



Headteacher Update

Dear Parents/Carers

I very much hope that you have enjoyed the Easter break with families and friends. Following an action packed Spring term it has been lovely to welcome the children back to school for the Summer term. Whilst the last half term was rather short we achieved so

very much, with children across the school enjoying many exciting opportunities. Our newsletter aims to include news from the last half term, celebrating the children's achievements whilst sharing important updates and reminders. Please take the time to share this newsletter as a family and to discuss life at AMS with your child.

Staffing update - I am delighted to share the news that **Miss Ashby** and her family welcomed the safe arrival of her baby shortly before the Easter break. I am sure you will join me in sending our best wishes at this very special time.

Double Yellow Lines added to East Borough - Under the cover of darkness during the Easter break the **double yellow lines as you enter our school site** have been replaced. In recent months a small number of our families have started to park on the previous markings. We hope that by replacing these they will serve as a **helpful reminder not to park or stop on this road** to ensure our **children's safety**.



Smartphone consultation - Thank you to all of our families for their continued support to ensure that their **children do not use their mobile phones at any time on our school site**. Please remind your child that these **must be handed in at the start of each day**. You will have received an update on our Trust wide Smartphone consultation in the days prior to the Easter break. [Smartphone Consultation letter - March 2026](#). We will now collaborate with Middle and Upper School Headteachers to agree any changes to our approach from September 2026.



Paultons Park Year 7 Forces visit - Year 7 enjoyed a **fantastic final day of term** when they visited Paultons Park to learn more about forces. Despite wet conditions they took the opportunity to enjoy as many of the rides as possible following a workshop where they learnt more about speed, distance and time.

School uniform, equipment and attendance - Thank you for your continued support to ensure that our children **attend school regularly** with the **correct equipment** and **wearing our school uniform with pride**. The children have worked so very hard to improve our whole school attendance figure and the Summer term provides a wonderful opportunity to maintain this momentum. We will share updates on our progress throughout this term. **Many congratulations to the 335 children** who have **an attendance figure above 95%** with **199 children securing attendance of 98%** or better, a fantastic achievement.

County Sporting Success - Many congratulations to our **U11 boys** and **U13 girls** football teams who have secured a place in the **County Cup finals next week** and to our **U12 girls netball team** for reaching the **County Finals last term**.

And finally I am delighted to share the news that we will be **full in Year 5 for September** with pupil numbers increasing across our school. Plans for the new academic year are well underway and will be shared later in the term.

Kind regards

Mr M. Legge - Headteacher



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



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**.

01 Academic Excellence
Seeking new knowledge and skills. Learning to problem solve, make decisions and be courageous.

02 All Inclusive
Valuing diversity, tolerance and the views of others. Growing in self belief in a nurturing environment.

03 Responsible Individuals
Developing value and responsibility within our community. Understanding the importance of keeping healthy and safe.

2024 – 2027
Rights Respecting Schools
UNITED KINGDOM
unicef
Silver Rights Aware

Did you know? We are eligible to be assessed for Gold RRS status in the Summer 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:
Mr K. Jess.

Our Designated Teacher with responsibility for Looked after Children is:
Mr L. Smith.



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

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

Did you know?

You can view our term dates and training days for 2026 –2027 on our school website. **Children return to school on Thursday 3rd September 2026** and the academic year ends for children on **Friday 16th July 2027**



Spring Term Sports Report

Year 7 County Netball Finals

What a fabulous afternoon of netball from the Year 7 girls who qualified for the county finals. The eight girls who took part fought hard in each of their five matches and showed great talent, determination and teamwork throughout the tournament.

The team won two out of the five matches. Mrs Darragh felt that the girls were certainly not outclassed – just outplayed at times. The ability is definitely there. The girls improved noticeably over the course of the afternoon and showed fantastic team spirit throughout.



Under 11 Boys and Under 13 Girls County Football Finals

Many congratulations to our boys and girls football teams who have reached the County Cup Finals that will be played on the morning of **Friday 24th April at the County Ground**. These finals cap of an **outstanding Spring term of sporting achievement** with **real success on the sports field** and more importantly **strong participation and enjoyment for the significant numbers attending clubs**.



Did you know?

Our **new AMS athletics vests** have now been ordered!

