Pupil Conference Day in school (school closed to all parents except Nursery)

21 October—29 October Half term holiday—school closed

31 October National Child Measuring Programme in school for Year R and 6

1 November VR space workshop in school Year 5

2 November London Central Mosque visit Year 5

3 November Science Museum Year 4

6 November Flu Vaccinations in school

6 –10 November Whole School Writing Week

9 November 2.45pm 3A sharing assembly

Our Value of the month: is...



Buy A Book!

The reality of school funding cuts is hitting us hard! We are running low on 'class readers' which the pupils take home each night to help them develop a love of reading and to help them make progress.

We want every child to have a class reader to take home each night. Can you help us top up our dwindling resources?

Below is a list of the books and quantities that we need to replace of each. **If you have a spare, pre-loved, good quality copy at home you could drop that in to the office OR make an £8 (or more!) donation on Arbor under 'Buy A Book' (see 'Trips' for your child) and we will use the money raised to buy the books.** Each family that donates a book will have a personalised sticker put into the front to thank them for their book donation!

Any help to support us would be deeply appreciated!

What do we need....

The Twits by Roald Dahl – 11 copies

You're a Bad Man Mr Gum by Andy Stanton– 4 copies

Matilda by Roald Dahl – 8 copies

Not Bad for a Bad Lad by Michael Morpurgo – 10 copies

Jam Doughnut that Ruined My Life by Mark Lowery - 5 copies

101 Poems by Carol Ann Duffy - 12 copies

Krindlekrax by Philip Ridley - 5 copies

Aladdin and the Enchanted Lamp by Phillip Pullman- 11 copies

How to Train Your Dragon by Cressida Cowell – 16 copies

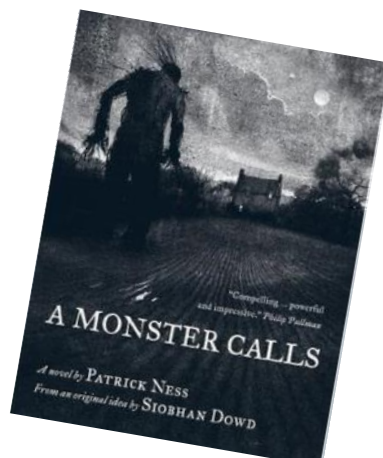
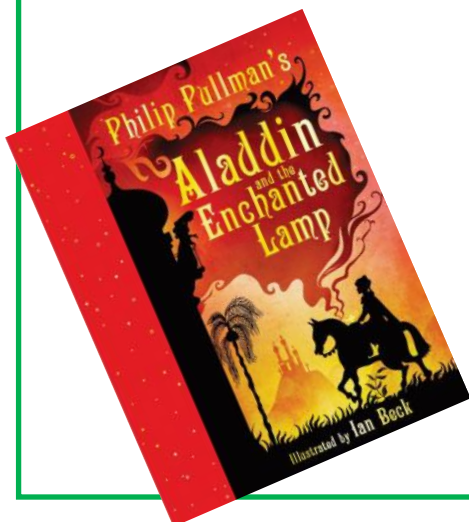
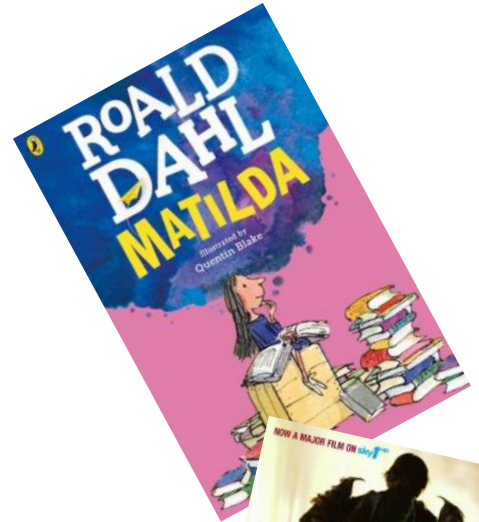
Driftwood and Amethyst by Kate O'Brien – 4 copies

Skellig by David Almond – 12 copies

A Monster Calls by Patrick Ness – 6 copies

The Witches by Roald Dahl – 6 copies

Lost Magic the Very Best of Brian Moses by Brian Moses – 8 copies



New faces.....

