



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

Headteacher Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you have enjoyed the Easter break with your families. We have really enjoyed welcoming the children back to school this week.

Our Summer term calendar is incredibly busy and we are very excited about the term ahead. In this newsletter you will find initial details for a number of events taking place this term including details about our **sports day, Year 8 leavers event and end of term production**. You will also be able to catch up on some of our successes from the Spring term such as our **winning Dance Live team and County Football Champions**. Please can I also ask that you **take the time to read the other important reminders and updates**, taking time to share this newsletter as a family.

School Improvement Updates

I am delighted to share the news that we have **now opened all of our new toilet facilities throughout the school** with the Year 5 toilet refurbishment now being completed. We have also **installed our long awaited water refill stations** ahead of the Summer term.

Our Wall Art project is well underway as we look to **install a timeline and World map** on our main corridors to support our work in History and Geography lessons. **Mac mini's were installed in our Music room during the Easter break** to significantly improve our Music curriculum. We are **very grateful to the school association for their valuable support** that has enabled these projects to be completed. The school association has also provided the funding to have **free vend dispensers fitted in our new toilets** following **pupil feedback** to ensure that sanitary products are available discreetly and free of charge.

Staffing Update

I am pleased to be able to share the news that **later this term we will be welcoming Mrs James back to school** following maternity leave. We will also be saying **farewell to Mrs Wheeler at the end of term** as she leaves her post as SEND Lead to take on exciting new challenges. Recruitment for this important role is already well underway and I will look forward to sharing an update on this in future newsletters.

School Uniform

Please can I remind parents that **children are not permitted to wear branded trainers to school**. This **change was made for September 2023**. Whilst the vast majority of our families support this expectation we do have some children that are not wearing the correct footwear to school each day.

Changes to the school day

From **September** we will be making a small **change to the timings of our school day to finish each day at 3:10pm**. This is to ensure that we meet Department for Education requirements for our school to be open for an extra 25 minutes each week. Whilst we already fully meet the requirements for delivering the National Curriculum, our school day needs to be extended by 5 minutes each day. The children will have an additional 5 minutes of lunch break to support this change.

Rights Respecting Schools Award

I am delighted to report that **we have secured our Bronze - Rights Committed Award** and will complete our **assessment to achieve the Silver award later this term**. This award supports our school vision and values and much of the children's learning in school.



I will look forward to seeing families at events throughout this term.

Kind regards

Mr M. Legge - Headteacher



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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

Last half term we celebrated the achievements of members of our school community in our whole school assembly each week. Below are the winners of this award for the final weeks of the Spring Term.

- **E. Hewitt - Year 8** - For his excellent contribution and the many hours he gave to provide tech support for our Dance Live performance.
- **M. England Year 8** - For her excellent Gothic Horror Writing.
- **Our BSL Sign Language Year 6 pupils** - For their excellent performance in assembly following an assembly on the introduction of a G.C.S.E. in BSL.
- **Our Dance Live Team** - For winning the competition at Poole Lighthouse to qualify for the finals in Portsmouth in April.
- **Our Year 8 Girls - County Football Champions** - For winning the County Cup.
- **Year 6 Pupils with Artwork displayed in Wimborne Library** - For the high quality artwork produced in curriculum time last term that was displayed at Wimborne Library.
- **Our East Dorset Schools Team Tumbling Championship competitors** - For taking part in and winning events at this competition.
- **Our Year 6 pupils who took part in the Young Enterprise Fiver Challenge** - For giving their time to take part in this club throughout the year prior to leading this really successful event.
- **Our newest Millionaire Readers** - A.Morgan 5A, G. Adlington 5B, E. Seward 5B, J. Paige 5M, F. Bagg 6A, E. Bennett 6A, M. Pretty 6A, Z. Johnson 6F, A. Saunders-Brennan 6F, O. Brown 6H,

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A. Metcalfe 6H, A. Stickland 6H, L. Thomas 6H, F. Waker 6H, C. Cox 6Z, E. Rourke 6Z, T. Samways 7D, J. Namock 7L, E. Trickey 8D, P. Vejjajiva 8M, N. Banks 8T.

