

3rd November 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,



Welcome back after the half term break and we hope that you have had a lovely time with your family.

The fact that Halloween is now behind us and that this week is bonfire night reminds us that time is quickly marching on – there are now only 52 sleeps until Christmas!



We hope that meeting your child's class teacher was useful on parent's evening and gave you a good opportunity to discuss the progress they have made this year and gain a sense of how they have settled into the new school year. As always, this half term is busy in school but always ends with opportunities in EYFS and KS1 to attend Nativity plays and otherwise prepare for Christmas and the end of the year.

Just a reminder to those who have not yet downloaded and activated your Tapestry App that this will become our preferred way of communication direct to you. If you have not activated your account or need a new activation link then please speak to office staff and they will be happy to help.

At the end of last term, you should have received by email a copy of the new Parental Code of Conduct which has been approved by Governors. If you have not received this or would like a hard copy then these are available from the Foyer or main office.

We have updated in this issue of our newsletter, the list of events and activities for the remainder of the term.

As always Miss Mitcheson and I are happy to help should you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's education.

Kind regards,
Mr S Jones & Miss Mitcheson
Head Teachers

Please remember to let us know of updates to phone numbers, email addresses and permissions for adults who can collect your child from school. 0191 4155700.

Huge Congratulations to Miss Cutter who was married over the half term holiday. I'm sure you would wish to join us in offering her and her husband all of the best for the future. She will now be known as Mrs Johnstone.



Staffing structure for Autumn 2 term 2025

Year group	Teacher	Teaching Assistant
Nursery	Mrs Gregory	Miss Fleury Mr Blakelock
Reception	Miss Quinn	Mrs Soulsby
1	Miss Mitcheson (3 days) Mrs Atkin (2 days)	Mrs Young
2	Mr Stothard (4days) Mrs Harrison & Mrs Atkin (1 day)	Mrs Robson
3	Miss Moss	Mrs Bowes (am) Mr Blakelock (pm)
4	Mrs Johnstone (4 days) Mrs Atkin (1 day)	Mrs Johnson
5D	Mr Dutton	Mrs Butler
5L	Mrs Lowe	
6	Miss Gibson	Miss Jobling
SEND Teaching assistants		Mrs Pickbourne Miss Major (temporary)
PPA cover	Mrs Atkin	Unfortunately, Covid is once again affecting a number of people. Please note current advice from Public Health is that children should not attend school for 3 days if they have a confirmed case of Covid.
Outdoor education & PPA teacher	Mrs Harrison	
PE Coach	Mr Day	
School Business Manager	Mrs Joyce	
School Administrative assistant	Mrs Holmes	



POLITE NOTICE

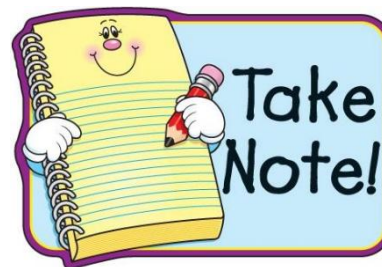
Please treat our staff with respect

We will always do our best to help you and support your child.

We will not however tolerate any verbal abuse, aggressive or violent behaviour towards any member of staff, either in person or via social media. Those who demonstrate these types of behaviour will be asked to leave the school premises and telephone calls will be ended. In extreme cases it may result in a report of the incident being shared with the police. Any abuse seen on social media may be reported to the platform provider.

Our staff are here to help you – so please treat them with respect, as they do their best to respond to you.

Thank you for your understanding



Wearing earrings at school

Please could we just offer a gentle reminder that unless a child has just had their ears pierced during the holidays then earrings should be removed for school, and no other jewellery should be worn. If you have queries about the uniform policy then please follow the link below or pop in for a chat with myself or your child's class teacher. If a child has recently had ears pierced then they must be covered by tape during the school day.

<https://www.albanyvillageprimary.org.uk/key-information/policies>

We are in the process of reviewing this policy and it now includes permission to wear small transparent, rubber stud type earrings during the school day. As these have no metal peg, the risk of the ear being torn during a knock when taking part in PE lessons or during playtimes is reduced significantly.



