

# Allenbourn Middle School Newsletter

## June 2025

### Summer Term - Issue Number 17



Headteacher: Mr M. Legge BEd (Hons) NPQH  
Deputy Headteacher: Mr L. Smith BA (Hons)

#### Headteacher Update

Dear Parents/Carers

As we approach the final few weeks of the academic year we are pleased to share a number of important pieces of news and a few reminders ahead of the new school year.

I would like to start by wishing our year 8 pupils all the very best as they take part in Transfer Day and prepare to leave AMS. We will very much look forward to enjoying the final weeks of term with them and the children leaving us from other year groups to start new adventures in September.

We are also very excited to welcome our new year 5 children and their families to school this week.

#### Year Teams 2025 - 2026

Later in this newsletter you will find details of our year teams and staffing arrangements for 2025 - 2026. Children in Years 5, 6 and 7 will all meet their new tutor on transfer day during lessons 3 and 4 after a brief meet with their new Year Lead.

#### Staffing Update

At the end of this term we will be **saying goodbye to Mrs Hobson who joined Allenbourn Middle School in 2007**. Mrs Hobson has contributed so very much to our school over the last 18 years. Her dedication and hard work alongside five different Headteachers has **helped to shape the ethos and values of our school**. She will be very much missed by the children that she has taught and I would like to **thank her for her support, kindness and professionalism** in my time working alongside her. Mrs Hobson can be very proud of her achievements in education and I am sure that you will join me in wishing her every success for the future. We were pleased to **welcome Mrs Norrish to our Admin Team** this week. Mrs Norrish has joined us from Pamphill First School. A reminder that we are very excited to **welcome Mr Lowry and Mrs Moscova** to our team from September. Both of these colleagues will join us for Transfer Day and are very much looking

forward to meeting the children. **Mr Lowry will join our Year 6 teaching team** and **Mrs Moscova will lead Music** across the school.

#### Local school committee - Can you help?

We are currently **looking for members of our community with a background in business or education** who would be willing to join and even **Chair our Local School Committee**. Training is provided and this role provides a unique opportunity to work alongside members of other committees across our Trust as well as myself, our committee and the staff team to continually improve AMS. Committee members would need to commit to four meetings per year and be able to visit school each term to meet with staff and children. This role provides an ideal opportunity for somebody to **contribute to their local community, share their expertise and enhance their own CV**. If you feel that you might be interested in this opportunity please contact Mrs Sydenham - Headteacher's PA to arrange a conversation about this role.

#### Initio Learning Trust - Parent/Carer Survey

Please take the time to respond to our Trust wide Parent/Carer survey if you have not already done so using the link below. A reminder that the link closes on 2nd July.  
[Parent Questionnaire Link](#)

**Sports Days 2025** A reminder that will be hosting our **Sports Days on 10th and 11th July**. This year we will be holding both of our Sports Days at Allenbourn Middle School. **Parents will be able to join us in school for events on Friday 11th from 1:30pm**

And finally, please remember that **term ends on Wednesday 23rd July at 3:10pm**. We will look forward to **welcoming children back to school on Monday 8th September**. We look forward to welcoming families to school over the coming week and **thank you all for your support** throughout this academic year.

Kind regards

**Mr M. Legge - Headteacher**

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## Year Teams 2025 - 2026

### Senior Leadership Team:

Mr M. Legge - Headteacher, Mr L. Smith - Deputy Headteacher  
Mrs S. Prout - Lead Practitioner, Miss S. Chadwick - Lead Practitioner  
Mrs L. Burley - SEND Lead

Year 5	
<b>5W</b>	Mr R. Wright ( <b>Year Leader</b> )
<b>5J</b>	Mrs J. Judge
<b>5M</b>	Mr C. Miller
<b>5A</b>	Miss I. Ashby
<b>5B</b>	Mr O. Balmer

Year 6	
<b>6S</b>	Mr A. Stroud ( <b>Year Leader</b> )
<b>6L</b>	Mr G. Lowry
<b>6J</b>	Mrs C. James/Mrs C. Randall
<b>6Z</b>	Mrs S. Hazell/Mrs S. Darragh
<b>6G</b>	Mrs E. Giles ( <i>Wed - Mrs K. Moscovia</i> )

