



# Aldwyn Primary School

Lumb Lane, Audenshaw, Manchester M34 5SF  
0161 370 3626 Email: [admin@aldwyn.victoriusmat.org](mailto:admin@aldwyn.victoriusmat.org)

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026

## Diary Dates

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February Start of term

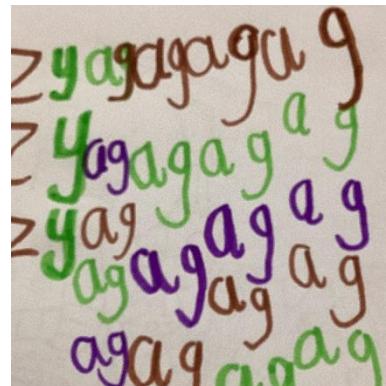
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February –  
Y4 Enrichment visit to the Roman  
Fort

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup>  
February – Spring Discos – book a  
place through Arbor

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March – World Book  
Day

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March – Y5  
Enrichment visit to Jodrell Bank

To mark National Handwriting Day, the children in Year 1 enjoyed a special Pencil Party! We had lots of fun practising our letter formation and holding our pencils correctly using a pincer grip. The classroom was filled with pop music as everyone worked hard and showed great enthusiasm for improving their handwriting skills.



We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 5th March.

Children are invited to wear something comfortable for the day. This could be a famous character from your child's favourite book, as in previous years, but there is no pressure to buy a costume. The message of the day is that books are something to be loved and enjoyed, children may choose to come to school dressed in their pyjamas or a onesie as though they are ready for a bedtime story instead of a costume. Children may bring their favourite book into school to share with others.

This year, we are asking the children to be 'Character Champions.' We would like them to think about their absolute favourite book character and become their champion for the day, making the case of why they are so wonderful. Older children could prepare and present a short persuasive speech about their characters, whilst younger children can come up with a small presentation, producing a picture and talking about what they love about their characters. This could be done on paper or online. Be creative! We will be asking children to talk about their favourite characters on the day through speaking and listening activities - there will be debates and conversation all through the day.

During the day the children will also learn about different authors and take part in book related activities.

At the end of the day, the children will bring home a £1.00 book token which they can use to buy one of the specially published books for World Book Day (available at supermarkets and book shops) or they can put it towards the purchase of another book.

This term, in English, Year 2 have been reading The Secret of Black Rock. This week, the children explored the big debate question: **Is Black Rock a monster or a friend?**

To support their thinking and speaking, they used sentence stems such as "I think Black Rock is a \_\_\_ because...", "In the story, Black Rock...", "I agree/disagree with \_\_\_ because..." and "I changed my mind because...". These helped the children structure their ideas, listen carefully to others, and respond thoughtfully.

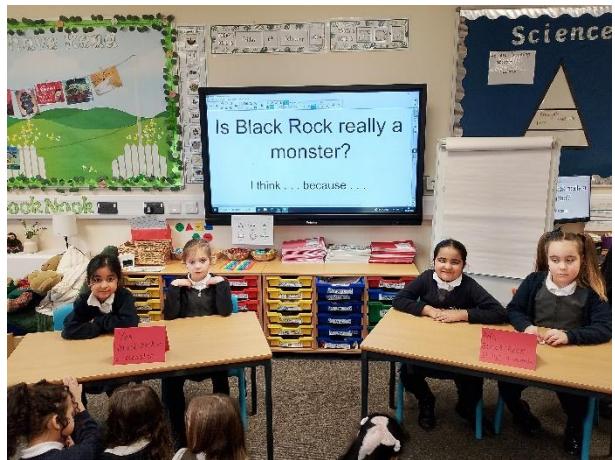
The discussion placed a strong emphasis on **oracy**, giving all children the opportunity to express their opinions clearly, justify their ideas, and build on or challenge the views of their peers in a respectful way. We heard some very thoughtful responses, and many children confidently adapted their ideas after listening to different viewpoints. Everybody enjoyed taking part, and the debate was a fantastic example of how speaking and listening skills are developing in Year 2.

"I think Black Rock was kind because it saved the creatures under the sea." Phoebe

I agree with Phoebe because Erin fell into the water and then Black Rock saved her." Amelia

At first I thought Black Rock was a monster but I changed my mind because Black Rock was really kind and friendly." Joel

"I changed my mind because the villagers found out that Black Rock was kind and they built a lighthouse to remind them it was kind." Samuel



During Children's Mental Health Week, children across school have taken part in a range of activities to help us understand how to look after our wellbeing. We started the week by coming as yourself in clothes that made you comfortable to be yourself. All children have taken part in assemblies and dancing sessions. Year 3 children had mindful moments each day and enjoyed joining in a live lesson online. In Year 4 the children spent time talking about emotions, learning that all feelings are important, and checking in with how they were feeling so that they could better understand themselves and support one another. They created a whole-class gratitude poster, with every child adding something they are thankful for each day, and kept a kindness chart where they recorded kind actions they noticed throughout the week. Children designed personal "happiness and calm" toolkits, thinking carefully about the things that help us relax and feel positive. One of the favourite activities was guided meditation and yoga especially whilst painting, using colours and shapes to express feelings.

