



PROUD OF OURSELVES, PROUD OF OTHERS, PROUD OF OUR SCHOOL



Aboyne Lodge Primary School

## Weekly Bulletin

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September '21

[WWW.ABOYNE.HERTS.SCH.UK](http://WWW.ABOYNE.HERTS.SCH.UK)

### A message from the Head

Dear Parents, it has been another busy week at Aboyne, with clubs now in full swing and the children getting used to the routine of being back in school. There are still spaces in some of the clubs. Can I ask that parents pick children up after clubs at the main entrance and wait outside until the children are brought to you rather than coming inside the building please.

In assembly today we talked about the children's right to learn, be respected and be safe, which links in with our new school rules. They are very simple to remember: Ready, Respectful and Safe. I also talked about the school motto. So far I have only had a few suggestions for three words that encompass us as a school. Please send in any suggestion you or your children have come up with.

This week we have introduced Class Dojo, an online platform that will enable us to communicate with one another: instantly sharing messages, updates, events, and photos from class. It is important that all parents sign up - you should have received instructions about how to get on. If you haven't received your log in, please let the class teacher know.

I have noticed that a handful of children are getting to school really early, before

we officially open at 8:35am. Unfortunately, we don't have the capacity to look after them before this time, unless they are in the before school club.

[LoveReading4Schools](#) helps thousands of schools across the country keep-up-to-date with the best books available to encourage reading for pleasure. They provide reading recommendations right across the year groups, key stages and curriculum areas. They also give tools, advice and recommendations for even the most reluctant of readers to find their next favourite book. We have set up our own school page for you to look at. Find us using the 'find our school' button and use the password AbOyneLOdge1 to access the page.

I am delighted to announce that we have made a successful bid to Tesco Bags of Help for an Art project. The local public are able to vote for their favourite project in lots of the local stores, with the most popular winning £1500. The voting starts on 1<sup>st</sup> October and goes on until the end of December, so please ask for a blue token when you are shopping and put in the box for Aboyne. Don't forget to tell all of your friends and family too.

Have a lovely weekend!

Kind regards, Mr Smithard

### Hot Chocolate Friday

*Congratulations to the following children for always going over and above with their behaviour:*

*Rec:*

*Y1 Matilda*

*Y2 Ella*

*Y3 Rita*

*Y4 Lois*

*Y5 Amelie*

*Y6 Helen N*

### Upcoming events:

**23.9.21 - First Cross Country Race @ Colney Heath after school for Y6**

**24.9.21 – Non-uniform day in exchange for a bottle for the tombola!**

**25.9.21 – ALSA Summer Fair 2pm – 5pm**

**7.10.21 – Travelling Bookfair Arrives in school**

**14.10.21 – Travelling Bookfair Departs**

**Scarlett the Garnet Fairy**  
**By Daisy Meadows**  
**Recommended by Emily (Year 4)**

**Book of the Week**



“Scarlett can’t make things grow and shrink without her magic jewel. When Rachel and Kirsty find some tiny sheep they think the garnet must be nearby. I think everyone would enjoy this book”

**Things to Remember from the Office**

**Parking Permits:** Available from the school office, please pay via Gateway. Payments received by 2pm will be sent home same day with the eldest sibling. Permits are £1.50 each.

**After School Clubs:** Please see attached grid for some updated information. Chess, tennis, French clubs all have spaces!

**Mid-morning Milk** - Gateway has been reopened for anyone in YN-Y2 who would like mid-morning milk. Please place your order by Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September which allows time for the Dairy to process the order for delivery on Monday 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Nursery** - We still have some 15 hour and 30 hour places available. Please contact the school office. We are very flexible on sessions; we want to make it work for you.

**Free School Meals** - Please check your eligibility here.

[Apply for free school meals - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

**How Can I Help Families? Free School Meals**

Usually in this section, I talk about things that you can do to support your children at home with school work. However, there are lots of things that we can do as a school to support you. Many schools are finding that there are an increasing number of families who have lost jobs, been furloughed or are having financial difficulty after the pandemic through no fault of their own. If you are in this situation you may be able to claim free school meals until you get back on your feet. If your child is in receipt of free school meals, the school also receives extra funding to support your child in other ways (the Pupil Premium Grant) – for example, we can support with extra tutoring, fund outside support with a specific learning need and even support financially with trips and clubs. This means that (if you qualify) you should apply even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 where all children are entitled to a free school meal.

Your child can get a free school meal if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support • Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (as long as you’re not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and you don’t get more than £16,190 a year)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit (with annual earned income of no more than £7,400 after tax and not including any benefits you get)

It only takes 5 mins to apply online and in most cases they can tell you straightaway if your child can get free meals at school. For more information and the link to apply, please visit the Hertfordshire CC website:  
<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/at-school/free-school-meals/free-schoolmeals.aspx>

We are also happy to help you through the process at school, so please pop into the office and we’ll happily help.