Year 7	
<b>7D</b>	Mr C. Daw ( <b>Year Leader</b> )
<b>7P</b>	Mr M. Pressling
<b>7R</b>	Miss H. Rushent
<b>7L</b>	Mr O. Ledsham

Year 8	
<b>8H</b>	Mr C. Hickson ( <b>Year Leader</b> )
<b>8T</b>	Mr R. Trim
<b>8Z</b>	Mr M. Hazell

## Exciting developments to our Curriculum delivery for 2025 - 2026

The following **additional enhancements will be made to our curriculum provision for the new academic year**. We are sure that you will agree these are exciting changes that will ensure that your child not only continues to be taught by subject specialists across the majority of their curriculum, but **they will also benefit from reduced class sizes**. This is something that we have worked hard to achieve to support your child's achievement at a time when school budgets are limited.

- **Year 7** will have 4 tutor groups and will then **move to 5 enhanced smaller groups for English, Maths, Science, Art, Music and History**.
- **Year 8** will continue to have 3 tutor groups and will then **move to 4 enhanced smaller groups for English, Maths, Science, Art, Music and Geography**.
- **Year 5 and 6** will be taught in **5 classes for all of their curriculum lessons** with the exception of **Year 6 English that will be taught in 6 classes** for the new academic year. If required **Year 6 will be taught Maths in bands/sets**.
- Design technology will continue to be taught in small groups across all year groups.

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### Our School Values - Apsire@AMS

**Our school's values** underpin much of the work that we do in school and we regularly discuss these with the children making **links to their learning journey with us at Allenbourn Middle**. Our aim is to focus upon the three key areas of: **Academic Excellence**, **All Inclusive** and **Responsible Individuals** as we **aspire together @ AMS**.



**Special Recognition Award Winners** - In our whole school assembly each week we identify a special recognition award winner. This award can be given to any member of our school community to recognise their achievements both within school in the wider community and within their area of expertise or special interest. If you know of somebody who deserves recognition please let us know.

**George - 5M** Won the South Coast Cadet Go-Karting Championship.

**Sam Jess, Jacob Hajrizaj and Jack Rourke** won the u11 Dorset County Cup Final playing for Wimborne.

**Leo - Year 8** - competed at the Rome IBJJF European BJJ championships against opponents worldwide. He achieved Bronze in a very tough bracket. Here he is with his brother Noah from QE who also achieved Bronze.

### Did You Know?

School **Report Cards** will be sent home on **Friday 11th July**.

**Remember:** School is closed on **Friday 4th July** for a **training day**.



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## The Essential AMS Pupil Equipment List - Get set for September 2025

Please ensure that your child attends school with the correct equipment each day. Below is a **quick reminder of the items that they need for each day:**



A handwriting pen with blue ink (including a spare), a pencil case, a pencil, a pencil sharpener, a clear plastic 30cm ruler, an eraser, a glue stick, a board pen, a set of colouring pencils, a purple, pink and green biro and a highlighter.

From this evening you will be able to purchase essential equipment packs via [the Arbor shop](#) for £4.00

## IMPORTANT: Essential uniform reminders for September 2025

1. **Children are not permitted to wear branded trainers to school.** This change was made for **September 2023**. We expect all families to support this school expectation.
2. Skirts must be pleated and should be **no more than two or three centimetres above the knee.**
3. **Children are not permitted to wear make-up.**

The vast majority of our children look very smart each day and your support with this as we prepare for the new school year is very much appreciated.

## Extra Time @ AMS - Continuing for Autumn 2025 - Book now!

Extra-time @AMS is now up and running and it is great to see this additional provision being used by our families. Mrs Cross has established a fantastic programme of activities and we are keen to see more families making use of this provision in the coming months.

Extra-time@AMS **runs between 3:10pm and 5:45pm**, Monday to Friday during term time, excluding training days. Children do not have to attend every evening and families may wish to attend for one or two evenings each week.

Each evening children will have the opportunity to complete homework and learning tasks whilst also attending other school clubs and interventions. Children will have a snack and drink break together at approximately 4:15pm. Children will then complete games and other activities until collection. Places will cost £8 per session from September.



