



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

## Headteacher Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

I very much hope that you enjoyed the half term break with your family. The first half of this term was certainly busy and we have much to share and celebrate with you in our November newsletter.

It was **fantastic to welcome so many families to our Open Evening** at the start of October. **Tours during the school day have been very well attended.** Special thanks must go to the children who represented our school so well at this event. Prospective families wishing to tour school this half term can do so by contacting the school office. We are also **looking forward to year 4 children joining us this half term to take part in P.E. and Art workshops.**

Our **parent evenings have been very well attended** this term and we were pleased to **provide curriculum overviews following parental feedback last year.** We were also delighted that **48 families** took the opportunity to attend **our first SEND Parent Coffee** morning alongside Mrs Burley our new SEND Lead, Mrs Skipp our family support worker and the school nursing team. Our **next coffee morning** will take place on **Tuesday 3rd December.**

## School Improvement Projects

We continue to work hard to improve our school facilities to ensure that our school is a vibrant and purposeful learning environment for all. Later in this newsletter you will be able to see the **fantastic new Wall Art projects** that were installed before the half term break. In addition to this **16 new 75 inch interactive boards have been installed** across the school during the half term break. This **£25,000 project** ensures that all classrooms now have the same high quality board to support learning across the curriculum. In addition to this **new LED lighting is being installed in our outside changing rooms** following feedback from the children and you may have noticed that

our front entrance to school has had **automated doors** fitted to improve accessibility.

## Staffing Update

At the **end of term** we will be **saying goodbye to Mr Magor and Miss Fairburn.** Mr Magor has secured a new teaching post returning to teaching music at Key Stages 4 and 5 in a secondary school. Miss Fairburn has taken the decision to seek a new challenge away from the classroom. We wish both of these colleagues all the very best for the future and thank them for their dedication and hard work at Allenbourn Middle School. I am pleased to be able to share the news that **Miss Rushent** will continue to teach Miss Fairburn's teaching timetable and be the **class tutor for 7F** for the remainder of this term. We will look forward to updating you on plans for these colleagues' teaching commitments for the Spring and Summer terms in the coming weeks. We have also said farewell to Mrs Lake and Mrs Davis in recent weeks. Both leave part-time support staff roles, we are very grateful to these colleagues for their contributions to our school and wish them well for the future.

## International Schools Award

Having successfully achieved the Right Respecting School award last term, I am delighted to announce that **we have been awarded the International Schools Award** at the intermediate level. Many thanks to Mrs Diment for leading this across our school.

**Recruitment** Please take time to review our current vacancy later in this newsletter. We would love to hear from anybody who may be interested in one of these exciting posts.

We are planning to hold a **Christmas disco on Thursday 5th December.** Further details and ticket information will be shared nearer to the time.

We look forward to another exciting half term with the children and look forward to continuing to work alongside families.

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** - 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.

**Finley S** - Spent a weekend at the England Amputee Football Club in Cheshire. Finley will be returning later in the academic year to participate again.

**Eloise S, Evie S, Mia H-P** - Winners in the Planet Wimborne Poetry Competition. These pupils received their certificates at a special event after school shortly before half term.

**Our Pupil Parliament** - Noah - Prime Minister, Indigo, Jakob, Madeleine, Milo, Georgia and Joy who have led tours with visitors and spoke to families to introduce the Headteacher presentations at our Open Evening.

**The children who volunteered to support Open Evening** - For giving up their time to showcase our school and to answer parents' questions about life at Allenbourn Middle.

**Did you Know?** Our **Year 6 pupils** will be visiting **Nothe Fort in Weymouth** later this term as they learn more about **World War II**. Children will take part in an **evacuee experience** and learn more about life in Britain at this time.

Children can also **sign up to take part in Young Voices at the O2** in January. Further details are available upon request from the school office.