- **Our new Tassomai Titans** A. Al Kajem, D. O'Bryan, T. Samways, L. Honeybun, V. Kent, T. Lucas, A. Dover, G. Norrish, P. Vejjajiva, S. Perez, E. Rosa, O. Hamill, E. Avrell, M. Smith, E. Footner, O. Hoare, G. Ridgeway, A. James, S. Dalton, D. Robinson, A. Thacker, E. Winter, C. Sharpe, F. Conroy, F. Carrington

Dance Live! - Winners 2024

We are incredibly pleased to announce that the group of pupils who took part in the Dance Live! event last term had a fantastic day which culminated in them being announced the winners! It was a total shock and took us all by surprise. What a result! We are so pleased for all the pupils who put in a huge amount of time rehearsing the dance and creating and designing the screen, props and lighting. We are now through to the finals in Portsmouth which take place on Tuesday 23rd April. Well done to all involved and all the very best for the final. You represented our school and yourselves superbly.



Year 8 Girls County Cup Winners

After successfully winning the East Dorset competition beating schools such as St. Michael's Middle School and Emmanuel Middle School, the girls were invited along to the county finals day held at The County Ground in Poole. The tournament consisted of two groups of six, with the top two from each group battling it out in semi finals and a final. The field was strong and when the girls arrived it looked like they had some tough competition.

They had some really strong performances throughout the group only losing one game out of five. This saw them then face the top of the other group in the semi final where the girls put in their best performance winning 3-0 and looking very dominant. The final was against The Woodroffe Secondary School. It was a very close game but Allenbourn came out eventual winners winning 1-0 with a great team effort.



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Year 6 Artwork inspired by Abby Diamond



We were delighted to be able to **exhibit our Year 6 pupils' artwork at Wimborne Library.**



He did it! Determined Jakob hits his fundraising target

As you will know Jakob in Year 7 embarked on a remarkable fundraising campaign aimed at acquiring a new electric wheelchair wheel. The wheel is an electric attachment that adapts his normal Wheelchair to make it a power chair, making getting around much easier which will significantly improve his quality of life.

Jakob took the initiative to spearhead his fundraising efforts, setting a target of £2,700 to be able to purchase the much-needed electric wheel for his wheelchair.

Through the wonderful support and encouragement from his local community, friends, family, and with a little help from a non

uniform day at Allenbourn Middle School, he successfully achieved his fundraising goal in less than two months. It has been fantastic to start to see Jacob using his chair around school in recent weeks.



Did you Know?

We will be holding our **annual sports days on Thursday 10th and Friday 11th July.** Further details will be shared nearer to the time.

We will be **inviting all Year 8 children to their leavers' event on Friday 19th July** between 6:30pm and 8:30pm. A disco and refreshments will be included in tickets that will be subsidised by the Parent Association.

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Attendance Matters and reporting your child's absence



You will have seen in our last Newsletter that Dorset LA have launched a campaign to support children and families to maintain good attendance at school. Please do contact the school office if you require further details or follow the link below to our school website where useful information can be found.

[Allenbourn Middle School - Website Attendance page](#)

Our whole school attendance figures are continuing 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 as identified in the Department for Education campaign images included here.

We ask for your support ensuring that your child attends school everyday unless there is a very clear reason for absence. Please review the link on our school website on how to report your child's absence. [Reporting Absence @AMS](#)



English Youth Ballet success for Freya

We are delighted to share the news that last term **Freya successfully auditioned with the English Youth Ballet** for their upcoming performance of Sleeping Beauty in August.

Did you Know? Allenbourn Middle School is **50 years old this academic year.** To celebrate this we are busy preparing to host an end of year **production in the week beginning 8th July 2024.** Further details along with ticket information will be shared later this term.