**Places can currently be booked on ParentMail a week in advance or by contacting the school office. Bookings will move to Arbor for September.**

**Allenbourn Middle School Ofsted Inspection** It was wonderful to see positive press coverage following our Ofsted inspection. A reminder that **we currently have some places in all year groups** and would love to hear from families considering a place at AMS. You can view some of our press coverage using this link.

[Press Coverage following our recent Ofsted Inspection](#)

**Allenbourn Middle School** is a **Rights Respecting School Award holder**.



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**Year 6 Quadkids Athletics Success - Allenbourn Middle School secures top spot.** Well done to the AMS team!

Twelve of our Year 6 pupils had a fantastic afternoon taking part in a Quadkids athletics event against other local middle schools. Each athlete competed in a 75m sprint, long jump, howler throw, and 600m run — giving it their all in every event.

The competition began with the sprint, followed by the jump and throw, with the 600m run closing the afternoon. Every AMS pupil showed great determination, pushing through to the very end.



### Year 7 Rounders Report

It was a pleasure to take a team of Year 7 pupils to a rounders event. Despite a wet and gloomy start, the match went ahead as planned. Although we finished second, it was a fantastic experience and we're already planning a rematch at AMS.

**Important Mobile phone reminder:** Pupils are required to **turn their mobile phone off** as they **enter our school site** each day and **these must be handed in and secured in their class phone box** for the day. **Any pupil found with their mobile phone turned on or in their possession during the school day will be issued with an after school detention.**



**IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that **children do not bring nut or sesame seed based products into school.** Please also ensure that **children have a healthy snack** for break time each day and remind them of the **importance of reducing packaging and keeping our school tidy.**

**Did you know?** Our sports Leaders have been supporting First School Sports Days throughout this term.

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#### Allenbourn Pupils Shine at Dorset Schools Athletics Championships

A number of our pupils took part in the **Dorset Schools Athletics Championships** — a prestigious event that brings together the best young athletes from across the county. To qualify for this event, each pupil had to attend trials and then be selected to earn a place on the East Dorset team. Although they were competing for East Dorset, they represented Allenbourn.

We are incredibly proud of our Year 7 athletes, who performed exceptionally well against strong competition. Their results are a testament to their talent, hard work, commitment, and determination. A special congratulations to **Maisie** for becoming a **double County Champion** — an outstanding achievement!

**Maisie** – County Champion in both **Javelin** and **Shot Put**.

**Ren** – 2nd in Dorset in both **Discus** and **Javelin**

**Zachary** – 5th in Dorset in both **Shot Put** and **Long Jump**

**Will** – 3rd in Dorset in both the **100m** and **200m**

**Tyg** – 6th in Dorset in the **800m**

**Harry** – 3rd in Dorset in the **1500m**

#### Pupil Safety and conduct in our community

We regularly talk with the children about the importance of travelling to and from school safely. Please discuss the following with your children regularly to ensure their safety.

- **Behaviour should be of a high standard at all times.**
- Pupils should not use mobile phones whilst walking to school, particularly when crossing roads.
- Pupils must remain on pavements at all times and walk with care and consideration for others.
- Pupils using scooters or bikes should take care around other road users and those on pavements.
- **Helmets should be worn on bicycles and scooters.**

#### Communication with Home - Don't forget to sign up to the Arbor App

We continue to work hard to develop strong links with our families ensuring that you receive regular and timely information about school life.

Thank you for signing up to the Arbor App ahead of us making greater use of this over the coming months.

Currently more than 81% of families have signed up. **If you have not completed this process yet please email the school office to be sent a link.**



**Did you know?** Allenbourn Middle School currently holds the highest level of School Games Award. **We are a Platinum Award school**. This status is awarded to schools who have **consistently maintained the Gold Award status for four consecutive years.**

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## Attendance Matters - Supporting your child's attendance at School

Our whole school attendance figures continue to improve steadily and **pupils' attendance at Allenbourn Middle is above the National averages.** Thank you to all of our families for your ongoing support. We remain **keen to improve further.** It is **vitaly important that children are in school** as often as possible.



Please can we remind families of the **importance of maintaining good attendance** at school and to **arrive on time** each day. **The impact of poor attendance upon your child's education will be significant** and children **must establish strong attendance habits whilst at Middle School** to ensure further success with their studies as they move to Upper school.