## **A message from ALSA -Hello everyone!**

A reminder that the ALSA AUTUMN FAIR is next **Saturday 25th of September from 2-5 pm.**

Thanks so much to everyone who has volunteered their time and for your donations so far.

We are trialling paper tokens for the games stalls this year- details are at the bottom of this message. PLEASE READ THE INFO as this is a new system for all of us!

**NOW IS THE TIME TO BRING IN** your donations of:

- **USED TOYS & CHILDREN'S BOOKS** (donations must be safe, complete and clean) - please bring to office
- **NEW POCKET MONEY TOYS (£1-£2)** - please ask your child to give to their class teacher
- **CARDBOARD BOTTLE CARRIERS** - please bring to office (they are very handy for transporting all the bottle donations!)
- **EMPTY PLASTIC BOTTLES** (2l or 1l) - please bring to office (to be used for crafts in eco-stall)
- **USED UNIFORM** - should be clean and in good condition - please bring to office

**FRIDAY 24th** (NON UNIFORM DAY) is the day to bring in donations of:

- **BOTTLES** (alcohol or premium non-alcoholic drink) for the bottle tombola - an adult must bring this in and hand to an ALSA volunteer at front of school at drop off. All children can come to school in non uniform but if they have PE that day, please ensure their clothing and footwear is still appropriate for doing sport.
- **CAKE DONATIONS** (individual portions, **NO NUTS**) can be brought to the office at **PICK UP ONLY on Friday**. Otherwise, please bring them along to the school whilst the fair is being set up on **Saturday, 12-2pm.**
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### **CAN'T COME TO THE FAIR OR FORGOT TO BRING IN DONATIONS BUT STILL WANT TO CONTRIBUTE?**

No problem, just head over to to

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/Clearconsciencefairfund?success=true>

(or go to justgiving.com and search for ALSA) and donate to ALSA via our Clear Conscience Fair Fund!

### **SCHOOL & NURSERY TOURS**

This year, the fair will feature guided tours (provided by our wonderful Year 6 students!) of the newly refurbished buildings. Tours are at 2.30, 3.15, 3.45 and 4.15pm and are open to all but space may be limited so make sure you sign up on the day.

### **NURSERY AND GYMBOREE SESSIONS**

Please encourage any friends/family with younger children to come to the fair. If they are considering sending their children to nursery or reception at Aboyne Lodge, it's a great opportunity to have a look round, particularly if they take one of the tours (see above).

Gymboree are generously donating their time for us and will so be hosting fun drop-in sessions in the nursery building for younger children at 2.30, 3, 3.30 and 4pm.

## ALSA – Part 2

### **A GREENER ALSA**

ALSA is thinking about sustainability and trying to become a more environmentally friendly charity. We think it's really important to try to do our bit - it isn't always easy when organising big events but we're sure we can make a positive change with your help and support.

Many of us already have reusable travel cups for hot drinks- please feel free to bring them to the fair and we'll serve you your tea/coffee in them.

We're also using biodegradable cups for this fair instead of plastic. They aren't a perfect solution, we know, but we are looking at obtaining more sustainable cups for future events. We ask you to reuse these cups for all of your own drinks whilst at the fair and then to place in a labelled cup recycling bin before you leave.

We'll also have recycling bins out at the fair, as well as landfill bins, so please make use of them, as appropriate, and encourage your children to do so too.

We're also partnering with Mrs Handley and the Eco Committee. They'll have a stall at the reusing and recycling items to make bug hotels. Please pop along and support them.

If you have any ideas how we can be greener as a charity, or want to get involved yourself, please let your year rep know.

### **PAPER TOKENS FOR THE GAMES STALLS - PLEASE READ!!**

Now is also the time to pre-purchase your paper tokens for use on the games stall at the Autumn Fair. Tokens are worth 50p and come in sheets of 10 (costing £5) and can be bought on Gateway. Pre-purchased tokens can be collected at the entrance to the fair on Saturday.

*Please note that the tokens are non-refundable and can only be used at this fair (ALSA Autumn Fair on 25 September 2021).*

Tokens can also be purchased on the day on the door, at the bar and at the bbq.

Please note, we are trialling the use of tokens at this fair and want them to be a success so we would really encourage you to buy some. Fear not though, *we will still be accepting cash everywhere.*

### **HOW WILL TOKENS WORK?**

When you or your child want to play a game, show your token sheet to the stall holder. They will put a stamp on one of your tokens to show it has been used.

### **WHY ARE WE USING TOKENS THIS YEAR?**

People carry less cash now so ALSA are using more card readers at our events. We don't have enough card readers for every stall and a lot of the games are for small amounts anyway. By having a token system, you can buy sheets of tokens for the games using your card.

### **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**