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The Young Enterprise - Fiver Challenge

The Fiver Challenge is a national programme devised by Young Enterprise, which provides children with a highly interactive and fun way of developing core enterprise and financial education skills, including problem solving, confidence, creativity and teamwork. **Since September, a group of 20 Year 6 pupils** have been working extremely hard to come up with a business idea, create a name and logo, complete market research, develop a business plan and design their product. **In the week before half term, they put their enterprise skills to the ultimate test in selling their products to Year 5 and 6 pupils.** The lunchtime sale was a resounding success with some stalls selling out entirely!



East Dorset Tumbling

Three teams of Year 5 and 6 pupils took part in the East Dorset schools team tumbling championships at the end of last term. An event in which teams of 5 pupils perform a gymnastics tumbling routine and are marked on their performance.

After much practice at lunchtimes, the teams chosen to represent AMS headed to Ferndown Upper School to compete. It is a tough competition where the gymnasts have to keep their composure and perform a set tumbling routine in front of 3 judges as perfectly as they can.

Incredibly, our gymnasts did superbly, with all teams performing their routines calmly and with great poise. When the results were announced, **the girls 'B' team achieved a fantastic 3rd place result and the mixed team came 1st!** Very well done to all involved.

Thank you to the two sports leaders, Tegan and Elsie who helped on the day.





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Relationships and Sex Education - Parent Consultation and Summer term lessons

Later this term you will be sent a link to **allow you to contribute to our consultation on our RSE policy**. This will **run between 10th May to 22nd May**. Prior to this you can read our policy and remind yourself of the letters sent home last term by following the links below.

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

[KS2 RSE Letter](#)

[Year 7 RSE Letter](#)

[Year 8 RSE Letter](#)



Toilet refurbishments and water refill stations

We are delighted with our new toilet facilities throughout the school. The **Year 5 toilets are now open** (pictured right). We also now have **two new water refill stations**. One is located on the top corridor near to the Year 8 toilets and the other is downstairs near to the Year 5 toilets. A further refill station will be installed by the Art and Food rooms later this term.



Child Protection

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead with responsibility for Child Protection is:

Mr L. Smith (pictured right)

The Academy Committee member with responsibility for Child Protection is:

Mrs V. Gregg



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

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

Mr M. Legge, Mrs P. Skipp (pictured), **Mr R. Wright, Mrs Prout, Mr C. Daw and Mr C. Hickson**.

The Essential AMS Pupil Equipment List

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.

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Did you Know? We have introduced a **Pupil Worry Button on our school website**. This provides all of **our children with the opportunity to share a concern with a Designated Safeguarding Lead** to enable staff to best support your child. Children in Years 5 and 6 also have a Worry Monster in their classroom that they can add notes to for their teacher. This has been shared with children in the whole school assembly.



Behaviour Expectations @AMS

We continue to **teach our children how to conduct themselves** as they **grow to be articulate and responsible young people**. We value our partnership with home and all of **our families' support to ensure that we work together to reinforce our behaviour expectations**. This will ensure that our school is

Expectations	All All Times	In Classrooms	Playground	LunchTime	Travel
We are here to learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on the learning Be respectful of your resources Follow classroom rules safely and calmly Listen when others are speaking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrive on time for lessons Enter rooms quietly Have the necessary equipment Respect authority Follow instructions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respect your space and others Play obedient and follow school rules Respect to sign out and in Respect to others safety and equality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be on time Be seated at tables Be respectful Be polite 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use only of back seats where possible Stand as much time as possible
We are respectful and polite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use appropriate language Use appropriate tone Use appropriate body language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respect to others Use appropriate tone Use appropriate body language Use appropriate tone Use appropriate body language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be respectful to others Use appropriate tone Use appropriate body language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use appropriate tone Use appropriate body language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use appropriate tone Use appropriate body language
We make the right choices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use appropriate language Use appropriate tone Use appropriate body language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use appropriate language Use appropriate tone Use appropriate body language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use appropriate language Use appropriate tone Use appropriate body language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use appropriate language Use appropriate tone Use appropriate body language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use appropriate language Use appropriate tone Use appropriate body language



the very best environment for our children to learn and grow in. Please take time to **review these expectations with your child** from time to time. **A link to our behaviour procedures is available below** (and on our school website) for you to review together.