**We ask for your support ensuring that your child attends school everyday unless there is a very clear reason for absence.**

## PTA funding - Exciting new projects underway

It was fantastic to welcome the PTA to school recently for their AGM. At this meeting Mrs Mason was elected as the committee's new Chair, Mrs Wilkie-Stanley was elected Secretary and Mrs Payne was elected as Treasurer. The committee **kindly agreed to fund a number of exciting events and resources** and we are very grateful to this group for the valuable work that they do to support our school.

The committee is busy setting up a **second hand uniform provision** that will be **launched at our new intake evening for Year 4 families** next week.

Funding will be used to provide the following:

- **Courtyard seating** to allow a **full class** to use this area. Children will be able to use this seating before the end of term.
- **New football kit** has been purchased ahead of the new season.
- An **online rewards shop** (E-Praise) has been funded to replace ClassCharts as this feature is not available on Arbor.
- **Rewards for this term** and **the next academic year** will be funded by the committee.
- Our **Year 8 Leavers event** will be free to attend for all children thanks to the committee's generous funding.

## Arriving at school each day - Your support is needed.

Allenbourn Middle School opens at 8:30am for pupils with registration taking place for all pupils at 8:40pm. Whilst we are keen to encourage excellent punctuality, can we please ask for your support in **ensuring your child does not arrive at school too early in the morning.** Duty staff are not in place until 8:30am when the school officially opens. Prior to 8:30am the playground and other external facilities are not monitored by staff. Should you require morning child care, our breakfast club provision starts from 7.45am and is currently able to be booked on ParentMail and will move to Arbor for September.

**Did you know?** Pupils will need to attend school with a carrier bag or similar on 23rd June to enable them to bring their workbooks home. We are excited to share these with you.

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## Key Dates

### Summer Term 2025

Transfer Day

Initio Middle School Concert

Staff Training Day

Performing Arts Showcase Rehearsal

Year 8 Bournemouth University Visit

Performing Arts Showcase

Sports Days

Report Card 3 and SATs Results

Year 5 Bristol Residential

Year 8 Leavers Event

Last Day of Term

**Friday 27th June 2025**

**Thursday 3rd July 225**

**Friday 4th July 2025**

**Sunday 6th July 2025**

**Monday 7th July 2025**

**Mon 7th + Tues 8th July 2025**

**Thur 10th + Fri 11th July 2025**

**Friday 11th July 2025**

**w/b 14th July 2025**

**Wednesday 16th July 2025**

**Wednesday 23rd July 2025**

### Autumn Term 2025

Children return to school

**Monday 8th September 2025**

**Did you Know?** Term Dates for 2025 - 2026 can be viewed on our school website using the link below.

**Hot of the press! Just released** - Term dates 2026 - 2027 also available using the link below.

[AMS Term Dates](#)

## Summer Term Art at AMS



**Year 8** students did a great job making their clay gargoyles. They showed lots of creativity and skill in shaping the clay and adding all the details. Each gargoyle is unique and shows how hard they worked!

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**YEAR, 7**  
*Exploring Turner's seascapes*  
PAINTINGS BY PHOEBE AND LEXI IN 7D

**Year 7** students have been exploring the dynamic style of J.M.W. Turner, focusing on capturing movement in their paintings. Inspired by his famous "Snow Storm: Steam-Boat off a Harbour's Mouth," they've worked to emulate his techniques, using brushstrokes and colour to convey the power and motion of the storm.



**PAINTING LIKE TURNER**  
Some excellent examples from 7F



**5M JUNGLE PAINTINGS**



**5A JUNGLE PAINTINGS**



**5J JUNGLE PAINTINGS**



**5K JUNGLE PAINTINGS**

Wow, **Year 5!** Your colourful jungles are absolutely amazing! You've shown you really understand how to mix tints and shades, making your plants and animals look so realistic. It's been wonderful to see all the different blended chalk backgrounds you've created too. You've done a fantastic job!



**5W JUNGLE PAINTINGS**



We're thrilled to share some of the incredible artwork **Year 6** has created! Inspired by artist Mark Hearld's 3D birds. They've explored using both warm and cool colours to bring their creations to life, alongside incorporating a range of patterns. A selection of birds will be hanging in our school library next term for all to enjoy.

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