Children will be able to take part in the full Summer athletics season wearing this exciting new kit.

We are so **very grateful to the School PTA** for raising the funds and supporting this purchase.





County Cross-Country Finals

In what can only be described as "typical" cross-country weather - in a return to the wet and muddy conditions we've come to expect - a select group of runners headed to Kings Park for the Dorset County Finals. With over 500 children competing from across the county, the field was incredibly strong; for many of our pupils, this was their first experience at such a high level of competition.

A special mention goes to Eliza, who secured a superb 9th place finish! We also saw impressive performances from Nathan (17th), Gabriel (21st), and Rose (24th). Our teams also performed brilliantly, with the Year 7 girls placing 4th, the Year 5 & 6 girls placing 6th, and the Year 5 & 6 boys taking 7th. Congratulations to everyone who took part.

Our pupils had a fantastic afternoon at the Dorset Schools 7's Festival held at Swanage and Wareham RFC. The team put in a brilliant effort throughout the day.



Making AMS History

It was with great excitement that Mrs Darragh drove a full minibus of boys to Broadstone Middle School to take part in a historic first – an all-boys netball match! While boys have been involved in other matches before, particularly at KS2, this was the first time a match had been organised purely for boys. There has been a core group of boys playing regularly across both key stages who have persistently (and enthusiastically!) asked Mrs Darragh for their own match.

Well done to everyone who took part. You are truly AMS pioneers for inclusivity and equal access to sport.



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.



You can purchase essential equipment packs via the Arbor shop for £4.00



The Big Ask @AMS – Pupil Survey

- **9 out of 10** children report that they **feel safe when at school**

Success at the KS2 Team Tumbling Competition

Three teams of talented gymnasts, travelled to compete in the East Dorset Tumbling Competition. 15 pupils showcased their skills brilliantly - flicking, cartwheeling, rolling, jumping and even sashaying their way down the mats. We are delighted to report that both the Girls' A and B teams achieved **silver medal positions**, while the **mixed team** delivered an **outstanding performance** to secure **first place**.

A huge congratulations to all our gymnast. This achievement marks our most successful gymnastics team to date.



Year 5 pupils travelled to QES to take part in a **handball festival** run by Year 13 QE students.

A superb afternoon of Handball all round, and many thanks to the QE sports leaders for organising and delivering such a fun and well-run festival.



Final PEDSSA Cross Country at Chapel Gate

There has been a **huge level of interest in running across all year groups this year**, and it was brilliant to take a **full coach** to the event.

Mrs Darragh is incredibly proud of everyone who has taken part in cross-country this year.

A **special congratulations** goes to the **Year 7 and 8 boys' and girls' teams**, who both **achieved an impressive 2nd place overall** – a fantastic accomplishment.



The Big Ask @AMS – Pupil Survey

- **9 out of 10** children have **attended a club** whilst at AMS
- **1 in 3** children have **learnt a musical instrument**
- **9 out of 10** children would **recommend their school to a friend** moving to the area



Relationships and Sex Education – Children will be completing RSE lessons this term in their P.S.H.E lessons. Letters were sent shortly before the Easter break and a link to our policy and these letters can be found below.

[Allenbourn Middle School RSE Policy](#)

[RSE letters – Summer 2026](#)

London Residential 2026 – Children in Year 8 had a fantastic time in London for this year's residential visit. **Planning for 2027 is well underway and details will be sent home to secure places later this term.**



Our Shoe Shop – Shoes borrowed by 9:00am – Leave your trainers in the numbered shoe box – Returned at 3:10pm – Clean and cared for – 20p per day after 2 week loan – **Compulsory**

Did you know? **E-Praise – Attendance Points – Every week!**

Each week children with **100% attendance** will be awarded **25 bonus points** to spend on **E-Praise rewards**. That is an **extra 250 points** for every 10 weeks with **100% attendance** at school. Every lesson the children attend earns them a point to spend on E-Praise.



Did you Know?

Children can use our **Pupil Worry Button** that can be found on our school website (see above). 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. The children are regularly reminded about this in our whole school assemblies.

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](#)

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 Play 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-discriminatory language Raise your hand for attention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Space to everyone calmly and fairly Use inclusive and non-discriminatory language Be welcoming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow adult directions Visit for your turn Learn 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"> Wash a cloth 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

Did you know?