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



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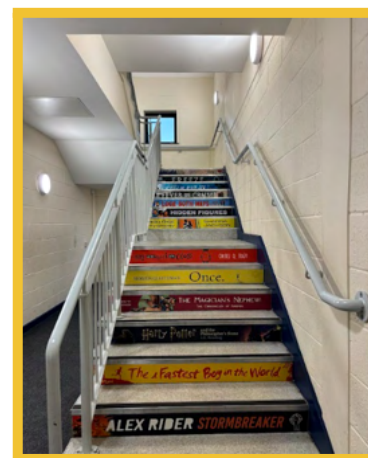
**The Essential AMS Pupil Equipment List** Please ensure that your child attends school with the correct equipment each day. Below is a **quick reminder of the items that they need for each day:**

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. *Remember your child can purchase essential equipment packs from the school office or via the ParentMail shop for £3.50*



### News Wall Art - Installed Autumn 2024

It has been fantastic to see the children's response to our new Wall Art and Stair Book Spines in the days before half term. These installations have been designed to support children's understanding of our History curriculum with a time line being installed on our main corridor showcasing progression over time through our shared curriculum. In addition the World and UK map also located on our main corridor provide a valuable teaching resource for all year groups. Our Year 6 and 8 staircases have book spines that showcase books from our shared whole school book shelf whilst also referencing texts studied in our English lessons and signposting authors and texts to study in future years.



**Allenbourn Middle School** is an **International Schools Award** and **Rights Respecting School Award** holder.

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## 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: **Mr L. Smith** (Sept 2024).

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.**

**Our Local School Committee** It has been wonderful to **welcome Mr Paul Smith as the New Chair of our LSC** since September. Last half term Mr Smith and Mr Legge **welcomed Mrs West - CEO and Mrs Fleming OBE - Chair of Intio Learning Trust to school** to meet and tour our school. It was wonderful to share the school day and to discuss our plans for the school with our visitors.

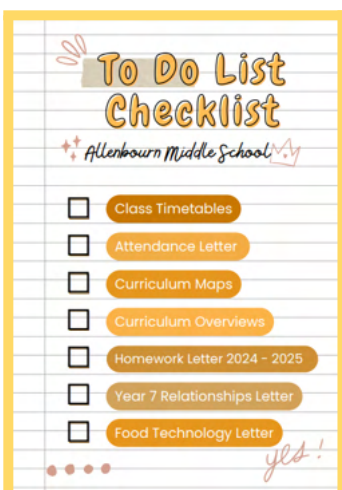
We are also pleased to announce that **following an election process** in September **Mr Jess has been appointed as a member of the committee.** Mr Jess has a child in Year 5 and is currently a sports teacher at Canford School. He has taught in a variety of schools across the UK and Australia and has also been a Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead. He is very keen to contribute to the continued health and positive development of Allenbourn. **Our committee membership can be seen below:**

Mr P. Smith - Chair  
Mrs J. Welsby  
Mr Graham

Mrs V. Gregg - Vice Chair  
Mr M. Legge  
Mr K. Jess

Mrs C. Mason  
Mrs C. Diment  
Mrs R. Farrow - Clerk

## Reminder: Our one stop guides - website links



Below are **links to some of the key documents that are located on our school website.** These were also shared in our September Newsletter.

→ **Class Timetables 2024 - 2025** [AMS Class Timetables 2024 - 2025](#)

→ **Homework Letter 2024 - 2025** [AMS Homework Letter 2024-2025](#)

→ **Curriculum Overviews** [AMS Curriculum Overviews 2024-2025](#)

→ **Curriculum Maps 2024 - 2025** [AMS Curriculum Maps 2024 - 2025](#)

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### Recruitment Opportunities @AMS

We are currently **looking for the right candidates to join our team**. Please follow the **links below** to learn more about our current vacancies. If you would like to discuss one of these posts with us please contact Mrs Sydenham in the school office or email [recruitment@allenbournmiddle.org](mailto:recruitment@allenbournmiddle.org).

**Full-time Higher Level Teaching Assistant** - *to Lead after school provision and interventions* - Advert appearing on Dorset for You soon.

