

Alverstone Infant School



July 2024

Belonging, Respect, Responsibility

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

We would like to say a huge thank you for all your support this year. We are so proud of the children's progress and achievements, and we can't wait to see what next year brings.

We look forward to welcoming our new Reception children and their families in September.

Thank you to our committed Friends of Alverstone, who have gone from strength to strength this year, organising events for the enjoyment of our children. We couldn't do these things without you!

Thank you to our amazing reading volunteers and to everyone who has helped with school trips and local walks. We couldn't do these things without you...you really make a difference!



Library visitors!

We are delighted that so many of you are making use of our extended library times. The library is open from 8.15-8.30am and again at 3.10-3.30pm.

Book raffle

We have recently drawn the book raffle and this week our 3 lucky winners went to buy a book of their choice. Keep reading at least 3 times a week at home and signing the reading diary to get a raffle ticket in the pot! Good luck! This will continue in September.



To our wonderful Year 2, we are so proud of everything you have achieved. As we wave you off to your next chapter, we wish you lots of luck and happiness!

Fly high!

Attendance matters!

Thank you! This year our school attendance figure is 96.3%. This is above the national average of 94.2%.

Please remember that good school attendance is essential in ensuring your child makes the progress they deserve.

Classroom doors open at 8.30 and children **MUST** be in their classroom at 8.40. If you arrive after 8.40, you must come in through the office and fill in a late form. As with absence, lateness is also robustly monitored.

Summer Holiday Club!

Summer holiday club will be on **24th/25th/26th July** and the week beginning **19th August**. This is available to book on SCOPay.



This will remain open to our current Year 2 pupils.

After school clubs

After school clubs run on a half termly basis. All school run clubs such as arts and crafts and beginners football and organised on a half termly basis.

This means that you can sign up for a half term but then need to reapply for the next half term.

We do this as these clubs are very popular and we want to ensure that all children have an opportunity to attend.

Thank you for your understanding.



Recycling news!



After a lot of hard work this year, we are delighted to announce that we have now achieved the “**Eco-schools: Green Flag Award**”. The children are passionate about looking after the planet and are all keen to do their bit in making the world a better place. This award has been led by our Eco Committee and Miss Harvey. Well done, everyone!

We are continuing to collect bread, cheese, toothbrushes, biscuit and cracker wrappers! Every little helps, so please continue to donate by using the recycling bins in the school office.

Gosport in Bloom Awards



We are delighted to announce that we won **silver** in the following categories:

“Best bee and butterfly garden”

“Best decorative garden”

“Best edible garden”

“Most ingenious invention”

and we won **gold** for the
“Best sensory garden”

Well done children!

Thank you to everyone who has helped us to make the gardens so fantastic!

Please remember that from September, our **outdoor PE Kit** will be black leggings or joggers with a red or white school t-shirt, with trainers. Children do not need an additional hoodie as they can wear their school jumper.



Uniform

Please note that we can only take cash at the office. You can also pay for uniform orders on Scopay.

We would appreciate it, when you place an order via SCOPay, that you pop an email to the office with your order so that we can ensure that we get it to you as soon as possible. Unfortunately, orders do not always show up our end.

Dates for your diary 2024/2025

Return to school – Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Tea and Tissues – Coffee morning to welcome Year R parents (all welcome)
Monday 9th September at 8.45 in the hall

Welcome Picnic – Friday 20th September, 4.30-6.30, on the school field. Further details to follow.

Macmillan Coffee Morning
Friday 27th September – from 8.30 until 9.30am in the hall

End of half term - Thursday 24th October

Children return for Autumn 2 – **Monday 4th November**

Last day of Autumn term – Friday 20th December

INSET days 2024-2025 – school closed to children

Monday 2nd September 2024

Friday 25th October 2024

Friday 14th February 2025

Friday 21st March 2025

Monday 2nd June 2025

Parents Survey

Thank you to everyone who has completed our survey.

We received **41 responses**: 17 from Year R, 10 from Year 1 and 12 from Year 2. 2 people didn't specify a year group.