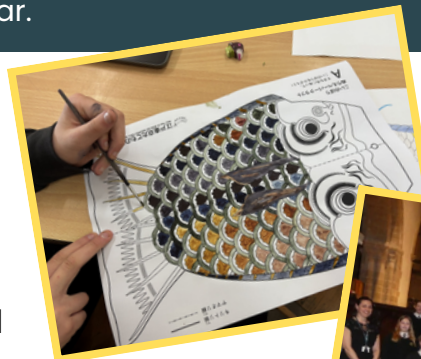
You can now make a voluntary donation to school funds when you visit the shop in the Arbor App. There is no expectation or any family to make a donation. All contributions will be used to support trips and visits across the school year.



BIG REWARDS

Each week throughout the academic year we will be **rewarding children** for reaching attendance milestones or for making real progress to secure improved attendance at school. **Donut Friday has been a real success** and each week in assembly we will explain to the children how our **weekly challenge** will work. We **plan to catch as many children as possible working hard on their attendance** throughout the year.

Year 8 pupils explored the beautiful symbolism of koinobori (carp streamers) and learned why they are flown as **symbols of strength and determination.**



On Thursday 5th March, the **Allenbourn Choir joined forces with St Michael's Choir, Wimborne Minster Choristers and the Armonico Consort for a wonderful evening at the Minster.** The concert included a fantastic range of music, from Renaissance pieces to work specially commissioned by renowned film composer David Buckley. It was a brilliant evening and a fantastic opportunity for our choir to perform alongside professional singers. We are **incredibly proud of all the children involved.**

Attendance Matters and reporting your child's absence

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

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 see further required improvement. 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.

Exciting news! We're thrilled to announce that we have received the Equal Access Award from Barclays Football which recognises our commitment to providing equal opportunities for girls in football.

A huge thank you to our wonderful PE department and everyone who supports and participates.





Residential Visit to Buddens Farm – Children in **Year 5** will receive information very shortly on how to secure their place on our **residential visit to Buddens Farm in the Summer of 2027** to take part in **outdoor and adventurous activities whilst sleeping under canvas**. This change to our residential visit offer at Key Stage 2 has been made in response to feedback from the children.



Local Member of Parliament visits AMS

We were delighted to welcome Vikki Slade MP for Mid Dorset and North Poole to Allenbourn. She spoke with our Year 7 and 8 children about her role as an MP and answered their thoughtful questions about issues that matter to them.

We are grateful that she took the time to visit us before rushing up to Parliament. Thank you for such an inspiring and engaging session!

The Big Ask @AMS – Pupil Survey Results

- **9 out of 10** children report that they **feel safe when at school**
- **92%** of children agree that **routines and expectations** in place help everyone to know how to behave at AMS
- **87%** of children report that their school provides **opportunities for them to learn about how to look after their emotional and mental health** (with 10% neither agreeing or disagreeing)
- **95%** report that our **school encourages** them to **respect people from other backgrounds and to treat everyone equally**
- **9 out of 10** children **know our three school values**
- **95%** of our children know that **our school is a Rights Respecting School** and **understand why this is important**
- **95%** of children report that they **know who they would speak to if they needed help**

THE BIG ASK @AMS PUPIL SURVEY



Did You Know? We will be full in Year 5 for September 2026. Places are filling across our other year groups and families can still tour for places in Years 6, 7 and 8.

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



Summer Term
Issue Number 22
April 2026

E-Praise Reward Shop - It has been fantastic to see our children making such great use of the **E-Praise App** to spend their **House Points**. Please log in alongside your child (They know how to do this) to chat about the information they can see and to encourage them to use their House Points this term. Last term children used these points to earn non uniform days, to attend workshops or to visit Costa Coffee.



World Book Day was fantastic - The children (and staff!) came to school in some wonderfully creative outfits inspired by their favourite books and characters. It was great to see so much imagination and enthusiasm for reading across the school.