Key events remaining for the rest of Autumn term 2025:

Monday 3rd November – School Open - pupils return from half term

Tuesday 4th November – Reception class Outdoor Learning morning

Wednesday 5th November – National Number Day – activities in class

Friday 7th November – Whole School Photographs (note: change of date)

Tuesday 11th November – Year 1 Outdoor Learning morning

Tuesday 11th November – KS2 Armistice Day assembly (pupils only)

Thursday 13th November – Open Morning for prospective Reception pupils enrolling in September 2026 10:00 - 11:00 am

Friday 14th November – School Nurse to visit Y1 and Y2 to talk about keeping our teeth healthy

Monday 17th November – Year 3 have been asked to sing at Concord when the Christmas lights are turned on – 5:30 pm

Tuesday 18th November – Year 2 Outdoor Learning morning

Tuesday 25th November – Year 3 Outdoor Learning morning

Friday 28th November – ART Day 2

Tuesday 2nd December – Year 4 Outdoor Learning morning

Tuesday 2nd December – Year 5 RAF STEM Challenge (in school)

Tuesday 2nd December – KS1 festive farming activity (am) – in school

Tuesday 2nd December – KS2 festive farming activity (pm) – in school

Thursday 4th December – Kelly Oakland (Y7 transition teacher, Washington Academy) visiting Y5

Wb Monday 8th December – Assessment week for pupils Y1 – Y6

Tuesday 9th December – Year 5 Outdoor Learning morning

Thursday 11th December – Reception Nativity play – 2pm (3 tickets per pupil)

Friday 12th December – Year 1 & 2 Nativity play – 2pm (2 tickets per pupil)

Monday 15th December – Nursery, Reception, Year 1 & 2 Christmas parties

Tuesday 16th December – Year 3 – 6 Christmas parties

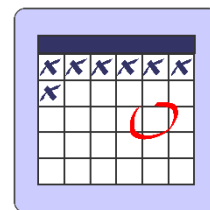
Wednesday 17th December – Theatre group visit for Christmas Panto (in school pupils only)

Thursday 18th December - School Christmas lunch and last day of term

Friday 19th December – Teacher Training Day (covered by twilights across the term)

School closed for Christmas holidays from Friday 19th December to Monday 5th January 2025 inclusive (Monday 5th January is a Teacher Training Day on-site)


Pupils return for Spring term on Tuesday 7th January



TERM DATES 2025/2026

AUTUMN TERM 72 DAYS First Half Term: 37 days Second Half Term: 35 days	SEPTEMBER 2025 19 Days S M T W T F S 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	OCTOBER 2025 18 Days S M T W T F S 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	NOVEMBER 2025 20 Days S M T W T F S 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	DECEMBER 2025 15 Days S M T W T F S 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
	JANUARY 2026 20 Days S M T W T F S 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	FEBRUARY 2026 15 Days S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	MARCH 2026 22 Days S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	April 2026 2 Days S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4
	APRIL 2026 9 Days S M T W T F S 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	MAY 2026 15 Days S M T W T F S 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	June 2026 22 Days S M T W T F S 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	July 2026 16 Days S M T W T F S 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
	SUMMER TERM 62 DAYS First Half Term: 24 days Second Half Term: 38 days Total Days: 193			

Teacher training days: Tuesday 2nd September (covered by twilights)
Wednesday 3rd September (In-school teacher training day)
Friday 19th December (covered by twilights)
Monday 5th January 2026 (In-school teacher training day)
Monday 1st June 2026 (Report writing day)



Community Opportunities'

AFFORDABLE FOOD HUB

WASHINGTON

Thanks to Sunderland City Council and Feeding Britain, Community Opportunities will be bringing an Affordable Food Hub to Washington to help local residents struggling with the cost of living. The Hub will provide a range of nutritious food, household & cleaning items as well as personal care supplies at a low cost.

OPEN WED 1.30 - 3.30, FRI 10 - 12

POINT SYSTEM BUYING

HEALTHY FOOD AVAILABLE

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS AVAILABLE

Albany Centre, Albany Village, Washington, NE37 1UB
Community Opportunities: 0191 5373231

