



Headteacher Update

Dear Parents/Carers

We have very much enjoyed welcoming the children back to school this week for the Spring term. A very Happy New Year to all of our families ahead of what proves to be an exciting and indeed busy 2026. Our first newsletter of the new year includes news from the last half term, celebrating the children's achievements along with important updates and reminders. Please take the time to share this newsletter as a family and to discuss life at AMS with your child.

Staffing update - We are delighted to have **welcomed Mr Williams** to the teaching team at AMS this week. Mr Williams will teach **Physical Education across the school** whilst being the class teacher for 7L. It certainly has been a busy first week for Mr Williams who has led **competitive fixtures as swimming lessons also begin for the children in Year 5**. With our **clubs programme beginning next week** Mr Williams will work alongside Mrs Darragh to maintain our fantastic sports and clubs provision. Please do take a moment to introduce yourself to Mr Williams this term.

Improving Attendance - Thank you for your support throughout the Autumn Term to **improve attendance across our school**. We finished the term with a **much improved whole school attendance figure of 94.8%** as you can see on the graph below that shows attendance across each week of the term. **Attendance at school fell in the week prior to October half term and in the final weeks of term**. It is important that we quickly re-establish strong routines and expectations around attendance in 2026 particularly in the final Winter months. Your ongoing support and partnership with this will impact positively upon the achievement of our children.

The AMS Shoe Shop - Opening January 2026

The vast majority of our families work very hard to **support our uniform expectations** throughout the academic year. However some children persist in wearing branded trainers to school. Therefore we will be launching our shoe shop this month. Children who attend school in inappropriate footwear such as Nike Air Force ones will be required to borrow a pair of shoes from the shoe shop each morning, returning them in good condition each day. We remain committed to **teaching our children the importance of maintaining high standards in everything that they do** and our school uniform requirements are an essential part of this.



School improvement work - We continue to make every effort to care for and maintain our school facilities. I am delighted to report that **our school fire alarm system was replaced early in December**. The PTA also have a number of projects that they hope to support following our **successful Christmas raffle and school disco** last term. We hope that this will include the purchase of **new athletics vests** later this term.

Save the date - This term we will be hosting our **Year 6 SATs information evening, parent evenings** and our **London residential information evening**. In addition to this, **Year 5 will visit the Ancient Technology Centre** in July, **Year 6 will visit Marwell Zoo** in May and **Year 7 visit Paultons Park** in March to learn about forces and will also **visit Queen Elizabeth's School** in February to watch the production of Legally Blonde. Details for these events has either already been sent to you or will be sent shortly.

Kind regards

Mr M. Legge - Headteacher



In this newsletter you can find: Key dates and term dates, links to policies along with updates on news and events from the school year so far.