[Allenbourn Middle Behaviour Guidance](#)

Important Mobile phone reminder: Pupils are required to **turn their mobile phone off** as they enter our school 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.**

Use of our school car park Please can parents ensure that they **drive with real care and park responsibly in designated bays** when using our school car park. Cars **must not obstruct the bus parking area** at the start or end of each day. **Our car park operates a one way system and we expect all families to support this** at all times.

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Allenbourn Middle School Newsletter

April 2024

Summer Term - Issue Number 11



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Meet the Teaching Team - This year we have been introducing you to and telling you a little more about our staff team. In this newsletter we have asked Mr Miller and Mrs Hazell to tell us a little more about themselves.

Mr Miller - Year 5 Class teacher

- **What did you do before you joined AMS?** I had many different jobs before joining AMS. These include working as a football coach, working behind a bar at a golf club, being a fitness instructor and I was briefly a deckhand on a luxury yacht. I then became a Teaching Assistant at St Michael's Middle before completing my teacher training and joining AMS.
- **What did you want to do when you were younger?** Like many others, I always wanted to be a professional footballer. However, when that didn't happen I turned to coaching youth football which led to my passion for teaching and becoming a teacher.
- **What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?** During my spare time, I enjoy being with my family, especially taking my children out for bike rides in the summer. I am an avid Crystal Palace fan and try to go and watch them as much as possible. I also play golf most weekends and am currently enjoying the challenge of trying to reduce my handicap as much as possible.
- **What are you looking forward to at AMS in 2024?** In the summer term, I always look forward to Sports Day as it is a chance for the children to show off their determination and talent whilst representing their house colours.



Mrs Hazell - Year 6 Class teacher and Mental Health Lead

- **What did you do before you joined AMS?** I have been at Allenbourn for 16 years and prior to that I did a Primary Education degree at Roehampton University.
- **What did you want to do when you were younger?** I have always wanted to be a teacher and remember using my toys as the pupils whilst using my old exercise books as their books to mark as well as making registers.
- **What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?** In my spare time, I enjoy daily meditation and yoga. There is nothing better than being able to relax and breathe in a quiet, calm environment. I also enjoy using Duolingo where I am polishing up on my French as well as dipping my toe into Norwegian and Spanish. I love watching sport - tennis and rugby union being my favourite. My son and daughter also keep me incredibly busy with their various hobbies and social lives.
- **What are you looking forward to at AMS in 2024?** I am really looking forward to seeing the children thrive and watching them become the brilliant young people I know they can be.



Mac Minis arrive in our Music Room for Summer 2024

We are so very grateful to the School Association for funding the purchase of 14 Mac Minis for our Music room. All children will be able to make use of this wonderful resource in their music lessons thanks to this very kind donation.



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Curriculum @ AMS You can view our Curriculum Overview for each Year group on our school website by following the link below.

[Allenbourn Middle School Curriculum Maps 2023 - 2024](#)

Did you Know? Our children complete a weekly P.S.H.E. lesson with their class teacher and all children in years 7 and 8 have a careers lesson each week.

Year 5						
Subject	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
English	Rain Player by David Almond The Explorer by Katherine Rundell		The Magician's Nephew By C.S. Lewis Jabberwocky By Lewis Carroll		Hidden Figures By Margot Lee Shetterly Who Let the Gods Out? By Neil Gaiman	
Maths	Place Value: Numbers to 1,000,000	Four Number Operations: Add, subtract, multiply and divide	Fractions, Decimals and Percentages	Fractions, Decimals and Percentages Geometry: Properties of Shape	Measurement: Converting units of measure Area and Perimeter	Measurement: Volume Roman Numerals
Science	Properties & Changes of Materials	Properties & Changes of Materials	Living Things and their Habitats	Forces: Friction and resistance	Earth and Space	Animals including humans
Art	Food & Drink: Introduction to the Elements of Art Observational conceptual drawing Observational painting inspired by chosen artist		South American Animals Observational drawing & material Investigations Mixed-media animal piece and clay animal sculpture		Portraiture Observational self-portrait drawing Platemaking	
Computing	Introduction to Systems	Scratch	Spice	Spreadsheets	Logic	Hardware & History

Every child a reader @AMS

Did you Know? Joffre White, UK Patron of Reading and motivational speaker, visited Allenbourn Middle on 18th April to discuss his new book with Year 7 and Year 8 pupils.