Question 1: Do you feel the teacher and year team are approachable and friendly?	80% strongly agreed 20% agreed We received lots of lovely comments about the year group teams. Thank you for your kind words.
Question 2: Do you feel any concerns are taken seriously/acted upon by the class teacher?	76% strongly agreed 22% agreed 1 person was neutral
Question 3: Do you feel your child's class teacher is accessible for discussing your child's progress?	80% strongly agreed 20% agreed
Question 4: Do you feel the office team are approachable and friendly?	88% strongly agreed 10% agreed 1 person was neutral We received lots of lovely comments about office team. Thank you for your kind words and for recognising their hard work.
Question 5: How satisfied are you with the frequency and clarity of communication?	55% strongly agreed 30% agreed 15% (3 people) were neutral Communication is always a tricky to find the right balance for everyone. Some people would like more communication, others would like less so straight away you can see our quandary! Comments received were really positive about the weekly overview sent every Friday. To further improve, we have been setting key dates for next year and will share these with you in September as a regular part of the weekly overview. We appreciate that sometimes things do change at short notice, particularly at this time of year but we do try to limit these changes where possible. All key information will continue to be sent to you via email. Tapestry is to share curriculum news and celebrations.
Question 6: Do you have any recommendations for enhancing school-to-parent communication?	One suggestion was the use of text messages to share updates. Unfortunately, it is incredibly expensive to send text messages as a school so this is not a viable option. We will only use text messaging in an emergency or very short notice situation. We will continue to refine our systems and please ask the office if clarification if needed.
Question 7: Do you feel the Senior Leadership Team (Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher) are approachable and friendly?	88% strongly agreed 12% agreed
Question 8: Do you feel that any concerns are taken seriously/acted upon by SLT?	76% strongly agreed 18% agreed 5% were neutral
Question 9: Do you feel that your child enjoys their time at school?	83% strongly agreed 15% agreed 1 person was neutral
Question 10: Do you feel that the school	90% strongly agreed 5% agreed 1 person was neutral and 1 person disagreed

<p>supports your child's wellbeing?</p>	<p>We regularly ask children how they feel about school and their feedback is very positive. This year we introduced "Feelings Check-ins" into every classroom, giving the children further opportunity to share and discuss their feelings. Our PSHE curriculum, SCARF provides many opportunities for children to talk about their feelings and worries and we have 2 schools ELSA's, Mrs McEwan and Mrs Allen-Scholey on hand to support them. In September, every classroom will have its own "Worry box" for children to share their feelings/worries. In February, we celebrated "Mental Health week" with a variety of activities including daily mindfulness, dress down/cosy day and a sensory woodland walk.</p>
<p>Question 11: How would you rate the range of extracurricular activities offered?</p>	<p>As an infant school we have a comparatively extensive offer of extra-curricular activities. All of these clubs, with the exception of Arts and Crafts and Beginners football are run by external agencies. We do not charge these clubs to use our premises so there is no financial gain to us, the benefit is only to the children.</p> <p>We agree that our clubs are heavily dance focused but there is a demand for this as these clubs are regularly full. We would be very keen to offer a wider variety if things were available. For example, we used to offer Karate but the club moved to a junior school where the demand was greater. Please let us know if you have any contacts to clubs who would like to run here.</p>
<p>Question 12: What additional extracurricular activities would you suggest?</p>	<p>Unfortunately, we can only offer what is available. We are delighted to say that we have already arranged for a "Marvellous maths" club to run in Autumn 2 and also intend to run a "multi-skills sports" club at that time. We have been liaising with a local Spanish teacher to offer Spanish lessons. Unfortunately, they do not have availability currently but this club will start as soon as they are available.</p>

Parent comments

The whole team inare a credit to the school. They are all approachable, friendly and know the children so well. Nothing is ever too much trouble and the teaching this year has been fantastic.

A wonderful nurturing school. Every member of staff know every child and treats them as an individual. Thank you so very much.

Lovely school, friendly staff and would definitely recommend.

The school is warm and friendly to pupils and parents. I feel that my child gets a breadth of experiences and has lots of different opportunities in school to learn in fun ways.

The office team are amazing. If I've emailed about anything, they have been so quick to respond. They are very friendly and approachable.

My son has really flourished this school year, and has come so far in his learning. I couldn't praise both teachers enough. Thank you!