ALDERSBROOK VOICES

LEARNING AND LEADING

Issue 1

Welcome to the first ever issue of Aldersbrook Voices. Learning Ambassadors and pupils from across our school will contribute to this half termly publication! We can't wait for you to read what we have in store over the next few months. This issue is dedicated to the irreplaceable Mr. Hughes. We hope you enjoy all the kind messages! Thank you from EVERY child at Aldersbrook!

THANK YOU Mr.Hughes

Year 5- Learning Ambassador

Mr. Hughes, you're truly amazing! Your ideas have turned our school into the absolute best. Since I was three or four, I understood the importance of good role models like headteachers, but I never imagined I'd be this lucky. Even back in Year 1, I was in awe of your caring and bubbly personality. I eagerly looked forward to every assembly you led — you have a way with words like no other.

We also love your lessons on stacking lunch trays! The stories and jokes you effortlessly share fill Aldersbrook with warmth. Remember camping in Year 3? Even at half past 2 in the morning, you maintained your sense of humour when my friends and I woke you up with our giggling (sorry!) Also, that library bus? Genius idea from you! The telephone box? Let's go! CICI? Wow, who came up with that?!

When my mum signed me up for Aldersbrook, she had no idea I'd be joining a school led by the best headteacher a family could ever ask for. Thank you, Mr. Hughes, you've not only changed this school for the better but also changed our lives. There will never be anyone like you. I hope you enjoy reading through the pages of this newsletter.

How has Mr. Hughes and C.I.C.I inspired us to become leaders?

Confidence

"Mr. Hughes demonstrates confidence by fearlessly speaking in front of everyone during assemblies. He never worries about what people might think about him. Embracing his authentic self, he enjoys dressing up and bringing laughter to everyone.

His confidence shines through in various ways, including his promotion of poetry, which helps us feel more confident too. Leaders are confident because they need their voices to be heard. Having confidence helps us make fair decisions that guide everyone in a positive direction."

Curiosity

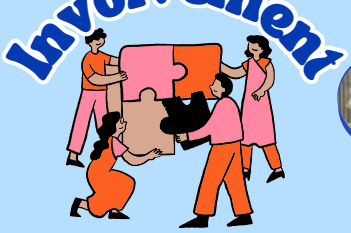
"Mr. Hughes is curious. He asks us questions, cares about what we're learning and makes sure we feel safe. He wants us to explore through cooking and reading. He's interested in our lives and how we are feeling. Leaders, like Mr. Hughes are curious because it helps them get better at everything they do. Asking questions and being interested helps leaders find new ideas and ways to make things better for everyone. Curiosity is like a key that helps people learn and be the best they can be!"

Independence

"Mr. Hughes shows independence by making changes to our school. He makes decisions to improve learning and make things exciting. He also helps us become independent by teaching cooking skills so we can use recipes when we're older. Leaders need to be independent because they have to make choices that will help everyone.

Being independent means leaders can think for themselves and make decisions that are good for the school and the people in it."

Involvement



"Mr. Hughes is involved by caring about the views of others. He supports children and grown-ups, serves food in the dinner hall and checks how we're learning and leading in school. Leaders should always be involved because working together is important. "Teamwork makes the dream work." Being a part of a community and helping out makes everyone's ideas and plans better. Working as a team is always better than working alone."

Lost property and smelly trousers...

Only you could make being a headteacher look this cool!

Thank you for the "heart of our school"

CICI Kitchen

C.I.C.I. Kitchen has become the centre of the school, where children like myself have the opportunity to explore and learn new recipes. It has allowed me to develop my cooking skills, turning what was once a stressful task into a fun and exciting experience. It's more than just a kitchen, C.I.C.I. Kitchen has provided a place for us to prepare for independence. The hands-on approach to learning in the kitchen has given me and my friends valuable life skills. Your vision to create such a brilliant place for learning has changed the way we think about food and our health. This is not just a room with equipment, it is a place where the chefs of tomorrow will be born. Thank you Mr. Hughes for always putting our education and enjoyment first. The C.I.C.I. Kitchen will live on forever and I will think of you every time I chop a tomato or peel a potato!

