Alver Valley Schools
Newsletter

www.alvervalleyschools.co.uk



September 2026 News

The first half of the Autumn Term is now well underway, and what a positive start it has been! It has been a joy to pop into classes and see the great start children have made in their learning. We have Parents Evenings coming shortly, a great chance for you to check in with your child's class teacher about how they are settling and progressing.

In assemblies we have started thinking about themes of empathy and belonging, and both Mrs Roseblade and I have been so impressed with the contrbutions from the Junior children as we have started to explore these themes.

Do read on for information and news from across our schools.

Finally, a big welcome to all of the new families that have joined our school community this September, with special mentions to our Year R and Year 3 children who have settled into their new school routines so well.

Mrs Lockwood

Key Dates

Wednesday 30th September Individual photos
Thursday 1st October Census Day –special menu
Thursday 1st and Wednesday 7th October Yr 3 Stone age Forest Experience Days
Thursday 8th October Year R Phonics Workshops 2:15pm & 4:30pm
Thursday 8th October EARA trip
Thursday 8th October Harvest Festival – special menu
Monday 12th - 16th October Year 6 Residential – Stubbington
Monday 19th & Thursday 22nd October Parents Evenings
Tuesday 20th October Flu Immunisations
Friday 23rd October Year R Messy Art Day
26th-30th October **Half term Break**
Monday 2nd November INSET Day
Wednesday 4th November Year 2 Forest School Day

Alver Valley School Clubs

Our Clubs offer for the first half of the Autumn Term is now underway. This half term we have a range of clubs on offer, including Forest school, Autumnal Arts, Football, Dance, Hockey, TT Rock Stars, board games, and Homework Club. There is always a waiting list so if your child does not want their place do let us know so we can allocate to someone else.

Clubs for the second half of the Autumn Term will be available to sign up for in the next couple of weeks so watch out for that letter coming home soon.






Digital Leaders

We are excited to be launching our new Junior School Digital Leaders programme this term, with four Digital Leader positions available in each year group. Digital Leaders are one of the many roles avaiable for children to take on during their time at Alver Valley.

Our Digital Leaders will play an important role in helping our school make the most of technology in a safe, creative, and purposeful way. They will follow a short curriculum, specially designed to meet the needs of our learners, our school, and the ever-changing digital landscape.

Throughout the programme, our Digital Leaders will develop their understanding of digital citizenship, online safety, responsible use of technology, the pros and cons of AI, creativity and problem-solving, as well as exploring how technology can support learning across the curriculum. Digital Leaders will also have opportunities to share their knowledge with others, support their peers and contribute ideas about how we can continue to use technology effectively across our school.

We are looking forward to seeing our children step into these roles, developing not only their digital skills, but also their confidence, communication, leadership and sense of responsibility. More information about how children can apply will be shared with children in their school assemblies.

Harvest Festival

Alver Valley Schools we will celebrating our Harvest Festival on Thursday 8th October. We will be joined by the Rev Vickie who is very excited to join us, meet the children, and help to lead our assemblies in both the Infant and Junior schools.

The children are learning a Harvest song ready to sing. Do listen out at home for the songs: 'Cauliflowers Fluffy' (Infants) and 'Harvest Samba' (Juniors) will get stuck in our collective heads for the next few weeks!

On the day we are encouarging children to bring a non-perishable food item donation to add to our Harvest display. All of the donations will be given to the local food bank following our assemblies.

We also have a special School Menu for our Harvest Lunch. If your children do not usually have a hot school lunch this is a great day to try them out!



The Power of Home-School Communication



At Alver Valley Schools, we strongly believe that education is a team effort. When parents, carers, and school staff work closely together, children thrive – academically, socially, and emotionally. Clear, positive, and open communication between home and school is one of the most effective ways we can support your child's journey.

