

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

Headteacher Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

I do hope that you have enjoyed the Easter break with your families. It has been great to welcome the children back for what I am sure will be a busy and productive Summer term.

This newsletter shares a number of important updates whilst also celebrating our children's successes and achievements from the last half term. I would encourage you to share and discuss this newsletter with your children.

School Uniform

Later in this edition you will find an **important school uniform update** which explains our whole **school uniform expectations and requirements** that will be in place from September 2023. Alongside our Academy Committee, we have reviewed our current expectations and we are keen to move towards these during this term. From September these expectations will be monitored carefully. **We have made the decision to make changes to our expectations from September to enable families to plan as they purchase uniforms for the new academic year.** Please note that our uniform is not changing and no additional costs are associated with these expectations. However **we are seeking to ensure that all children demonstrate a sense of pride** when wearing the correct uniform each day.

Staffing Update

We are pleased to **welcome Miss Chadwick to our Senior Leadership Team** for the new term and we send a very **warm welcome to Mr Magor who joins us as our new Music Lead.** I am also delighted to be able share the news that **Mrs James will be taking maternity leave early in the new academic year.** We wish her and her family all the very best at this exciting time.

Planning for the new academic year is well underway and we will share full details later this term.

Reward Shop

This week in assembly **we have launched our rewards shop in ClassCharts** and this goes **live on Friday 21st April.** The children can now use their House Points for a range of rewards that have been **selected by the children** and funded by our Parent Teacher Association. Our shop currently has rewards for this term including; **mountain biking, swimming, non uniform days and even trips to Costa!** We have aimed to act upon the children's feedback as we have set our shop up.

Snack and Uniform Bank

As part of our move to becoming a Right Respecting School **we are setting up a Snack and Uniform Bank.** This **pupil led initiative** will aim to ensure that **all children have access to a breaktime snack** and a **clean, well cared for school uniform** each day. Further details of this exciting project can be found later in our newsletter.

Behaviour Guidance and Curriculum Maps

A reminder that you can view our recently reviewed **Behaviour guidance** and our **curriculum maps** on our [school website](#).

School Parent Association - Disco

And finally I would like to thank our **recently reformed PTA** for the excellent job they did organising our very **successful school disco** on the last day of term. **Approximately 350 children** enjoyed this event **raising an impressive £1,125.** If you would like to support our PTA please do consider sharing your contact details with the school office.

I look forward to sharing further updates later this term.

Kind regards

Mr M. Legge - Headteacher

Uniform Expectations @AMS

The **majority of our children arrive at school smartly dressed and ready to learn each day** and real progress has been made in this area since September. Following a **review of our uniform alongside our Academy Committee**, we ask **all parents to ensure that the following expectations for school uniform are consistently met** by all pupils. To support families as you plan for September 2023 **our school website uniform section will be reviewed this term** to ensure that all guidance is accurate.

- **Black school shoes must be worn. No trainers, slip on or high heeled shoes are permitted. IMPORTANT:** From September 2023 **children will not be permitted to wear branded black trainers** at Allenbourn Middle School.
- From September 2023 **skirts MUST be pleated** and should be **no more than two or three centimetres above the knee**. Trousers should not be tight fitting.
- Children can wear black tailored school shorts or trousers.
- Black or grey ankle/knee length socks or black or grey tights should be worn. Traditional school tights only are permitted.
- **White socks, trainer socks, sports leggings** and sheer tights are **not permitted**.
- Children should **not wear a hoodie including their school P.E. hoodie to school** or around our school site. Instead they should wear a school sweatshirt and/or a coat.
- Children are **not permitted to wear make-up or have any piercings** other than a single ear stud in each ear.
- Children should **not wear smart watches or similar devices** to school.
- Children should **not attend school with their hair coloured** or with any other extreme style.

Drinks in school Children are **only allowed to drink water** during the school day unless a drink has been purchased from the school kitchen.



Our Visions and Values

We have continued to embed the use of our new **school values**. Our aim is to focus upon the three key areas:

Academic Excellence,
All Inclusive
Responsible Individuals

As we **aspire together @ AMS**.

Article 3: All organisations concerned with children should work towards what is best for each child.