You may have seen some new staff faces in the playground this half term.

A big welcome to:

- * Ms Ferdous (Learning Support Assistant)
- * Mr Clarke (Cover Supervisor)
- * Ms Ahmed (Learning Support Assistant)
- * Ms Jama (Cover Supervisor)
- * Mrs Abid (Cleaner)
- * Mrs Asim (Learning Support Assistant)
- * Mrs Tatnell (Class teacher 1G, maternity cover)
- * Mrs Ali (Midday Assistant)

They have already commented on how welcome they have been made to feel by children and parents so thank you!

Secondary School Admissions

Year 6 parents! Don't forget that the deadline for secondary school applications is **31 October 2023**

Full details can be found on the London Borough of Redbridge website:

<https://www.redbridge.gov.uk/schools/secondary-school-admissions/>

Please do call the school office or speak to your child's class teacher if you are having problems completing the application.

PTA Cake Sales

Our first playground cake sale is taking place TODAY Friday October 13th at 3.20pm in the KS1 playground. As a reminder, we ask for donations of cakes to be dropped in to the school office or on the gate at drop off on cake sale day. The PTA team set the cake sale up for straight after school, with all cakes priced at 50p each.

Without donations of cakes, these sales can't operate so thank you to all the parents who donate so generously. Last year these sales raised thousands of pounds for our PTA funds—money which enables the school to give our children the best experience possible.

In the run up to Halloween, we have been made aware of a campaign by Hubbub to prevent pumpkin waste. According to the charity, £27.6 million of food, or 15 million vegetables is wasted every year when people carve their pumpkins and discard what is inside. They are calling on families to decorate rather than carve their pumpkins so they can be eaten afterwards. There are lots of tips on their website about how to decorate with sweets, edible pen icing and other decorative tools. <https://hubbub.org.uk/how-to-decorate-your-halloween-pumpkin>



THURSDAY 19TH OCTOBER



PTQ&A

QUIZ NIGHT

TEAMS OF UP TO 6 PEOPLE

ENTRY/ TICKETS £5 PER PERSON

BAR OPENS 7.30pm - QUIZ STARTS 7.45pm



alderbrookpta@gmail.com



[@alderbrookpta](https://www.instagram.com/alderbrookpta)



[@alderbrookpta](https://twitter.com/alderbrookpta)

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

YOUTUBE

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content – including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate material. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as messaging other users directly. Connecting with strangers online, of course, can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to encountering online predators.

SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but can also lead to binge-watching and the risk of screen addiction, especially if 'auto-play' is activated. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

HIGH VISIBILITY

Content creators can also be put at risk – especially young ones who try to make their online presence as visible as possible. Creating and uploading content exposes children to potential harassment and toxicity from the comments section, along with the possibility of direct messaging from strangers. Videos posted publicly can be watched by anyone in the world.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends, challenges and memes that are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may harm children through either watching or copying. The painful 'salt and ice challenge', which can cause injuries very quickly, is just one of many such examples.

SNEAKY SCAMMERS

Popular YouTube channels regularly have scammers posing as a well-known influencer in the comments section, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and sometimes offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users are not who they claim to be.

Advice for Parents & Carers

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate content (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual situations) to underage viewers. To prevent your child from changing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.

18
CENSORED

TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows you to monitor what your child is watching, uploading and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives you an oversight of how your child is using sites like YouTube and helps you ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.

MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them children. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course, and react to content differently. You may want to keep an eye on how your child interacts with content on YouTube – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand the types of videos they are interested in.

CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that your child is subscribed to can be hidden. If your child is only uploading videos that are protected as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.

CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Influential content creators usually have other social media accounts which they encourage their fans to follow. Having an open discussion about this with your child makes it easier to find out how else they might be following a particular creator online. It also opens up avenues for you to check out that creator's other channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.

LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases: users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch, for example. If you're not comfortable with your child purchasing content online, limit their access to your bank cards and online payment methods. Many parents have discovered to their cost that a child happily devouring a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!

