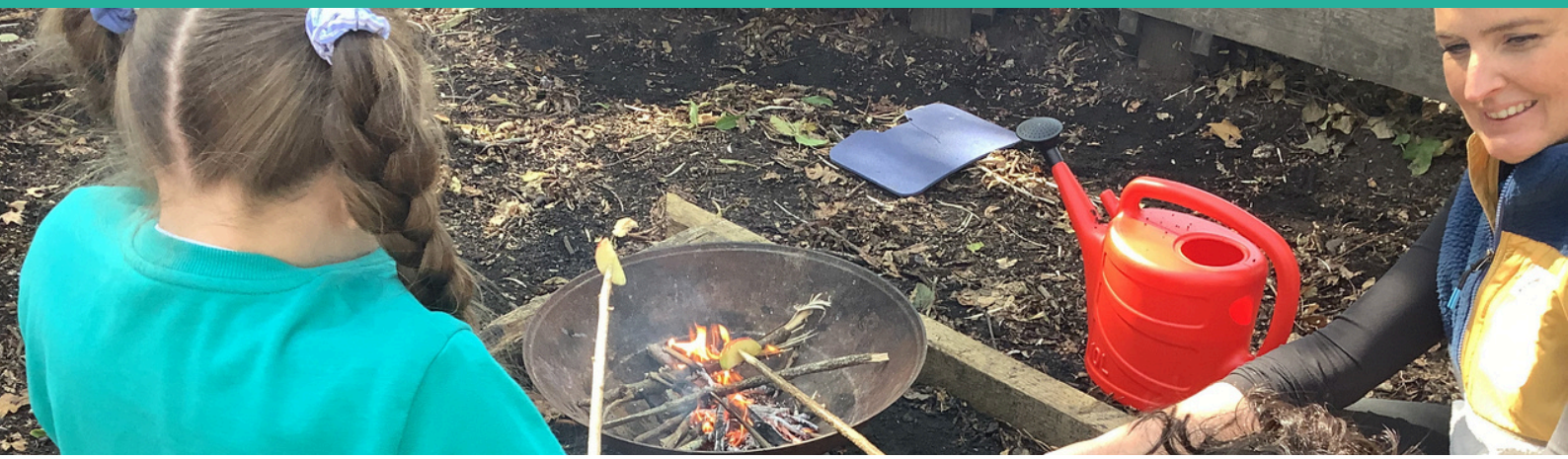
Alver Valley Schools
Newsletter

www.alvervalleyschools.co.uk



October 2026 News

The signs of Autumn and changing seasons are so evident in our school grounds and beyond. This is such a brilliant time of year to explore the great outdoors, and with the Alver Valley County Park on our door step we hope you are able to make the most of muddy Autumn welly walks and treasure finding when you are out and about. As I write, Year 6 are doing just that as they have embarked on their Stubbington Study Centre adventure. Look out for a news story from them in the next Newsletter!

At the end of the half term break Mrs Roseblade, Mrs Petty and Mrs Graves are running some **Free Forest Taster Sessions** for families with the Best Start Hub, so do check those out (full details on the poster at the end of the Newsletter).

Do read on for lots of news and details of upcoming events from across our schools.

Mrs Lockwood

Key Dates

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 and 11th November Year 2 Forest School
Friday 13th November Children in Need Day
Monday 16th November Year R Local walk – Tesco
Thursday 19th November PTA Disco Year R - 6
Wednesday 9th –Friday 11th December Year 1 & 2 Nativity
Monday 14th December Rocksteady concert
Tuesday 15th December Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 16th December Year 5 & 6 Christmas Concert
Thursday 17th December Year 3 & 4 Christmas Concert



Spotlight on Year 3

Over the past couple of weeks our Year 3 team have been bringing history to life for the children. Mrs Richardson, our History Leader, who also supports the development of History across Hampshire schools through her steering group work, decided to rewrite the Year 3 History unit to better match learners needs.

The Year 3 team then took her ideas further, planning Stone age experience sessions to immerse children into their History learning and English text:
The Stone Age Boy.

The Year 3 team worked with our Forest School Leader to provide practical Forest School Experience Sessions to help the children to make sense of their learning. Using the forest environment we aimed to simulate something of what it would be like to live in the stone age and what children like them would do in this time.