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Special Recognition Award and Spring Term Class Prize Winners

In our whole school assembly each week we present our special recognition award to a member of our school community who has enjoyed real success in a particular area. Below are details of our winners for the last half term. We are also very proud of our Spring term class prize winners listed below. Our class prize winners are **selected by the class tutor and each winner** fulfils our school values, is an exceptional role model and contributes fully to our school. Their work represents excellence given their academic ability.

Our DanceLive Team - Who performed fantastically at Poole Lighthouse against competition from Middle and Secondary schools.

E. Avrell, L. Hickman, N. Banks, E. Trickey, B. Milis - Our Year 7 team has won a place at the finals of a National Reading Quiz. This will be held in London in June. Our team beat 26 other schools in the 2-hour online quiz.

N. Stylianou Year 8 and **E. Cullum** Year 7 - Our second and third Tassomai Titans

G. Perkins Year 8, **S. Knight** Year 7 and **T. Dunesby** Year 7 - Our first three Hegarty Heros.

Did You Know? **We now have 38 Millionaire Readers, 22 Tassomai Titans and 3 Hegarty Heroes at AMS.**

Spring Term Class Prize winners

5W	B. Webb and W. Payne	7J	F. Van Der Feltz and H. Wybrow
5J	C. Cox and E. Horn	7F	A. Mackenzie and S. Abbott
5M	J. Stonestreet and M.Randall	7K	E. James and S. Knight
5G	M. Roscorla and O. Brown	7D	J. Hunt and F. Carrington
6R	E. Peacock and George Meakins	7R	E. Cullum and F. Winn
6P	A. Morley and Jasmine Davidson	8N	E. Allen and L. Clarkson
6H	L. Sindelar and Peter Vandvik	8D	H. Marcham and R. McGowan
6C	A-M. Dover and O. Crutcher	8G	A. Milward and D. Cheah-Norris
6Z	B. Williams and T. Corbin	8T	L. Gaunt and H. Knight
		8Z	N.Stylianou and M. Bates

Did you Know? Once again we have **achieved the International School Award Foundation Certificate** for our school. **Many thanks to Mrs Diment** for leading this piece of work.

Snack and Uniform Bank @AMS

Opening Monday 24th April

Our Simple Guide

1. **Each Year Group will have a SnackBank Box** with pupils who are responsible for it each day.
It is our aim that all pupils will take responsibility for their year group SnackBank at least once a year.
2. **As children arrive at school each day they can donate a snack to their SnackBank.**
3. Each year group will **open its SnackBank for the first 10 minutes of break time** each day.
ANY child can collect a snack if they do not have one on that day.
All we ask in return is that children note their name and class on the daily list to help us to track the impact of this initiative.
4. If a year group SnackBank is empty, children can visit a different year group SnackBank.

Our Golden Rules supporting our key values of All Inclusive and Responsible Individuals

- Children only take one snack each day.
- Children only take a snack if they have not come to school with one or used the school kitchen at breaktime on that day
- All children treat each other with care and dignity when using or running the SnackBank

What snacks can I donate? A biscuit or cereal bar, a piece of fruit or an alternative healthy option. Please do not donate bags of crisps



Details of our UniformBank will be shared once SnackBank is up and running.

In the News - A round up of events from across the Spring Term

Year 8 STEAM challenge

In March, four Year 8 pupils took part in a **STEAM competition held at Bournemouth University**. The evening was held in the University's newest facility, the Fusion building.

The challenge was to design and build something that would benefit a poor country. The project was started in October and the group of pupils had been working on it every week up until the end of February. The project ideas had to be submitted and sent to a panel of judges before the heats took place.



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Our group who called themselves **'The Four Atoms'** designed a filtration system that would **repurpose already used water into safe water for agriculture.**

On the evening they showed confidence when being quizzed by three different judges in a Dragon's Den style pitch. They were delighted to make it through to the final.

Our team including Chloe E, Janey H, Rosie M and Alice P all from 8D came third overall in the competition.

Well done to the girls and thank you to the parents who supported both evenings.

Science week

We **took part in science week from 13th-17th March.** This year's theme was 'Connections'.

Our first activity was linked to connections with our food, finding out where some of our food comes from. Pupils came along to start growing their own food by planting vegetable seeds. We planted tomatoes, peas, rocket, beetroot and even aubergine.

We also **built 3D constellations.** The students chose a constellation to build from straws and plasticine. Some even had a go at constellation dot to dot, to see if they could identify the constellation hidden in the image.

