

NEWSLETTER

Aylward Primary School

Friday 4th September 2026



WELCOME BACK FROM MRS KELLY !

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I would like to welcome each and every one of our Aylward families back to school. I hope that you have all had a restful and enjoyable summer break and that you are feeling ready for another exciting year at Aylward Primary School.

It has been lovely to welcome the children back into school and, as always, they have settled incredibly quickly. Walking around the school during these first few days, it has been wonderful to see the children back with their friends, meeting their new teachers and getting stuck into their learning. We have also been delighted to welcome some of our new Nursery and Reception children and their families to meetings with the staff, as they begin their school journey with us.

The start of a new school year is always an exciting time. It is a time for new beginnings, new opportunities and new challenges. This year is particularly special as we are launching our **new Aylward Values: Kindness, Determination, Respect, Honesty and Responsibility.**

Our values are at the heart of what it means to be part of the Aylward community. We want our children not only to achieve academically, but also to develop the qualities that will help them to become confident, caring and responsible young people. Throughout the year, we will be talking about our values in assemblies, in classrooms and through the many different opportunities and experiences that our children have at school. You will also have noticed them on display in our beautifully painted shelters, which Ms Thomas has been working tirelessly on during the break.

We will be introducing our new Aylward mascots alongside the values, which I am sure will quickly become familiar faces around school! The children have already played an important part in helping us to choose their names, and I am really looking forward to seeing our values come to life through them.

Our school motto is Inspire, Enjoy, Achieve, and I believe our new values complement this beautifully. We want our children to be inspired by the people and opportunities around them, to enjoy their time at Aylward and to achieve their very best. Most importantly, we want them to do this while showing kindness, determination, respect, honesty and responsibility.

As always, there are lots of important reminders and information included in this first newsletter, so please do take some time to have a read. Please also remember to check our school website calendar regularly, as this is where you will find details of upcoming events and dates throughout the year.

We look forward to continuing to work closely with you as parents and carers. The partnership between home and school is incredibly important to us, and together we can ensure that our children have the very best possible experience at Aylward.

I am very much looking forward to another fantastic year at Aylward!



Dates for the Diary

next newsletter
18th September

8th September
Open Library Begins
(every Tuesday)

9th September

Meet the Teacher
KS1 at 3.30pm
LKS2 at 3.50pm
UKS2 at 4.10pm

16th September

Reception Curriculum Meeting
at 9am

PTFA September Social
3pm to 6pm

18th September

Jeans for Genes Day

Autumn Term Club Dates 21st
September to
20th November
(information to follow)

Autumn Half Term
26th October to 30th October

[WEBSITE CALENDAR](#)



Aylward Values

Our 5 Values explain the expectations for behaviour at Aylward Primary School.



Kindness



Determination



Respect



Honesty



Responsibility

Self	I am kind to myself and speak positively about my efforts.	I try my best and learn from my mistakes. I don't give up, even if something is tricky.	I value myself and my achievements. I treat myself with respect.	I am honest with myself and ask for help when I need it.	I take responsibility for my own learning and choices. I make safe choices.
Others	I am polite, kind and helpful towards others. I include others.	I encourage others to try their best and celebrate their effort.	I listen carefully to others and value their ideas.	I tell the truth, even if it is difficult.	I take responsibility for how I affect others.
Community	I help to make our school a friendly, welcoming place.	I help our school community to improve and succeed together.	I show respect by treating everyone equally and fairly. I speak up if something is unfair.	I do the right thing even when no-one is watching.	I look after our school environment and all belongings.
Events / Opportunities	Anti-bullying Week Harvest Festival Mental Health Week	Competitions Sports Day Tournaments	Equality Week Pupil Parliament International / RE Day	Online Safety Week Pupil Parliament/Debates	Pupil roles and responsibilities School trips



NEWSLETTER



SELECTING YOUR CHILD'S LUNCH OPTIONS THROUGH THE ARBOR APP OR PARENT PORTAL

Parents must have pre-selected their child's meal options for each day. Where **NO meal** choice has been made on the Arbor App or Portal, children will be provided with a Jacket Potato with Tuna, Cheese and/or Beans. We are unable to receive any food orders through the office.

Please ensure that you have set up your Arbor account and are able to log in. This will allow you to access the system and make meal selections.

If you have not yet selected your child's lunch option the Lunch Menu is available to view on Arbor. You can help your child choose their meal options in advance via the Arbor App or Parent Portal.

All meals will need to be booked and confirmed by 11.30am the day before the meal session (ie. Tuesday's meal to be confirmed by 11.30am on Monday). If you prefer you can book your child's meal option a week in advance or even up to the end of the term.