Children continue to participate in **whole class reading** and **DEAR time each week**.

Please can you ensure that you continue to encourage and promote regular reading and engagement with Accelerated Reader from home.

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.**

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**.

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**.



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**Have you ever considered a Career in teaching?
Do you know somebody looking for the right training provider?**

You can now train to teach with Initio Learning Trust in one of our schools. This training is provided by Teach First, a high quality Nationally recognised provider. To find out more please visit www.teachfirst.org.uk. Alternatively, you can contact the school office and we would be happy to direct your enquiry to the correct Trust colleague.

Power up your postcode

Train to teach in a school near you



Join our one-year training and give children in your community the chance to thrive.

- ▶ **Make a difference in your community**
You'll train in a school near you and make an impact where you live.
- ▶ **Get hands-on experience in the classroom**
You'll work as a teaching member of staff in a local school right from the start.
- ▶ **Receive high-quality training**
You'll benefit from Teach First's teacher training - rated outstanding by Ofsted - delivered by local teacher development experts.
- ▶ **Access support from experienced teachers**
You'll shadow other teachers before leading your own lessons with guidance from experienced colleagues.
- ▶ **Qualify in one year and start earning**
You'll graduate with qualified teacher status (QTS) and a postgraduate certificate in education (PGCE).

Local teacher training. Local lives changed.

To find out more visit:
www.teachfirst.org.uk



SPARX Maths - UPDATE - Our Years 7 and 8 children continue to make excellent use of Sparx Maths. All children in Year 7 and 8 complete their weekly mathematics homework on Sparx.

In the week before Easter we were **ranked 34th in the county, against over 2,300 schools**, with a **completion rate of 91%**.

Our 6 week rolling completion figure for Sparx is currently 88% ranking our school as **127th nationally**.



Weekly homework expectations at Key Stage 3 **Your at a glance reminder**

- **At least 5 daily goals on Tassomai** in English, Maths and Science
- **100% completion of their SPARX assignments**
- **5 entries in their Reading Log** and signed by you as parent/carer.

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Key Dates 2023 - 2024

Summer Term 2024

Key Stage 3 Author Visit	Thursday 18th April
Year 7 Fair Trade Fashion Show	Friday 19th April
Year 8 Enrichment Week Including London Residential Trip	Monday 29th April - Friday 3rd May
May Day Holiday	Monday 6th May
Year 6 SATs Week	Monday 13th - Thursday 16th May
School Disco	Thursday 23rd May
Half Term Holiday	Monday 27th - Friday 31st May
Pupils Return	Monday 3rd June
Staff Training Day	Friday 21st June
Transfer Day	Friday 28th June
AMS Summer Production	Week beginning Monday 8th July
Sports Days	Thursday 11th and Friday 12th July
Report Card 3 and SATs Results	Friday 11th July
Year 5 Bristol Residential Visit	Monday 15th July - Friday 19th July
Year 8 Leavers Event	Friday 19th July
Last Day of Term	Tuesday 23rd July

Our Local School Committee

Mr R. Dent - Chair	Mrs V. Gregg - Vice Chair	Mrs C. Mason
Mrs J. Welsby	Mrs J. Millis	Mr M. Legge
Mrs C. Diment	An LSC Member responsible for SEND	
Mrs R. Farrow - Clerk		

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Term Dates 2024 - 2025

initio
Learning Trust

Term, Inset and Holiday Dates Academic Year 2024-25



World Book Day Children enjoyed celebrating World Book Day by creating amazing posters of their favourite books. Everyone created some brilliant work, but special congratulations go to 5W, 6F, 7L and 8D who were the winning tutor groups in their years!



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