Why Strong Communication Matters

- ***Supports Wellbeing:*** *When children see their parents and teachers communicating regularly, it builds a sense of security and consistency between home and school.*
- ***Early Problem Solving:*** *Addressing small concerns early – whether about academic progress, friendships, or changes at home – helps prevent them from becoming bigger challenges later.*
- ***Celebrates Achievement:*** *Communication isn't just for solving problems! It allows us to share and celebrate your child's successes, milestones, and daily wins together.*

How You Can Stay Connected

- ***Keep Contact Details Updated:*** *Please make sure your phone number, email address, and emergency contact details are current so you never miss important updates or announcements.*
- ***Reach Out Early:*** *If you ever have a question, concern, or update about your child, please don't hesitate to reach out to their class teacher or office team.*
- ***Read Our Regular Updates:*** *Check our newsletters, Class DoJo notifications, and emails regularly to stay informed about upcoming events, key dates, and classroom activities.*
- ***Partner in Respect:*** *Effective communication works best when built on mutual respect and understanding. We are committed to listening to your feedback and working with you constructively.*
- ***Key People:*** *Our Assistant Headteacher of the Infant School is Mr Edwards and Miss Hyde is the Assistant Headteacher of the Junior School.*

Thank you for your ongoing partnership, support, and involvement in our school community. Together, we can ensure every child reaches their full potential!





Alver Valley Nursery

We have some spaces available in our school Nursery for an immediate start. We offer term time 15 and 30-hour places for 3-4 year old children. There are no hidden fees!

The Nursery is based inside the infant school, building and provides dedicated classroom spaces and an outside area. The Nursery is led by our experienced qualified teacher who works with her lovely, skilled early years team to ensure children are given the very best nursery experience and are supported to develop the skills they need to get a great start ahead of them starting school. Children play, learn, explore and engage in a curriculum designed to inspire them as learners. To find out more about our Nursery please contact the school office or visit the Nursery page on the school website.

PE Days Reminder

Please remember to send you child into school wearing school PE kit on their PE days. School PE kit consists of:

- Plain white t-shirt
- Plain black shorts
- School jumper
- Trainers
- Plain black or navy tracksuit bottoms (during colder months).

Tracksuits bottoms or T-shirts in other colours or with pictures or logos should not be worn as these are not school uniform. If they are we will ask children to change their clothes.

Information about our curriculum

You can find out more about our Curriculum at Alver Valley Schools by visiting the Curriculum pages of our school website. Here you will find information specific to each subject area, as well as the curriculum overview for each year group in school, from Nursery all the way up to Year 6.

Inset school closure days

Monday 2nd November 2026
Monday 22nd February 2027
Monday 12th April 2027
Friday 25th June 2027

Please remember to send your child to school with their water bottle each day.

Best Start Family Launch Day

Friday 30th October 9:30-2:30pm *(Friday of October Half Term)*
At the Alver Valley Family Centre.

Alver Valley Schools will be joining in too with Forest School sessions running during the launch day!

We are pleased to announce the launch of the Best Start Family Hubs which will be based in the Alver Valley Family Centre, right next door to Alver Valley Schools and Nursery.

This will be a one-stop shop to signpost families to support for anything from health, education, social care, and voluntary services. So if you have ever had any questions or struggles with anything from toilet training, dental health, how to support your child with healthy eating, mental health issues or parents who want to stop smoking, as well as a whole range of support this will be an excellent starting point.

The focus is primarily on children aged 0-5 years and The Purpose of the Hubs is to:

- *Improve early childhood outcomes*
- *Reduce inequalities*
- *Provide earlier intervention*
- *Offer accessible, joined-up support for families*







ALVER VALLEY SCHOOLS

NURSERY • INFANT • JUNIOR

DO YOU HAVE A CHILD STARTING SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2027?

If so, we would like to invite you to come along to one of our Open Afternoons and also to book a school tour.

Open Afternoons
At these Stay and Play sessions children and parents can come along to discover what Alver Valley Schools can offer and to meet the team. Sessions will take place on **Monday 12th October** and **Thursday 26th November** – visit any time between 4pm to 5:30pm.

School Tours
Small group tours with our Head of Schools. Various dates available.

Book your tour and Open Afternoon slot via the school office – call **023 9258 1777** or email **office@alvervalleyschools.co.uk**.

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CHILDHOOD ANXIETY WORKSHOP

Alver Valley Schools

THURSDAY 8TH OCTOBER AT 9:00AM

with the Mental Health Support Team (MHST)



DOES YOUR CHILD SHOW SIGNS OF ANXIETY? DO YOU KNOW WHAT ANXIETY LOOKS LIKE IN CHILDREN AND WHAT MIGHT CAUSE IT?

JOIN US ON THURSDAY 8TH OCTOBER
REFRESHMENTS AT 08:45AM FOLLOWED BY THE WORKSHOP AT 9:00AM