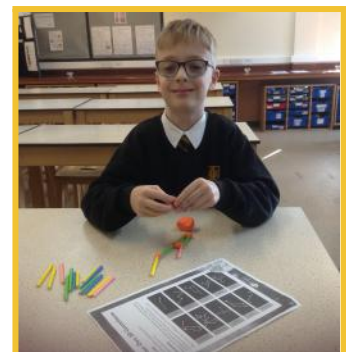
Eco team Spring update

We have been really **impressed with the number of members of our ecoteam** this year. We have changed to after school activities since September. So far we have **completed surveys about litter** to identify the main sources of litter and the main types of litter. We would **like to encourage pupils to bring in snacks for break time that are not wrapped in plastic** or carried in a small plastic reusable pot. We think that this will make a small reduction in the litter found outside.

We were lucky enough to have **SUSTRANS visit us** recently to set up an **exciting new project on air pollution.** We will be looking to study different areas around the school site to identify the types of particulates around school and also to measure the amount of certain air pollutants. We will carry out a lichen study to identify where the air is clean and where improvements could be made.

We have been recording our modes of transport since the 20th March as part of the Big Walk and Wheel event, which is run by SUSTRANS. It is designed to promote sustainable and active ways of travelling to and from school. We will be uploading the results from our survey to see how we have done compared to other schools in the country.

We have **taken part in a local litter pick,** with a main focus along East Borough and some areas within the school grounds. We were **supported by Sarah Wise from the local Wimborne War on Waste group,** who was able to provide us with the litter pickers and bags to complete our pick. **We completed this as part of the Great British Spring Clean 2023,** which is run by Keep Britain Tidy. We managed to pick 2 large bags of litter, which was excellent.



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Did You Know?

A number of our pupils have entered the Royal Academy 'Young Artists Summer Show'. We will try to share some of the excellent entries on our FaceBook page.

Spring Term Sports Report

Despite the field being turned into a lake as we started this term our children have still enjoyed a full range of sporting and extra curricular opportunities. Here are a few highlights for the term.



Year 7 and 8 Rugby - Both our Year 7 and 8 boys have been involved in friendly fixtures against other schools and **competed in the Bournemouth and Poole 7's competition**. It has been a successful season and we **thank Mr Moncaster** for all the time he has put into coaching the teams and running the club. *Picture of our Year 8 Rugby team*

Year 5 Tag Rugby festival - 2 teams of 8 boys and girls attend an afternoon of competitive matches and coaching at Ferndown middle school. They had a great time and although the results were not counted, our teams certainly seemed to have a very

successful time.

Football - Year 7 and 8 have played several friendly matches, **including B team matches**. Year 8 were also involved in cup matches, winning their first round and then **narrowly missing going through to the semi-finals on penalties**.

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Year 5 have continued to have **good numbers attending club (between 40-50)**, with an enthusiastic attitude towards playing. There have been **several opportunities to take part in friendly tournaments**. These were mixed matches with the aim of giving pupils the opportunity to represent the school and play together in a competitive situation. Two teams were taken to each of these tournaments.

Our **Year 6 girls were involved in three six-a-side tournaments** in which they played with great enthusiasm and determination.



The **Year 6 boys have probably been our most successful team this year, winning the East Dorset 6-a-side tournament** at Ferndown. This meant they played in the **Dorset finals which was held at Wimborne Town FC**. The boys fought hard to win and ended up as the **county 6-a-side champions!** Congratulations! They also **played in a Bournemouth 'all stars' tournament where they again progressed to the finals**, but this time were narrowly beaten in the final. They also took part in the 9-a-side County Cup, winning their first round match and losing the second.

They have certainly achieved a lot and we are very proud of them. Well done to all those who played and were part of the winning 6-a-side team.

We also **held our Inter-house football event for the whole school in the last week of term**, with all pupils taking part. Our overall winners were Allen House with Stour and Avon houses tied for second place and Frome finishing third.

Gymnastics It was fabulous to take some of our **Year 5 and 6 pupils to the PEDSSA East Dorset team tumbling gymnastics competition**.

We entered 3 teams and it was very exciting that all 3 progressed through to the finals with 1 team achieving 3rd place in a highly competitive competition.

Many **congratulations to the 13 pupils we took and the 2 Yr 8 sports leaders who have helped coach the teams**. They were a pleasure to take and a credit to themselves and the school. Well done!