Our very own mental health and wellbeing specialist, Jo Sykes, paid a special visit to Year 6 to deliver an incredible session on 'A sense of belonging'. They had the opportunity to explore the places where they feel safe and what helps them to feel a sense of belonging. The children then created their own unique entry to a class scrapbook centred around 'Our place'.

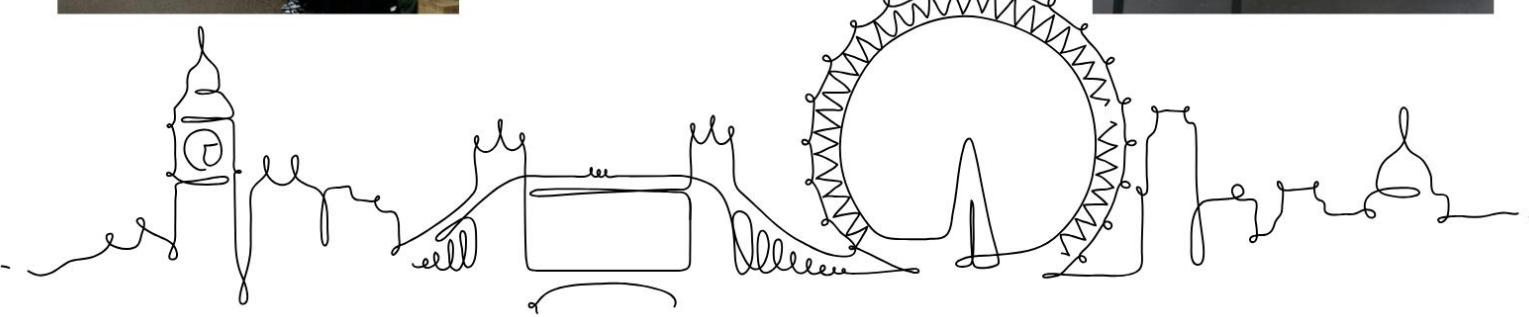
It has been a thoughtful and creative week, and we are proud of how everyone supported one another.



LONDON



Last Friday, Y6 headed down south to visit the Houses of Parliament. The children had the opportunity to explore the spectacular landmarks of London, have an extra special tour of the Houses of Parliament where we got the chance to watch a live debate in the House of Lords and then had a workshop and talk delivered by a Baroness! We had a fantastic day; the Y6's represented the school so well and did us all proud. Well done Year 6!



London



## Safer Internet Day 2026 at Aldwyn Primary School

On Tuesday 10th February 2026, Aldwyn Primary School proudly celebrated **Safer Internet Day 2026**. This year's theme focused on **Smart Tech, Safe Choices**, encouraging pupils to explore the safe and responsible use of artificial intelligence (AI).

AI is becoming part of everyday life, and many children are already hearing about it, experimenting with it, or using it online. That's why it's so important that young people develop the confidence and skills to make positive, safe choices when interacting with smart technologies.