Because you love corny jokes...

Today, my son asked, “Can I have a bookmark?” I burst into tears.
11 years old and he still doesn’t know my name is Brian!

Have you read the review about the restaurant on the moon?
Great food but no atmosphere!

What was the boxer’s favourite Christmas carol?
Violent night.

What did the bird forget to include in her story?
Parrot-graphs.

What did one plate say to another?
Tonight, dinner’s on me.

The past, the present and the future walked into a room.
It was tense.

What did the astronaut give to the hotel manager?
5 stars!

I sold our hoover.
It was just gathering dust.

Keep laughing Mr. Hughes!

Messages from us:

THANK YOU

Big thanks Mr. Hughes! Your humour and forgiving nature meant a lot. You were always nice, even when we annoyed you! I loved being in your camping group and the unforgettable canoeing memories. Your blue genie costume on World Book Day was epic but also ridiculous! You always look for ways to make our time in school special, even if it means you have blue paint in your ears all week! I will miss you so much. This will always be your home.

Your funny & silly moments made us cherish every laugh. Thanks for dressing up, being helpful and making our school better with CICI Kitchen & the bus library. Oh, the phone box too! Your Trunchbull costume was epic and hilarious. I'll also never forget fishing with you at camping. We will miss you so much!

My heart sank when I heard you're leaving for Australia & my eyes filled with tears. From the gross jokes to girly screams at Fairplay House, every moment with you became a cherished memory. You've made Aldersbrook the best school in the borough, and no matter where you are on the side of the Earth, this will always be your school and home. You gave us smiles bigger than our faces. I'll cherish the image of you dressed as the blue genie! Wishing you the best, thank you for making our school days brighter.

As you leave for Australia, I can't help but reflect on the epic and hilarious era you've created at Aldersbrook. Your humour, even in the toughest times, whether discussing toilets, stacking plates, or cleaning the dinner hall, you made everything brighter. You taught me to see the positivity in everything. My favourite memory was interviewing the new deputy, a task that made me feel responsible. Your praise for my leadership skills meant the world to me. You've instilled in me the values of being CICI. Thank you for imparting life skills I'll never forget. Wishing you all the best on your new adventure!

Thanks for being an amazing head teacher! Your kindness and humour made school memorable. I loved the 'Back to the 80s' curiosity shop and your crazy hair. You always made me feel welcome and safe at school. I am grateful for everything! Ty'shai says he will miss you too. Goodbye Mr. Hughes!

Thank you Mr. Hughes! The Curiosity Shop, 80s dancing, and the library bus were awesome ideas. You're a funny and kind head teacher. We will miss you!

A Library Bus, thanks to you

Mr. Hughes has significantly enriched our learning in many ways, with a particular emphasis on reading. Since the introduction of the bus to Aldersbrook, I've noticed an increase in children's appreciation for reading. It's not just the library bus alone, you can now find reading opportunities in the telephone box and amazing reading corners in every classroom. Our school actively encourages children to read, recognising that it provides them with more opportunities to let their imagination run wild. We owe thanks to Mr. Hughes for transforming a bus into a library. While I didn't witness it personally, there's a rumour that Mr. Hughes drove the library bus into the Key Stage Two playground himself! That is something that wouldn't surprise me. The Library bus holds immense importance for Aldersbrook, as reading is at the core of all our learning. This bus will serve as a symbol of your greatness and excellence Mr Hughes. Thank you!

Not only do we have a bus library, we also have a telephone box full of books thanks to you! It means that children can borrow books from both playgrounds, even if the library bus is too busy! No one will ever miss out on reading again and it is all because of you.

World Book Day costume-off against Mr. Hughes? Bad idea pal...

