

THIS WEEK'S NEWS

Beginning of Term Message | Remote Learning

Online Safety

Access to new tech over the winter period can provide new opportunities for children and young people but also present risks. Thinkuknow has a guide for parents which looks at how they can support their child to be safer online this season by focusing on 3 key areas: viewing, sharing, chatting and friending.

[Thinkuknow - Being Social Online - A Parent's Guide](#)

4 steps you can take to help children stay safer.

Thinkuknow's [new post](#) takes you through the importance of conversations with children and young people about communicating safely online, helping them to understand how to report anything worrying, and reminding parents and carers about setting up parental controls.

You'll also find examples of resources that you can use to build on these conversations and develop skills and knowledge in the new year.

Help us learn more about young people and the dark web

Thinkuknow are currently working with [The Children's Society](#) and [Marie Collins Foundation](#) to find out more about young people's experiences using the dark web, and how they can be protected from encountering the associated risks.



Dear Parents & Carers

Just a very short newsletter this week as, I'm sure like me, we have all spent far too much of the week staring at screens.

This week, the staff have been working exceptionally hard to provide more opportunities to interact in a 'live' way with the children and to provide more support for their learning with our live drop-in sessions. We have provided many families with work packs, IT devices and remote support through our wellbeing calls. We hope that all of these have been useful in supporting you and your families with home learning.

However, we know that home learning is hard work. Children become less focussed as the day goes on, many parents are trying to juggle different ages while working themselves. The pressure is immense.

Please remember that the DFE expect us to set 3 hours of learning for Key Stage 1 and 4 hours of learning for KS2. However how much is completed in this time will vary from child to child. If your child has given a task a good go, but hasn't finished in the expected time, then this is just fine. POWERMATHS lessons in particular are often not completed in school so don't feel the pressure to ensure that your child completes everything perfectly – it is the bits they can't do

Starting in Reception 2021

Just a reminder to those parents and carers who have a child due to start school in September...

The Deadline IS TODAY!!!!

Starting school is a big step and we would love your child to join Alford Primary and be part of our flourishing school community, where high aspirations and a caring family ethos are at the heart of what we do.

We can offer:

- A curriculum designed to excite, challenge and support every child, to find their strengths and to build their aspirations;

- Pure year groups with excellent adult to child ratios;

- A strong commitment to the transition process, from pre-school to school, offering home visits;

- High quality wrap around childcare from 7.45am-5.30pm.

Have a look at our 'Starting School' brochure to find out more!

alfordprimary.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/School-Starter-Pack-2021-Public.pdf

Or look at our virtual tour:

<https://alfordprimary.co.uk/virtual-tour/>

Please use the link below for further information:

www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions

that tell the teachers what they need to teach next.

I think it is important for children to get away from the screens and hopefully, As a school, we are setting a good balance of screen time work and tasks away from the computer. Take time to go for a walk and leave the screens behind!

Finally I read this piece of advice and thought I'd share it with you – it certainly works in my house – with my children too. Hopefully it will work for you.

If you think that you hate everyone, you probably need to eat.

If you think everyone hates you, you probably need to sleep.

Have a lovely weekend away from the learning and we look forward to seeing you all virtually next week.

Mrs Ross

Attendance

If your child is booked in to attend school and cannot, please ensure that you let school know using the usual methods.

Parent Governor

If any parent is interested in becoming a parent governor, please send an email to primaryschool@alford.lincs.sch.uk. This includes a substantial time commitment and requires being able to read lengthy documents at short notice.

Term Dates

TERM 3: 2020/2021

Monday 4th January 2021 until

Friday 12th February 2021

TERM 4: 2020/2021

Monday 22nd February 2021 until Wednesday 31st March 2021

TERM 5: 2020/2021

Monday 19th April 2021 until

Friday 28th May 2021

TERM 6: 2020/2021

Monday 7th June 2021 until

Wednesday 21st July 2021

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School's Remote Learning Agreement

Alongside our usual [E-Safety and Acceptable Use Policy](#), we have devised the following information which provides additional rules and guidelines. This sets out our expectations of all pupils and parents in order to engage safely in interactive online learning with each other and teachers.

Parents must agree to the principles outlined below and agree that their child will adhere to the Acceptable Use agreement.

With this in mind, we ask that you assist your child:

1. To check Parent Hub, Tapestry or Teams daily for work, and to complete this work to the best of their ability/to communicate with the school if a written work pack is required.
2. To only use the video function when class teachers request it. We will normally notify you of this via TEAMS or Parent Hub.
3. To use TEAMS in a quiet part of their home, but please avoid bedrooms.
4. To be dressed appropriately for any face-to-face learning (no pyjamas; clothing that is appropriate for interaction with teachers such as for a school trip)
5. If enabled, to use the chat function in a manner suitable for school.
6. If asked to, to have their microphone muted and their cameras switched off – which helps if you have limited data or bandwidth. (Don't worry if you don't have a camera or microphone, pupils can still see the teacher.)