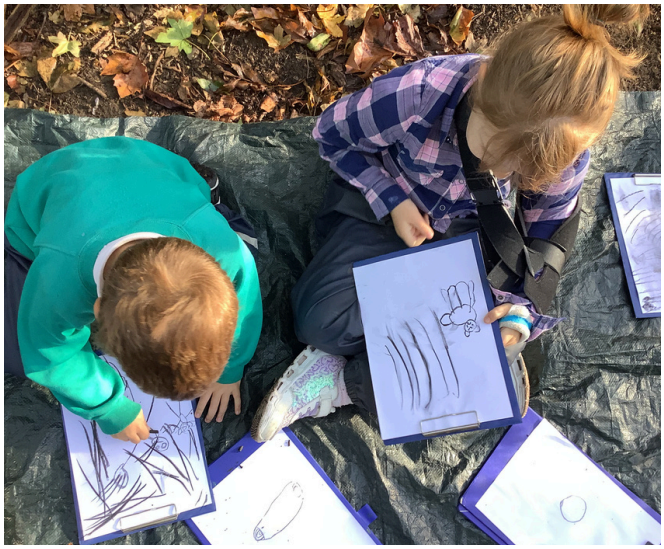
Children made spears, used charcoal and mud to draw, built shelters, made clay pots and cooked on a fire. The children impressed everyone with their collaboration and were throughly engaged in their sessions.













Harvest Festival

We had such a brilliant time celebrating our Harvest Festival on Thursday 8th October. We were joined by Rev Vickie from St Mary's Church, Rowner, who helped us to think about why we celebrate Harvest. The children created Harvest displays with all the food donations. They joined in with a Harvest poem, and sang their Harvest songs absolutely brilliantly.









Thanks to the support of our school community we collected so much food for the local food bank that it was hard to fit it all in the vehicle transporting it back to the food bank, a great problem to have!

All the food will go towards helping those in our community who need a little extra help. Thank you so much Alver Valley for your generosity.





Library News

After reopening in September, I am delighted to have been able to sort, organise and restock our libraries with over 300 new books for the children to enjoy. Following the summer, our overdue books were reduced from 642 to just 20! A big 'Well Done!' to everyone in our community for looking after and returning our books for others to enjoy.

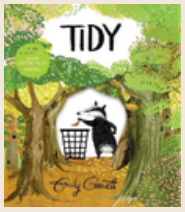
Mr Donnelly's and Hampshire Libraries Summer Reading Challenges!
Congratulations to all the children who completed my reading challenge this summer. It was lovely to hear about your reading and see photos of you reading in different places! It was also great to hear that several children from the Federation of Alver Valley Schools took part in the Hampshire Reading Challenge at our local libraries. These are fantastic resources, which are free to the public. You can visit your nearest public libraries in Bridgemary and in Gosport Town Centre.

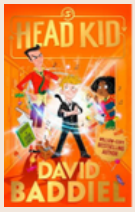
***Junior Librarians** - I am delighted to announce our Junior Librarians for the year:*
***Year 3** 3KG Lara, 3CH George B **Year 4** 4MH Theo S, 4JH Kingsley*
***Year 5** 5AT Jade B, 5LW Joey P **Year 6** 6JB Isla H, 6CP Asiya L*

These children will be taking on an important role in promoting a love of reading across the school and supporting the smooth running of our wonderful library. They will help tidy and organise books, recommend great reads, assist during library sessions and encourage other pupils to enjoy using the library.

Library Sessions
This term's library sessions have helped the children to develop their love of reading we have had a focus on the following:







***Autumn and the Seasons** - A focus on the seasons, including the changes that take place in Autumn. We have explored some beautiful non-fiction books about the changes in our seasons this month.*
***Black History Month** - This is a time to celebrate the achievements, contributions, and rich cultural heritage of Black people throughout history and today. Through stories, book discussions and learning activities, the children will explore inspiring individuals and develop a deeper understanding of diversity, equality, and inclusion.*

Save the Date

Our Scholastic Book Fair will be arriving in school on Tuesday 24th November 2026. More details of when, where and how to buy these wonderful books will be available soon.

Mr Donnelly







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.

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**.

GRADED **GOOD** BY OFSTED



Alver Valley Schools

inspired, curious and motivated to learn

Your child is required to attend school for 190 days each year.

The target attendance at Alver Valley Schools is at least 96%.

ATTENDANCE DURING ONE YEAR	EQUALS DAYS ABSENT	NUMBER OF LESSONS MISSED
96% (AT TARGET)	7 DAYS	35 LESSONS
94%	11 DAYS	55 LESSONS
92%	15 DAYS	75 LESSONS
90%	19 DAYS	95 LESSONS

How does your child's attendance compare? Students who miss a lot of school achieve less.

GOOD ATTENDANCE BUILDS BRIGHTER FUTURES AT ALVER VALLEY SCHOOLS.

Best Start Family Launch Day

Friday 30th October 9:30am to 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 SCHOOL DISCO

THURSDAY 19TH NOVEMBER

YEAR R
3:15pm - 4:00pm

YEAR 1 & 2
4:15pm - 5:00pm

YEAR 3 & 4
3:15pm - 4:00pm

YEAR 5 & 6
4:15pm - 5:00pm



INFANTS WILL BE IN THE INFANT HALL



JUNIORS WILL BE IN THE JUNIOR HALL

£3 PER CHILD

INCLUDES A DRINK AND SNACK





MONEY TO BE HANDED INTO THE OFFICE IN A NAMED ENVELOPE