**Full-time Teaching Assistant** - [Click here](#)

**Full-time Cover Supervisor** - [Click here](#)

### In the News - A round-up of events from the Autumn Term

#### School Sports - Cross County

We took part in the second **PEDSSA cross-country run** at Ferndown with runners from all year groups taking part. It was a wonderfully muddy and wet course. All our pupils showed such courage and determination as they tackled the course, working hard around the grass area and maintaining their pace on the heathland. Particular mention to the **Year 5 runners who were taking part for the first time**. Also to **Eliza (Yr 6)** who was 5th, **Harry (Yr 7)** who was 9th, **Osian (Yr 6)** who was 10th and the **Yr 7 and 8 boys team who came 3rd** overall.

Congratulations too to the **Year 5 pupils** who took part in the **Fun Run** this week. It was a fabulous opportunity to have a go at running a kilometre and challenge themselves to do their best. The **16 runners** who went were a credit to themselves and Allenbourn and hopefully will be keen to be involved in running events in the future. Special mention to **Jack who came away with a superb bronze medal** in his race.



**We raised £566 as part of World Mental Health Day. Thank you for your support.**



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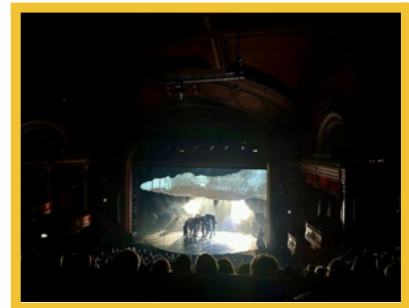
### War Horse - Theatre Visit

It was fantastic to take **110, Year 6 and 7 pupils to the Mayflower Theatre in Southampton** recently to see **War Horse**. This production provides children with a fantastic opportunity to experience live theatre and provides many fantastic curriculum links. **Later this year children in Year 8** will have the opportunity to see **Wicked in London** or **Hamilton at the Mayflower** as we celebrate and enjoy the performing arts.



### Food Bank

**Thank you** to those families who supported our **Harvest Food Bank collection** prior to half term. We were delighted to deliver **half of the donations to the Wimborne Community Food Supply at the Allendale Centre and the other half to Wimborne Food Bank** and will make every effort to support these valuable services again later in the school year.



### Caring for our school environment

You may have noticed when you visit school that we have been working to **improve and tidy up our welcome to school**. Following the introduction of **new fencing, car park markings, visitor bays, pedestrian railings, remarked crossings** and a **pedestrianised area near our bike sheds** last year we have now **added planters** and our **Rights Respecting School banner** along with improving some of our borders near the front entrance. We are very **grateful to the children who planted our planters alongside Mrs James and Mr MacDonald** as we continue to **promote real pride in our tidy and well cared for school environment**. Moving forward we even **hope to service and begin to use our school flag pole!**



### IMPORTANT: Use of the Allendale Car Park

Please can parents ensure that they **drive with real care** when using the Allendale car park. **This request follows an incident that saw an AMS pupil being injured** in an incident involving a car on the final day of the last half term. Please ensure that you drive at an appropriate speed and use this car park appropriately at all times. We expect improvement works to take place in this car park in the coming months to improve pupil safety. However all families have an important role to play to safeguard our children.

### Reminder - Class Charts Reward Shop - Now Open

- **Our reward shop is now Live**
- Parents can access the reward shop through the Class Charts Parent app. Please contact your child's class teacher for a new parent code for first time access.
- Children have until 29th November to sign up for Autumn Term rewards.

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### A polite reminder: Food Technology lessons.

We are very grateful to our families for supporting our children as they prepare for their Food Technology lessons. Children thrive in this subject area and develop valuable independent learning skills alongside the subject specific skills. Please remember to help your child to source and weigh out all of the necessary ingredients for these lessons and remind them to bring an apron to these lessons.

**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.



**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.**

### 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 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.



[AMS Behaviour Guidance](#)

[Trust Behaviour Policy](#) - Updated May 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.