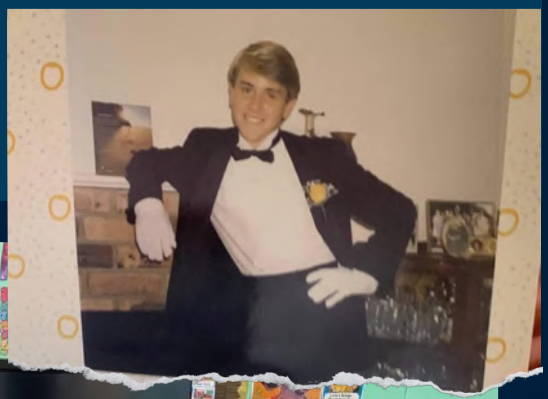
Because you love poetry...

In the heart of our school, an icon stood tall,
Mr. Hughes, our headteacher, adored by all.
With laughter as his language, fair and kind,
A touch of silliness, a creative mind.

Funny quips and a spirit so bright,
He painted our days with joy and light.
Outdoor learning and C.I.C.I, both great traditions,
80s music and crazy costumes, even better additions.

He gets us into the groove with a smile so warm,
A fearless leader, he helped us weather storms.
The memories left behind will skate with rhythm and flow,
Thank you Mr. Hughes, be free and let go.

A poem by 4HK



Messages from us:

THANK YOU

Just wanted to share some moments from the recent camping adventure – we were stuck inside because of a storm, Mr. Hughes turned it into a hilarious and silly time. Sitting in a circle, we talked about who we thought did really well, and guess what? You were proud of me! It made me feel really special. Thanks for making even indoor camping memorable!

We had so much fun at camping. I will miss your jokes and kindness My favourite memory is when we were all sitting around the campfire and singing songs, sipping on hot chocolate, and toasting marshmallows. It was a fantastic time that I will never forget.

Being part of your group at camping was amazing. Making a campfire, listening to spooky stories, toasting marshmallows. It was unforgettable. Your kindness and funny jokes made me laugh all day. Thank you for being such an amazing head teacher.

Thank you Mr. Hughes for all the memories. You are a caring head teacher. I loved the sleepovers, trips, and special visitors. You make school fun for us kids, our parents, and even the teachers. Thanks for organising forest school and the end-of-year cinema celebration from Year 1 is a memory I'll always remember. You made me feel proud about my attendance!

