



**Welcome back**

We're excited to welcome all our pupils and families back to school for the new academic year. We hope you had a restful and enjoyable summer break. The classrooms are buzzing with energy, and we're looking forward to a fantastic year of learning, growth, and fun. A special welcome to our new starters – we're thrilled to have you join our school community and look forward to working with you.

**Behaviour in school**

The results of our most recent My Health, My School survey have given us valuable insight into the experiences of our pupils. Sadly, a number of children reported being subjected to unkind name-calling by their peers. Conversations with pupils have confirmed that this is often part of a wider "roasting" culture that some children see as humorous. As a school, we want to be clear: this behaviour is not acceptable. No child should come to school feeling belittled, humiliated, or unsafe. This academic year, we will be working closely with pupils to ensure they understand the importance of kindness and respect. If any child experiences or witnesses name-calling, they will be encouraged to report it immediately to a member of staff. These incidents will be taken seriously, consequences will follow, and parents will be informed. You can support us at home by encouraging your child to avoid name-calling and to speak up if they see it happening. In some cases, we've heard that children are being told to "give as good as they get" – this goes against our behaviour policy and is not something we would support.

**Collection after school**

We'd like to remind parents that school finishes at 3:10pm. It is important that pupils are collected promptly because staff often have meetings or clubs to attend after school. Any child who is not collected on time will be taken to our after-school club for supervision, and a charge will be applied. This is to ensure all children are safe and supervised at all times. Please make every effort to arrive on time, and contact the school office if you are running late.

**Active Uniform**

Pupils have looked fantastic this week in their active uniforms, which have proven much more suitable for outdoor play and learning. We're pleased to share that Uniforms and More have now restocked their supplies. If you need additional items, please visit their shop on Cranmer Bank.

As part of our PE uniform update, we are gradually phasing out plain black tops. Once your child has outgrown their current top, please purchase the new purple PE tops. We've also noticed a small number of pupils wearing hoodies that are longer than their shorts. Please remember that Nike Pro and similar styles are too short for school and not considered appropriate. We appreciate your support in helping us maintain a comfortable and respectful dress code for all pupils. Finally, a few hoodies have been left out at playtime and OPAL and we will ALWAYS return them to pupils in class if they are labelled. Please help us with this as non-labelled items go to lost property and we know this can be frustrating for you.

**Diary Dates**


**Teacher Training Days**


- 1st September 2025
- 3rd November 2025
- 19th December 2025
- 20th July 2026
- 21st July 2026.
  
- 25<sup>th</sup> September – Year 6 to visit a mosque.
- W/B 29<sup>th</sup> September & 6<sup>th</sup> October – Year 6 Bikeability
- 9<sup>th</sup> October – Year 6 to Armley Mills.
- 9<sup>th</sup> October – FOA Movie night
- WB 20<sup>th</sup> October – Parents Meetings
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October – Last day in school before the half-term.
- Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November – First day in school after the half-term break.


**Friends of Alwoodley**

If you would like to know more about our FOA work and how you can help us, please visit the FOA page on the school website. This is such a vital part of our community. Last month, we held a break the rules day and this generated approximately £900 which along with ice cream sales is funding our much needed new scooters.  
<https://www.alwoodleyprimary.net/friends-of-alwoodley-1/>

Safeguarding Team: Mr. German, Miss Hill, Miss Pattenden, Mrs. Wray, Mrs. Shaw & Mr. Arundale.

Website:  
 [www.alwoodleyprimary.net](http://www.alwoodleyprimary.net)

Contact:  
 0113 2686104

Email:  
 [office@alwoodley.net](mailto:office@alwoodley.net)



### **School Pets**

We're lucky to have three gorgeous goats as part of our school community, and they continue to bring joy to pupils, staff, and families alike! Caring for the goats is a truly rewarding experience, and we're incredibly grateful to the team of over 30 families who volunteer their time to help look after them. Families take turns on a rota to feed the goats and put them to bed for a week at a time—usually just once or twice a year. Those who take part often tell us how much they enjoy the experience and how special it is to spend time with the goats.

As we begin a new school year, this is a great time to see if any more families would like to join our lovely goat care team. If you're interested in getting involved, please email [office@alwoodley.net](mailto:office@alwoodley.net) and Miss Hill will add you to our Goat Care WhatsApp group.

In addition to the goats, we have our wonderful tortoise, Shelly. Shelly has been with us since February last year and in the school, holidays she likes to go and stay with families for some TLC. She is very easy to look after. If you would like to volunteer to look after Shelly during October half term, please email [office@alwoodley.net](mailto:office@alwoodley.net) and let us know.

### **Music success**

Congratulations to Annabelle Leung in Year 5 who has passed two music exams recently. She received a merit for her grade 1 piano and distinction for her grade 2 violin exam. We are really proud of her. We are looking forward to group music lessons starting this week with our peripatetic teachers on violin, woodwind, keyboard and guitar.

### **School social media**

We have a new Instagram account – please follow us [@alwoodleyprimaryschool](https://www.instagram.com/alwoodleyprimaryschool)

### **Attendance**

Our school Attendance target for this year is 97%. Every week we celebrate with the children the top attending class from KS1 and KS2 and at the end of each half term the class with the highest attendance in each key stage will receive a well-deserved treat in school.

Levels of Attendance are monitored by Mrs Shaw who will happily discuss any questions or concerns you may have about your child's attendance.


### **Parking Around School**


We appreciate everyone's efforts to park safely and responsibly around school. Our staff are regularly outside to support with this, and you may have noticed our local police officers on site this week. They work closely with us and are a valued part of our efforts to keep children safe during busy drop-off and pick-up times.


Please do not park on the lines, dropped kerbs or on corners, especially at the top of Cranmer Bank and Deanswood Drive. These areas are pinch points where visibility is severely reduced, and parking here blocks the view for children and families trying to cross safely. PCSOs will issue tickets to vehicles parked in these dangerous spots.

We are also aware that some of the cars parked inappropriately belong to families from the neighbouring school. We've reached out to their senior leadership team and asked them to share this important message with their families too.

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