Ambition is one of our core values at Initio Learning Trust. We are incredibly proud of our Middle and Upper School pupils for their combined efforts with Sparx

Sparx Maths
25,747 HOURS
LEARNING THIS YEAR SO FAR
An initio Learning Trust Initiative

Sparx reader
7,339 BOOKS READ
18,452 HOURS OF READING
An initio Learning Trust Initiative

Sparx science
22,568 HOURS LEARNING
2,149,252 QUESTIONS ANSWERED
An initio Learning Trust Initiative



IMPORTANT: Please ensure that children do not bring nut or sesame seed based products into school. This includes Nutella spread. 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.

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.**

Cubist Masterpieces in Year 8

A huge well done to our Year 8 pupils for their incredible Cubist style paintings. The level of detail and effort has been outstanding.



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.



Peripatetic Music lessons Many children benefit from peripatetic music lessons through the school year. These are offered to all children across a variety of instruments. Please speak with Mrs Moskova or click on the following link [CLICK HERE](#) if you would like more details.

Arriving at school each day - Your support is needed.

Allenbourn Middle School opens at 8:30am, with registration taking place for all pupils at 8:40am. 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 Arbor.

Extra Time @ AMS - Book now for Summer 2026!

Extra-time @AMS continues to go from strength to strength and it is great to see this additional provision being used by more and more of our families.

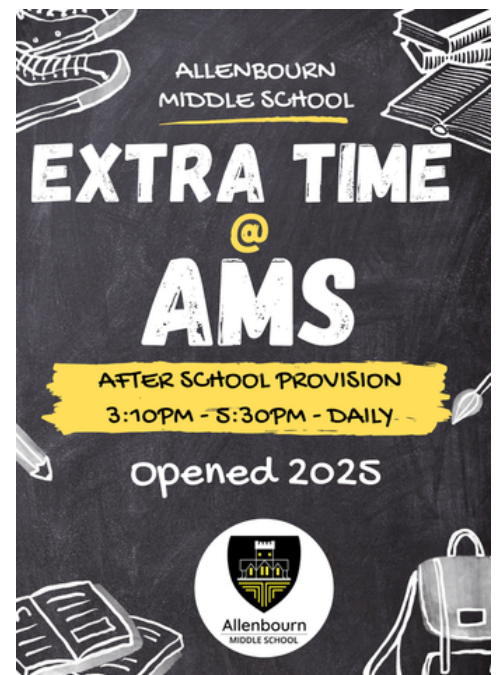
Mrs Fielder leads our programme of activities and we are keen to see more families making use of this provision.

Extra-time@AMS runs between 3:10pm and 5:30pm, 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 arts and crafts until collection. **Places cost £8 per session.**

Places can be booked on Arbor 24hours in advance or by contacting the school office for last minute bookings.



IMPORTANT: Essential uniform reminders School Uniform at AMS

- **Children are not permitted to wear branded trainers to school.** This change was made for September 2023.
- Skirts must be pleated and should be no more than two or three centimetres above the knee.
- Children are not permitted to wear make-up or jewellery to school.



Key Dates

Summer Term 2026

Staff Training Day
Children return to School
Bank Holiday
Key Stage 2 SATs week
Year 6 Marwell Zoo Trip
Bournemouth University Visit
Final day of half term

Monday 13th April 2026
Tuesday 14th April 2026
Monday 4th May 2026
Monday 11th May 2026
Friday 15th May 2026
Wednesday 20th May 2026
Friday 22nd May 2026

Half Term

Children return to School
Sports Days

Transfer Day
Year 5 Ancient Technology Centre Trips
Year 8 Leavers Event
Last day of Summer Term

Monday 25th May 2026

Monday 1st June
Thursday 18th and
Friday 19th June 2026
Friday 26th June 2026
8th, 10th, 13th & 14th July 2026
Thursday 16th July - 6:30pm
Wednesday 22nd July 2026



You can find our term dates for 2025 - 2026 and 2026 - 2027 on our school website by following this link: [Term Dates](#)

A huge well done to all our pupils who have been working hard on their **submissions for this year's Young Artists Summer Show at the Royal Academy of Arts!**



Careers @ AMS

Careers is fast becoming a driving force in curriculum delivery and an end target for all. **If you feel that you could spare 20 minutes to come and talk to Year 7 & 8 about your career**, please could you contact Mr Pressling at **mpressling@allenbournmiddle.org** in the first instance. It doesn't matter what you do for a living, you could inspire a child to consider a career they have never thought of.