All details and information, can be found on our website under [LUNCH MENU](#) and there is a helpful guide on how to select the meal option on the Arbor App or Arbor Parent Portal - [Selecting Lunch Options in Arbor](#).

WE ARE MOVING TO ARBOR FOR SCHOOL PAYMENTS!

We are excited to let you know that we are moving away from ParentPay and introducing Arbor as our new school payments system!

This change will make it even easier and more convenient for parents and carers to manage payments for Aylward Shop, trips, activities and other school-related items, all in one place.

We're really looking forward to making this transition and hope you'll find Arbor simple and straightforward to use.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support as we make this exciting change!



Free School Meals – Changes from September 2026

From September 2026, more children will be eligible for Free School Meals (FSM).

Please note that all families must complete a new application, even if your child has received Free School Meals in the past.

Applying is also important because eligible children can help the school receive additional Pupil Premium funding, which supports learning, wellbeing and enrichment opportunities.

If you think your child may be eligible, we encourage you to apply using the [LGfL Free School Meal Eligibility Checker](#). If you have any questions or would like help with your application, please speak to the school office — we are very happy to help.

HOW TO SET UP YOUR ARBOR APP/PARENT PORTAL

We have set up Arbor accounts for all parents and to finish creating your account you just need to set a password. Your username is the email address we've sent this email to.

Go to <https://login.arbor.sc> and click Forgot your password? to finish setting up your account.

Further information about the Arbor Parent App can be found [here](#).

The Arbor Parent App can be downloaded from either the Playstore on Android phones or the Apple Store on iPhones.

If you have any difficulties accessing your account, please contact the school office for support.

NEWSLETTER

Aylward Primary School



Our Playground Shelters Get a Colourful Makeover

We are absolutely delighted to share the fantastic new murals that have been brightening up our playground shelters!

Our wonderful school governor, Helena Thomas, and her son, Samuel, began this creative project during the Summer Term and continued their amazing work throughout the summer holidays. What a fabulous team they make!

The murals beautifully bring our new Aylward Values to life, creating a colourful and inspiring space for all our children, families and visitors to enjoy.

A huge thank you to Helena and Samuel for their time, creativity and hard work.

We are really looking forward to seeing the finished murals and are sure they are going to look fantastic!



Welcome to
The Nest



INSPIRE
ENJOY
ACHIEVE



A calm place... to talk, be heard and feel supported

We are delighted to introduce The Nest, our new pastoral space at Aylward. As you can see from the photos below, we have created a calm, welcoming and comfortable environment where children can talk, be heard and access support when they need it.

A cosy space

A place to be yourself

Welcome to The Nest



Ms Moore, our Learning Mentor, will be based in The Nest and will work with children across the school to support their emotional wellbeing, confidence and any worries or challenges they may be experiencing.

Children can speak to Ms Moore directly or use The Nest Worry Postbox to leave a note if there is something they would like to talk about. Whether it is a big worry, a small concern, or they simply need someone to listen, we want every child to know that there is always someone available to help.

A
safe space
for every
child

The Nest
Worry
Postbox

We are really excited to see The Nest become an important part of our whole-school approach to wellbeing and pastoral support, providing a safe space where every child feels listened to, valued and supported.

Small worries make a big difference We're here for you.



INSPIRE
ENJOY
ACHIEVE

If you need to talk...



Welcome to
The Nest
Our Pastoral Room



♥ **Ms Moore** ♥

Your Learning Mentor

We are here to listen
 We care
 We will help you

The Nest
Worry Postbox

Share your worries
or how you're feeling
by posting a note in
our worry postbox.

We are here
to listen and help.

You can come to The Nest if you are feeling...



Worried



Sad



Stressed



Upset

You don't have to go through it alone.

We're here for you.



A safe place to talk, be heard and feel supported.

Free to
Attend

FRIENDS OF AYLWARD

SEPTEMBER SOCIAL

MAIN PLAYGROUND
3.20pm - 6pm

FRIENDS OF AYLWARD REGISTERED CHARITY NO-1200958

Wednesday 16th September

- BOUNCY CASTLES • BBQ AND FOOD •
- ICE CREAM • MUSIC • TUCK SHOP •

JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF FUN!
BRING A BLANKET AND RELAX ON THE GREEN.
BRING A PICNIC OR GRAB TREATS FROM
THE BBQ AND TUCK SHOP.
BOUNCY CASTLE AVAILABLE *SMALL CHARGE APPLIES
TIME TO MAKE NEW FRIENDS