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Cross Country - Our dedicated cross-country runners **took part in the final PEDSSA event which was run for the first time at Moors Valley Country Park.** Unfortunately it absolutely poured with rain. However, **our 40 intrepid runners** all battled on and seemed to enjoy the new course, despite the weather conditions. In the **overall rankings for the PEDSSA league** Allenbourn achieved the following brilliant results:

Yr 5 & 6 boys and girls teams both came 3rd overall.

Yr 8 girls team were 2nd overall in the Yr 8 & 9 competition

And our Yr 7 girls team were the overall winners!

Many congratulations to **Nicole in Year 8, who was our highest individually placed runner, achieving 4th place** in the Yr8 & 9 competition.

In January, **our strongest 16 runners ran in the County Championships**, which took place at Kings Park in Bournemouth. The minor **girls team finished a brilliant 3rd overall**, with really committed runs from Florence, Isabelle, Poppy and Tabitha. Well done, girls!

From the County event, two pupils, **Jacob and Florence (both in Year 7) were named in the Dorset team for the Southwest Championships.** Jacob was a reserve, but **Florence made the team and went on to compete and was part of the winning Dorset team.**



Netball - The **Year 5 players have learnt how to play 5-a-side Bee Netball and enjoyed friendly fixtures** against local schools. **Year 6, 7 and 8 have all taken part in the PEDSSA leagues and tournaments**, which has hugely improved their standard of play as the leagues have progressed. In the Year 7 & 8 leagues, AMS entered 2 teams which meant that all those who regularly attended club had the opportunity to play in the matches.



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Table Cricket Competition - 6 pupils from various year groups took part in a table cricket competition. They had been training for this event for several weeks, receiving coaching from the Dorset Cricket Board. All of the children returned with medals for their superb performances on the day.

Sportshall Athletics - The Year 6 sportshall athletics team travelled to Ferndown Upper School for the area PEDSSA event against six other competing middle schools. After an exciting afternoon of running, jumping and throwing **the team were placed first with a total score of 184 points.** The team will now **begin training for the county finals in April.**



Many thanks to all of the staff who are involved with running sports clubs and who provide our pupils with so many fantastic opportunities to represent and take part in sports events.

Our new Behaviour Expectations@AMS

We have been using the Google Slide/poster below to support our children as they strive for the highest standards of behaviour and conduct. You can view this poster as part of our Behaviour Guidance that can be found on our website.

Expectations	At All Times	In Classrooms	Playground	Lunchtime	Toilet
We are here to learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on the learning. Be prepared for your next lesson. Put your equipment away safely so it is ready to use again when needed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrive on time for lessons. Enter rooms quietly. Have the necessary equipment. Leave the room tidy. Respond appropriately to adult instructions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep to your specified areas. Pay attention and follow adult instructions. Respond to signals that social time has ended. Return to lessons quickly and quietly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk to tables. Stay seated at tables while eating. Queue quietly and respectfully. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit only at break times where possible. Spend as much time in the classroom as possible.
We are respectful and polite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Show courtesy to all. Be aware of your surroundings. Offer help where you can. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respond to questions politely. Use appropriate voice register. Use inclusive and non-derogatory language. Raise your hand for attention. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speak to everyone calmly and fairly. Use inclusive and non-derogatory language. Be welcoming. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow adult directions. Wait for your turn. Leave your space tidy and clean. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put rubbish in bins. Flush the toilet. Respect the privacy of others. Do not damage the facilities.
We make the right choices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Join a club. Give your best. Attend regularly. Be punctual. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look at who is speaking. Do not distract others. Respond appropriately to feedback. Attempt all tasks to the best of your ability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Play fairly. Be tolerant of others. Follow game rules. Enjoy your social time. Take the opportunity to be physically active. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use appropriate voice volume. Do not shout. Check you have what you need before sitting down. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Go, flush, wash and leave. Return to class promptly.

01 **Resilient: Excellent**
 Children who are resilient are able to cope with setbacks and challenges.

02 **Be inclusive**
 Children who are inclusive are able to work well with others and support their friends.

03 **Responsible individuals**
 Children who are responsible are able to take responsibility for their actions and the actions of others.