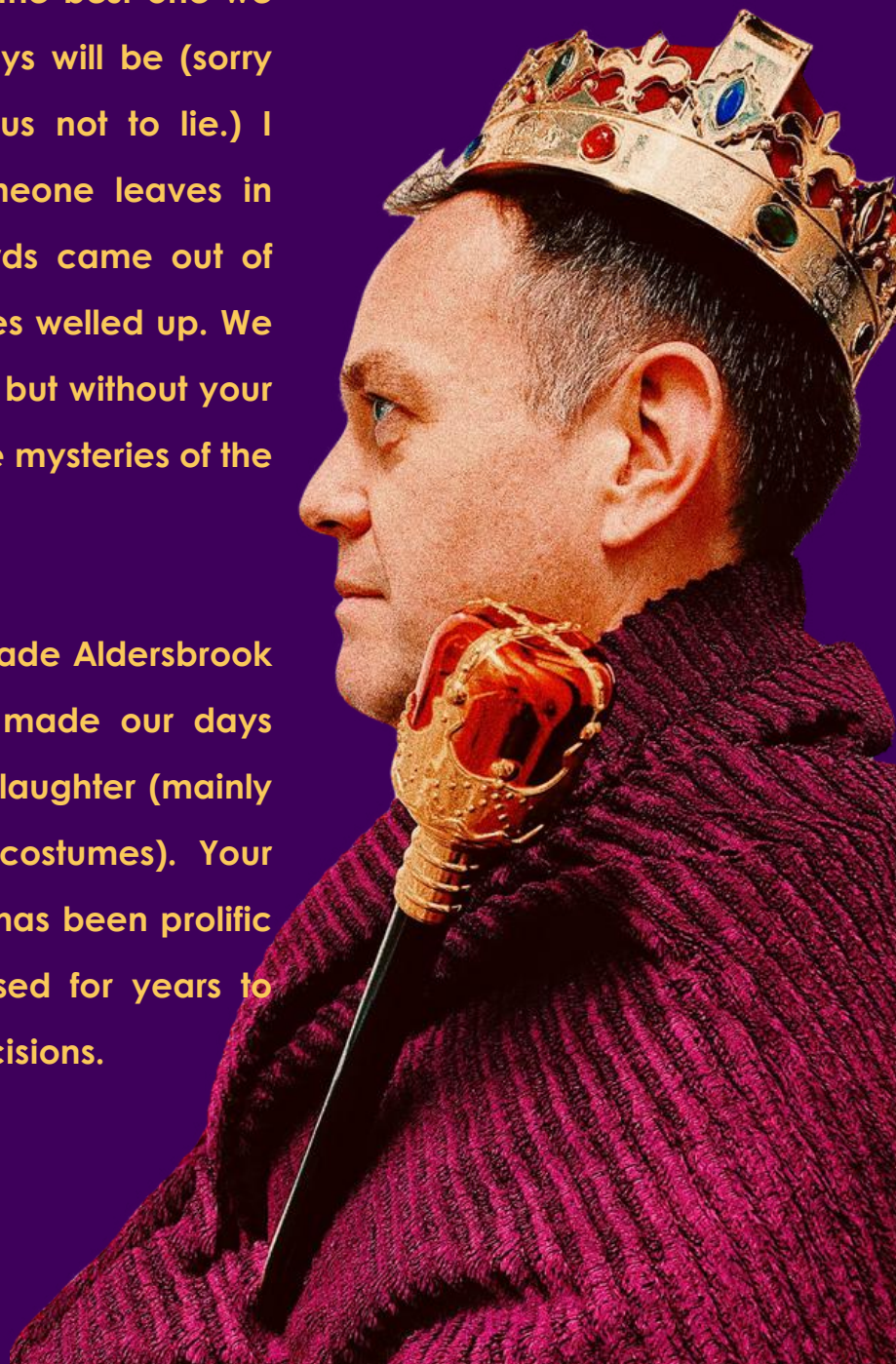
Thank you for being a nice and smart headteacher. Your stories about Australia and the interesting jokes and facts you shared are great. I'll always remember receiving my first certificate for good handwriting, it meant a lot to me. Thank you for making learning enjoyable and leaving us with wonderful memories.

Your fun spirit and personality made me smile, and the cool things you created for us, like the telephone box, library bus, and CICI kitchen. Aldersbrook is an exciting place because of you. I'll never forget the funny songs at camping. We will all miss you! Please come back.

LETTER TO THE HEAD

Dear Mr Hughes,

We all know that you, Jason D- sorry, I meant Mr Hughes, are sadly leaving. Out of all of the headteachers in the world, you are the best one we could have ever had and you always will be (sorry Miss Crouch, but uh... you taught us not to lie.) I thought people only cry when someone leaves in films or books, but when those words came out of your mouth in that assembly, our eyes welled up. We thought that the SATs would be easy, but without your support, it will feel like uncovering the mysteries of the universe...