Meet Our Expert

Qare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunaf0r) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunaf0r Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



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LEYTON ORIENT V DERBY COUNTY
SAT 9TH DECEMBER | 3PM KICK-OFF

*PLEASE COMPLETE BY 3RD DECEMBER 2023



**CLICK HERE TO CLAIM
YOUR FREE TICKET**





Leyton Orient have given the school 50 FREE tickets to watch them play Derby County on Saturday 9th December.

If you would like to be at the game, please scan the QR code.



PUPIL PREMIUM
ALDERSBROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Your child could receive **extra funding** to support their learning.

Want to know more?



SCAN ME

Children's Drama Classes
On Fridays after school at
The Quaker Meeting House, Bush Road, Aldersbrook

LAMDA Acting Exam Preparation Classes
On Tuesdays after school at
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Centre, Wanstead

7-8 year olds | 4pm
9-11 year olds | 5pm

Free trial class
bookings at
www.antoniadoggett.co.uk




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.





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tel:07946075980



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GIRLS**

U12, U14, U16, U18

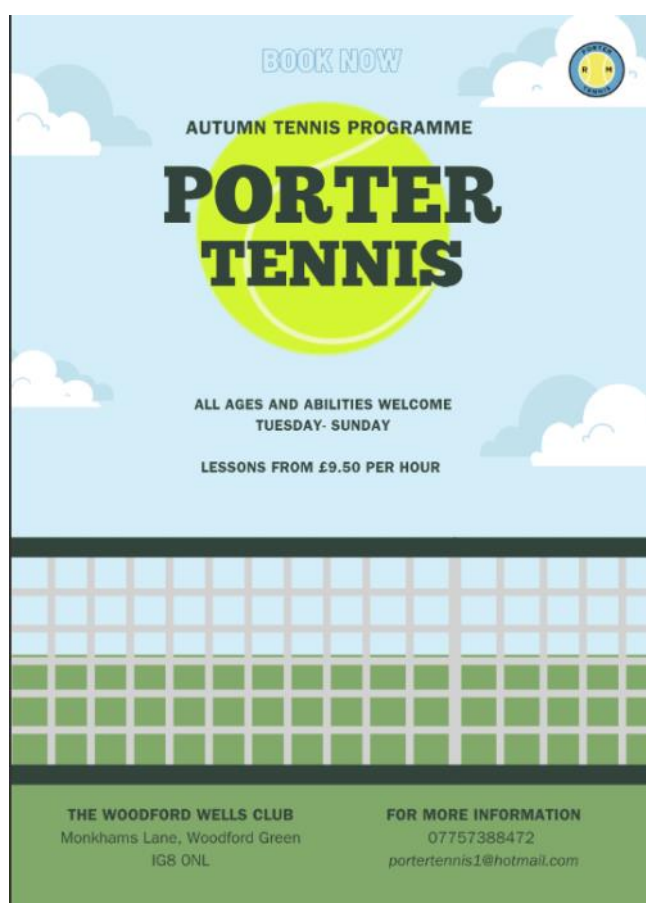
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& SUNDAYS 9.30AM**

**FOR MORE INFO CONTACT NICKY 07977 934782
OR NICKY.BEAK@ETONMANOR.NET**

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Roll With It
HOLIDAY ART CLUB

www.makemeanartstar.com

Two Day Workshop
24th & 25th October 2023
10:00am - 4:00pm
£85 per child

Wanstead Quaker Meeting House, E11 3AU
School Years 1-6

LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE
 Any further enquires to - makemeanartstar@gmail.com
DBS Checked, Safe Guarding & First Aid trained

friends of 

Thursday 9 November 2023
St Gabriel's Church, Park Road,
London E12 5HH
Doors open at 6pm, talk starts 7.30pm

Illustrated talk by Jane Skelding
 (AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Candidate,
 School of Advanced Study, University of London)

Using data from the 1911 and newly-released 1921 censuses the talk will reveal the early social history of these two unique Edwardian estates. There will also be top tips for researching your own house history.

Tickets: £5 on the door
 gives entry to prize draw (children free)

HISTORY TOURS OF THE CHURCH - STALLS - REFRESHMENTS

ALDERSBROOK AND LAKE HOUSE:

WHO DO WE THINK WE ARE?



THE STOW BROTHERS

LAHP
 The LONDON
 ARTS & HUMANITIES
 PARTNERSHIP

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