

THE FRIDAY POST



READY, RESPECTFUL, SAFE, CURIOUS, INDEPENDENT, CONFIDENT, INVOLVED

Student Spotlight

Theo (5C) has just completed an exciting run in the Christmas 2025 production of The Wonderful Wizard of Oz at Redbridge Drama Centre. Theo took part in an impressive 18 performances, including 13 shows for the general public and several special performances for local school groups.



This production marked a huge milestone for Theo, as it was his first time being involved in a show of this scale. Working alongside other children, six professional adult actors, and an experienced creative and technical team, Theo rose to the challenge as the youngest performer in the ensemble. The experience helped him develop new skills, grow in confidence, and gain a real insight into professional theatre. It was especially meaningful for Theo to have friends from APS and his previous school come along to watch and support him. We are incredibly proud of Theo's achievement and look forward to seeing where his talents take him next!



Hello Aldersbrook family! My name is Michael Abiola and I am the new Assistant Headteacher, responsible for the quality of education of our wonderful children here at Aldersbrook. I am no stranger to the area as I am joining from an Outstanding school in Newham. I would first like to start by saying a huge thank you for welcoming me this week. I have been met with warm smiles from families at the gate, invitations to play ping pong, opportunities to complete obstacle courses during lunchtime, and most excitingly the chance to see the children's amazing learning live in lessons. This has only strengthened the excitement I first felt in October, when I knew I would be joining the Aldersbrook team. I am really looking forward to being part of the Aldersbrook community and seeing it continue to flourish. I have heard so many incredible stories about the school's history, and I can only begin to imagine what lies ahead for us.



Year 2 have been exploring how their senses change in the dark through blind-folded, and peer supported, obstacle courses. This was part of our exploration linked to our new class text.



A Bigger and Better Clubs Offer This Spring Term

In our October Family Survey, many families told us how much they would value a wider range of after-school clubs. This feedback has been carefully woven into our School Improvement Plan, and we are delighted to share the impact of that work with you.

Through developing a partnership with Innovation Pod, we have significantly expanded our clubs offer. From Monday, pupils can look forward to an exciting range of opportunities supported by Innovation Pod and our own staff members including Number Fun, Podcasting, Coding, Crafts, Yoga, French, Science, and even Drama delivered in the French language! We are incredibly excited about the breadth, creativity, and ambition of this term's clubs programme, and look forward to building on this moving forward.

With so much taking place, it is essential that we tighten our end-of-day systems to ensure every child is safe, accounted for, and collected smoothly. On Monday, during assemblies, pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 will be told where they need to go for if they have clubs after school. For family reference, at the end of the school day, children will be taken by their class teacher or supervising adult to their clearly labelled club line where they will be registered.

For families collecting children from clubs at 4:30pm, please note that dismissal will take place from the back playground (the same area where Years 4, 5 and 6 are usually collected). Each club will be dismissed in a separate line, and children must remain in their line so they can be dismissed safely, one by one.

There will be additional SLT presence during the first few weeks to support this new process, and we look forward to seeing families at pick-up as we launch this exciting new chapter in our clubs provision.

A big shout out to our Minister of Compassion, Aria, and Minister of Kindness, Freya, who have re-organised our food pantry for easy access and clear view of what is available. Thank you for the many donations in December and January which have helped keep this community pantry topped up and supportive.

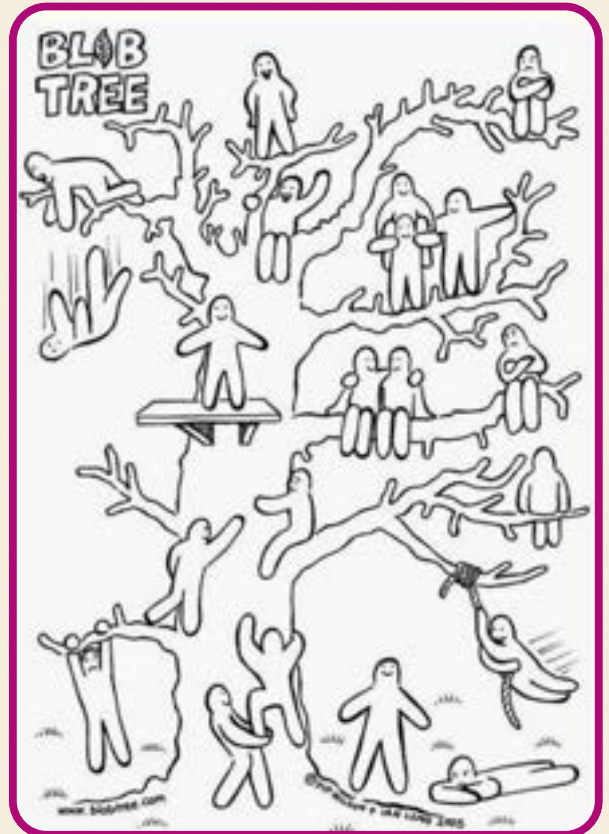


“More after school clubs would be very much appreciated!”
- Parent Survey, Oct. 2025

What happens on a Teacher INSET Day?

