

**Reflections**

As we approach the end of a very busy and successful autumn term, we would like to thank all of our parents and carers for their continued support. This term is always a long one, and the colder weather and darker nights can sometimes make it feel even longer. However, the children’s enthusiasm and resilience have been inspiring, and we are grateful for the encouragement you provide at home to help them succeed.

We hope all of our families have some special plans for the upcoming school break—a time to relax, recharge, and enjoy quality time together. Please note that **Monday, 6th January, is a teacher training day**, and school will be closed to pupils. We look forward to welcoming everyone back, refreshed and ready for the spring term, on **Tuesday, 7th January 2025**.

**Musical updates**

Music continues to be a strength of Alwoodley. On 26<sup>th</sup> November, 12 members of our school choir started the festivities by singing at Pudsey Civic Hall as part of a Winter voices event. Following this, we have had a musical extravaganza which included performances from our choir and our KS2 woodwind and violin players. It was a wonderful event celebrating the talent and progress of our musicians. The choir will be singing at Sainsburys on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30am and also singing around the firepit on the same day. This week we have enjoyed seeing our younger children perform in nativities and Christmas concerts where they will

showcase both their singing and acting skills.

**OPAL**

It is almost a year since we started our OPAL journey and we can hand on heart say our playtimes have been transformed for the better. Pupils regularly tell us how much they enjoy it. This could not be achieved without the hard work of the OPAL drive team who work behind the scenes reviewing and planning new ideas. We always welcome your ideas and feedback. If you have any comments, please feel free to talk to Miss Hill or Mr German on the playgrounds or perhaps you’d rather speak to one of the parents who represent the OPAL team. If you are unsure who they are, there photos are below. Both parents are happy to take your comments. They have children in Year 4 and Reception.

This is Jamie (she doesn’t always travel this way).



This is Emma.



**Diary Dates**

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December**

2:50 Hazel 3 drumming performance

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

Year 5 and 6 musicians to see the Snowman

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

10.30am - Choir singing at Sainsburys

3.10pm - Choir around the fire

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

12.30-5pm -Phase 2 theatre

**CHRISTMAS PARTY DAYS**

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December Y3 / Y4

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December R / N

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December Y1 / Y2

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December Y5 / Y6

**Remember Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January is a teacher training day.**

**Wednesday 12th February**

N, R, 1 & 2 parents’ meetings 2:15-7:15 (Nursery to start at 3:30)

**Thursday 13th February**

3, 4, 5 & 6 2:15-7:15

**Monday 6th January TT Day**

**Uniform**

Scan the QR code below to access the uniform exchange page on Facebook.





### **What on Earth? Quiz**

This year, we decided to take part in an exciting national competition called the What on Earth? Quiz. A team of our talented Year 6 pupils joined over 300 other schools from across the United Kingdom to tackle this challenging event.

The quiz required participants to read and learn as much as possible from magazines packed with fascinating content about history, geography, and science. Our team worked incredibly hard and performed brilliantly in the heat round, securing a place in the finals.

The finals took place in London on Friday, 29th November, and we are thrilled to announce that our team finished an impressive third overall! A huge congratulations to Nathan, Richard, Haadiya, and Megan – you made our school so proud, and your outstanding general knowledge shone through every step of the way. Well done!

### **Fundraising**

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for our magical late-night event! It was truly wonderful to see our school community come together to enjoy the incredible laser projections on the side of the school and the warmth of gatherings around the fire pit. The atmosphere was filled with joy and connection, and we are so grateful for your support. A special thank you goes to the Friends of Alwoodley for their hard work in organising this fantastic event and to Lee Call Photography and Film, who were incredibly generous with their time and created the spectacular laser show that wowed us all. We're thrilled to share that £650 was raised, which will go towards further enhancing our play provision through OPAL. Your contributions make a real difference, and we couldn't do it without you—thank you!

### **Attendance**

Our school target is 97%. At present we are behind our school target and it stands at 95.9%. Please help by making attendance and punctuality a priority.

The classes with the best attendance this half term, so far, are Phase 1 - Cherry 2 - 95.29% and Phase 2 - Juniper 6 98.32% there are still two weeks to go so it can all change, your support is very much appreciated.

The classes with the best attendance this half term will get a Pizza Party at the fire pit - weather permitting.

If your child is absent, please telephone the school attendance officer **as soon as possible - ideally before 9am** on the first day of absence (and each subsequent day of absence) on 0113 2686

### **Fundraising**


Reminder - If you are shopping online, please scan the QR code below and go through easyfundraising. It costs you nothing and a small percentage goes to school – every little helps





Scan QR Code to go directly to the Friends of Alwoodley Primary easyfundraising page



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)