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## 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.**

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**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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## IMPORTANT: Essential uniform reminders

### [School Uniform at AMS](#)

1. **Children are not permitted to wear branded trainers to school.** This **change was made for September 2023.**
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.**

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## Communication with Home

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

A reminder that our website contains a lot of useful information and news for our families.

You can also follow news of our children's successes by following us on **X and Facebook pages last year, please do consider following our school.**

[Allenbourn Facebook Page](#) [Allenbourn X Page](#)

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## Did you know? DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

- We will be holding our annual **Online Safety Day** on **Friday 22nd November**
- We will also be taking part in **Odd Sock Day 2024** on **Tuesday 12th November** as part of **Anti Bully Week.**

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**Did you Know?** Term Dates for 2025 - 2026 can now be viewed on our **school website** These are located underneath our current term dates. [AMS Term Dates](#)



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## Attendance Matters and reporting your child's absence



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

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.

**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](#)

## Key Dates

### Autumn Term 2024

Pupils Return to School	<b>Tuesday 5th November 2024</b>
Parents Evening - 3.45-6.45pm	<b>Thursday 7th November 2024</b>
Anti Bullying Week	<b>w/b 11th November 2024</b>
Odd Sock Day	<b>Tuesday 12th November 2024</b>
Children in Need non-uniform day	<b>Friday 15th November 2024</b>
Library Visits	<b>19th and 26th November 2024</b>
Author Visit	<b>Monday 18th November 2024</b>
AMS Online Safety Day	<b>Friday 22nd November 2024</b>
Year 6 Nothe Fort Visits	<b>2nd, 3rd, 9th, 10th and 11th December</b>
SEND Coffee Morning - 9.30-10.30am	<b>Tuesday 3rd December 2024</b>
School Disco	<b>Thursday 5th December 2024</b>
Report Card 1 Sent home	<b>Friday 13th December 2024</b>
Autumn Term Clubs end	<b>Friday 13th December 2024</b>
Last Day of Term	<b>Thursday 19th December 2024</b>
Staff Training Day	<b>Friday 20th December 2024</b>

# Allenbourn Middle School Newsletter

## November 2024

### Autumn Term - Issue Number 14



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#### Spring Term 2025

Staff Training Day	<b>Monday 6th January 2025</b>
Pupils Return to School	<b>Tuesday 7th January 2025</b>
Year 6 SATs Parent Information Evening	<b>Wednesday 22nd January 2025</b>
Last Day of Half Term	<b>Friday 14th February 2025</b>
Staff Training Day	<b>Monday 24th February 2025</b>
Pupils Return to School	<b>Tuesday 25th February 2025</b>
Year 8 Enrichment Week	<b>w/b 17th March 2025</b>
Book Fair	<b>Tuesday 25th March 2025</b> <i>for a week</i>
Last Day of Term	<b>Friday 4th April 2025</b>
Staff Training Day	<b>Tuesday 22nd April 2025</b>
Pupils Return to School	<b>Wednesday 23rd April 2025</b>

#### Summer Term 2025

May Day Bank Holiday	<b>Monday 5th May 2025</b>
<b>Year 6 Key Stage 2 SATs Week</b>	<b>w/b Monday 12th May 2025</b>
Last Day of Half Term	<b>Friday 23rd May 2025</b>
Pupils Return to School	<b>Monday 2nd June 2025</b>
Transfer Day	<b>Friday 27th June 2025</b>
Staff Training Day	<b>Friday 4th July 2025</b>
Year 5 Bristol Residential	<b>w/b 14th July 2025</b>
Last Day of Term	<b>Wednesday 23rd July 2025</b>

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**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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#### Free Workshops - An introduction to Autism

If your child has autism, they are undergoing an assessment or you are keen to learn more about autism, Dorset LA are running introductory sessions led by an Educational Psychologist or a Specialist Teacher. These sessions are free to attend. You can join a local session at Wimborne Family Hub on Monday 2nd December between 1:00pm and 2:30pm. To book your place please e-mail [elena.gillman@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:elena.gillman@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

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