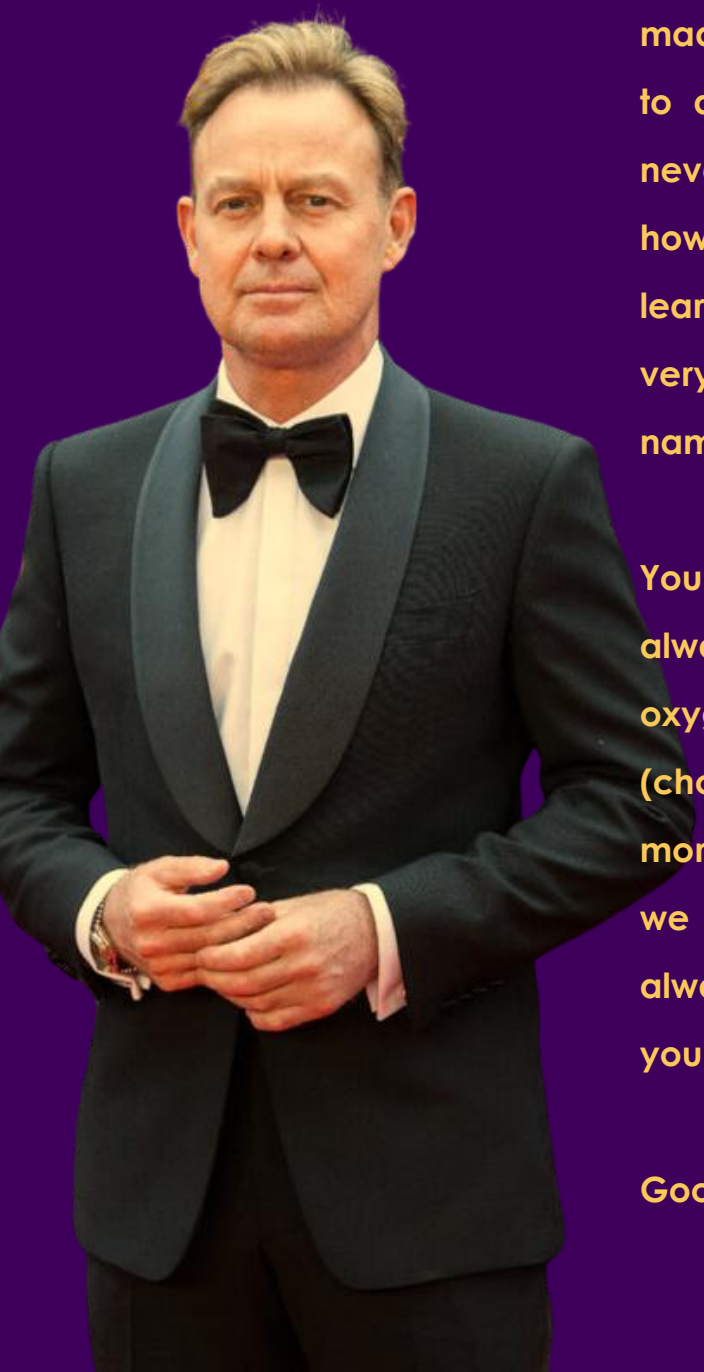


You, Jason Don- Mr Hughes, have made Aldersbrook Primary School brighter, and have made our days filled with an abundance of joy and laughter (mainly from your ridiculous, yet hilarious costumes). Your work at Aldersbrook Primary School has been prolific with ideas that will always be praised for years to come. You made fun and brilliant decisions.

You will visit us, won't you?

(Continued...)

LETTER TO THE HEAD



From the happy tears near the ice cream van (from you), to the scared tears at camping (also from you), you will never be forgotten.

You shared your heart and soul with us and that's what made our smiles bigger than our faces. You taught us to always be CICI, to be leaders and learners, to never give up. You, Jason D- MR HUGHES, taught us how to be honest and respectful, but we truly only learnt those values through watching you and your very Jason Don- Mr Hughes-y actions. Can we just name every value of the month after you?

You may be on the other side of the world, but you will always be in our hearts and minds. You're like our oxygen. Sometimes, that oxygen goes away for a bit (chokes). You have to hold your breath (chokes some more). Hopefully, the oxygen comes back because we can't live without you (no, seriously). We will always love you, and we won't ever stop, even when you're not here.

Goodbye Mr. Hughes, lots of love,

THANK YOU
Mr. Hughes