On days where the school is open for staff but not pupils, this is often an opportunity to develop our own practice, in line with our strategic priorities, as well as to plan ahead for up coming learning opportunities.

On Monday, many teachers received training from Redbridge's Mental Health Support Team (MHST) on trauma-informed responses to supporting emotional and social wellbeing. Try this activity, from the team, at home to promote conversations about emotions and wellbeing.



Which blob are you and how do you know?

Our partnership with MHST continues this term, with Brain Buddies in Year 5. More information about the partnership can be found on our website.

We also had multiple adults receive first aid training - both on and off-site, developing expertise in both general first aid and more Paediatric-specific first aid (PFA) for EYFS.

Our Y5 Team, and our Curriculum Leader, Mr Gibson, also took time to visit Caterham School - our new venue for Y5 Swimming Lessons. This means the team have been well prepared to answer lots of questions from Y5 about swimming as the excitement for swimming ramps up.

A huge thanks to our whole staff team for their commitment to learning in support of school improvement.



PE, Swimming and Forest School Days this Half Term

As we move into a busy half-term with a number of events and activities taking place, we want to keep families well informed about key PE and activity days.

Next week, we will share the default PE days for each class, and where any changes are needed, class teachers will communicate these directly with families.

For clarity and consistency, we will also continue to post weekly PE updates here throughout this half-term. While there may be some changes to usual days, please be assured that all children will receive their full PE entitlement over the course of the half-term.

Year 1

1B – Forest School on Tuesday
1O – PE on Tuesday
1S – PE on Thursday

Year 2

2K – Forest School on Monday
2G – PE on Tuesday
2H – PE on Thursday

Year 3

3B - PE on Tuesday
3M - PE on Tuesday
3KC - Forest School on Tuesday

Year 4

4S – PE on Wednesday
4R – PE on Wednesday
4T – Forest School on Wednesday

Year 5

5C – PE on Monday, Swimming on Wednesday
5H – PE on Monday, Swimming on Wednesday
5J – Forest School on Monday, Swimming on Wednesday

Year 6

6B – PE on Thursday
6I – Forest School on Thursday
6G – PE on Thursday



2026 will be the 22nd UK LGBT+ History Month. The month highlights the incredible things LGBT+ people have achieved throughout history, in all areas of life.

LGBT+ History Month takes place in February. If you are aware of any speakers or guests that you would encourage us to work with to celebrate LGBT+ History Month, please do get in touch with the school. We'd love to hear from you!

2026/27 ALDERSBROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL TERM DATES

We have now published our approved dates for the 2026–27 academic year. These are available below and on our school website.

Please note that next academic year we will be holding two Parent Conversation Days, which will take place on Friday 23 October 2026 and Thursday 25 March 2027.

At the end of the Autumn and Summer terms, there will be a slightly earlier pick-up time for all pupils from Nursery to Year 6. On these days, collection will be at 2:30pm.

School Closed	Bank Holidays	INSET Days including x 2 Parent Conversation Days	Early Finish 14:30 (x2)
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September 2026							October 2026							November 2026							December 2026						
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January 2027							February 2027							March 2027							April 2027						
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May 2027							June 2027							July 2027							August 2027						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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31																											



UPCOMING PARENT TRAINING

Training on Monday Evenings Online 7:30-8:30pm

Spotlight on:

Dyspraxia and supporting your child at home.
Monday 19th
January 7.30 pm



CLICK HERE

Spotlight on: **Demand**

Avoidance and supporting your child at home.
Monday 20th
April
7.30 pm



CLICK HERE

Spotlight on:

Dyscalculia and supporting your child at home.
Monday 11th
May
7.30 pm



CLICK HERE

Year 6 to 7 School Transition
Event

Monday 18th
May
7.30 pm



CLICK HERE

Spotlight on:

SEMH and supporting your child at home.
Monday 8th June
7.30 pm



CLICK HERE

Understanding Puberty from a
SEND lens

Monday 22nd
June
7.30 pm



CLICK HERE

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ALDERSBROOK
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Sweet & Savoury

TREATS SALE

CAKES, SAMOSAS, CHAI, PAKORAS,
HOT CHOCOLATE, CHAAT...

AT PICK UP, KS1 PLAYGROUND

WEDNESDAY

JANUARY 28

Come and support the
year 6 leavers fund