We are here to learn
We are respectful and polite
We make the right choices

IMPORTANT: Please ensure that **children do not bring nut based products into school.** Please also ensure that **children have a healthy snack for break time each day.**

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Child Protection

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead with responsibility for Child Protection is: **Mr L. Smith.**

The Academy Committee member with responsibility for Child Protection is: **Mrs V. Gregg.**

Our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads with responsibility for Child Protection are:

Mr M. Legge, Mrs P. Skipp, Mr R. Wright, Mr C. Daw, Mr J. Fisk and Mr Hickson.

Our Designated Teacher with responsibility for Looked after Children is: **Mrs P. Wheeler.**

Curriculum Maps

A reminder that **families can view our Curriculum Map that explains what children are learning** about during the academic year by visiting **our school website and the 'Teaching and Learning' 'Curriculum Overview' section.** A link to these overviews can be found below. You can also view more **detailed subject progression maps by selecting a subject in the 'Curriculum Subject' section.**

[AMS Curriculum Maps](#)

Did you know? Our **Year 8 pupils will be taking part in Careers workshops** during the Summer term as part of our careers programme. **Year 7 and 8 will also be visited by guest speakers in assemblies** to help them to learn about different careers.

IMPORTANT - Reminders

- **Chewing gum and any other sweets are not permitted in school.** Pupils chewing gum will be given an after-school detention.
 - **The use of mobile phones is not permitted at any time.** We will be taking steps this half term to collect mobile phones at the start of each day before returning them as the day ends.
-

Relationships Education

A reminder that this term **children in all year groups will be learning about RSE as part of their Personal Social Health Education lessons.**

We would **encourage our families to familiarise themselves with our Trust Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education Policy.** A **link to this policy can be found below**, it is also available on our website.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this topic with a member of staff, please do not hesitate to contact the school office who will direct your question to the appropriate member of staff.

[Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education \(RSE\) and Health Education Policy](#)

Remember: *If you do not currently have a ParentMail account, please email the school office who will be happy to help you set one up.*

Please remember to follow our school on Facebook using the link below

[Allenbourn Middle School Facebook Page](#)

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Attendance Matters As we begin the Summer term **please take time to review your child's current attendance figure using ClassCharts**. As a school **we expect children to maintain good attendance at school** and will work with families to bring about improvement where this is required. Please talk with your child about the importance of good attendance at school ensuring that they strive to have a **minimum attendance figure of 96% for this academic year**. It is important that families are aware that **any child** reported as absent with **an attendance percentage under 90% will require medical evidence or this absence will be coded as unauthorised**.



Key Dates 2022 - 2023

Summer Term 2023

First Day of Term for Pupils	Monday 17th April
May Day Holiday	Monday 1st May
Bristol Trip Information Evening	Wednesday 3rd May
London Trip Information Evening	Thursday 4th May
Bank Holiday	Monday 8th May
Year 6 SATs Week	Tuesday 9th to Friday 12th May
Year 8 Careers Workshop Day	Wednesday 24th May
Half Term Holiday	Monday 29th May - Friday 2nd June
Staff Training Day	Monday 5th June
Pupils return	Tuesday 6th June
Year 8 London Residential	w/b 12th June
Year 5 Bristol Residential	w/b 19th June
Sports Days	5th and 6th July - <i>subject to change</i>
Transfer Day	Friday 7th July
Year 8 Parliament Visit	Wednesday 12th July - <i>tbc</i>
Report Card 3 sent home	Friday 14th July
Year 8 Leavers event	Tuesday 18th July
Last Day of Term	Friday 21st July

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Term Dates 2023 - 2024

Staff Training Days	Friday 1st September 2023 Monday 4th September 2023
Pupils Return to School	Tuesday 5th September 2023
Last day of Half Term	Friday 20th October 2023
Staff Training Day	Monday 30th October 2023
Pupils Return to School	Tuesday 31st October 2023
Staff Training Day	Friday 15th December 2023
Staff Training Day	Tuesday 2nd January 2024
Pupils Return to School	Wednesday 3rd January 2024
Last Day of Half Term	Friday 9th February 2024
Staff Training Day	Monday 19th February 2024
Pupils Return to School	Tuesday 20th February 2024
Last Day of Term	Wednesday 27th March 2024
Staff Training Day	Thursday 28th March 2024
Pupils Return to School	Monday 15th April 2024
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 6th May 2024
Last Day of Half Term	Friday 24th May 2024
Pupils Return to School	Monday 3rd June 2024
Staff Training Day	Friday 21st June 2024
Last Day of Term	Tuesday 23rd July 2024