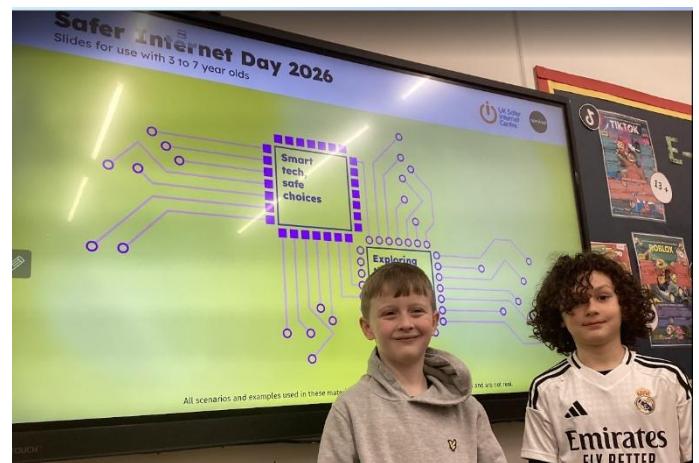
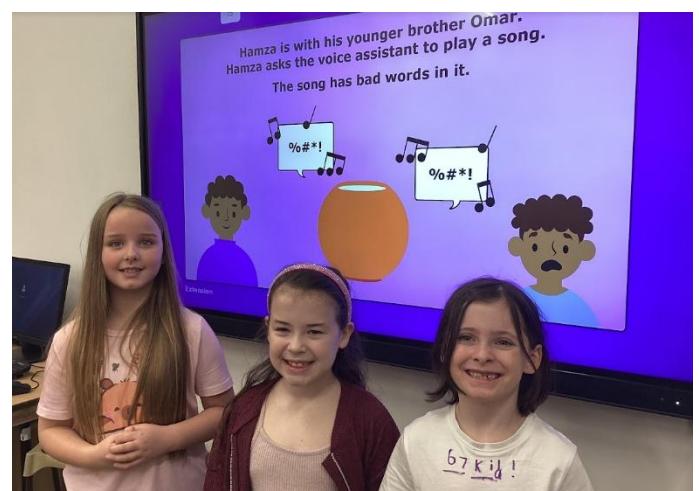
Throughout the day, classes explored how AI shapes the world around us, how it can be used for good, and what we can all do to stay safe while using it. We discussed real-life examples of AI, looked at the benefits it can bring, and shared practical advice on how to use AI tools responsibly.

### Year 1 and Year 3 Explore Voice Assistants

Year 1 and Year 3 took a closer look at voice assistants such as **Amazon's Alexa**. We discovered that Alexa's "smart" abilities come from advanced **generative AI**, which helps it understand questions, hold more natural conversations, and carry out tasks. Recent updates to Alexa, known as **Alexa+**, allow it to have more complex, human-like interactions because it's now powered by large language models — the same type of AI used in modern chatbots.

Pupils were fascinated to learn that when they ask Alexa a question, it isn't just following simple instructions — it is actually using AI to interpret what was said, understand the context, and decide on the best response. These AI systems also help Alexa connect to many apps and devices, making it seem even more helpful and intelligent.

Children discussed how exciting this technology is, but also why it's important to use voice assistants safely — thinking carefully about what information we share and how these devices fit into our homes and lives.



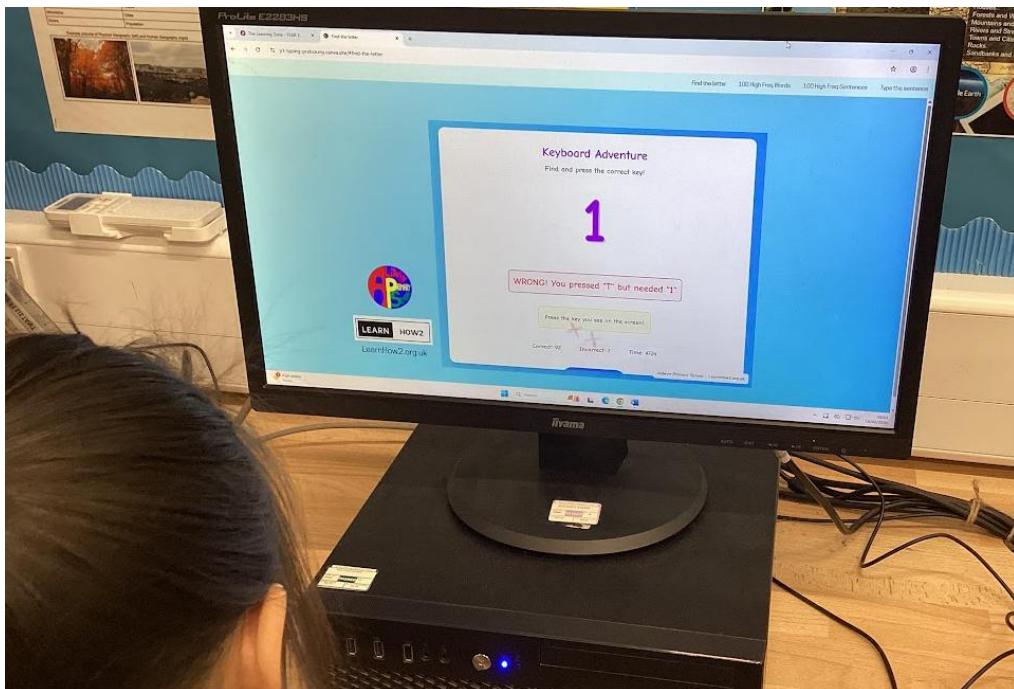
## Year 1 Begin Their Keyboard Journey!

It was wonderful to welcome **Year 1** into the IT Suite this week. Over the past few weeks, the children have been working hard to master their mouse skills — and their progress has been fantastic. Now that they've grown in confidence, it was time to take the next exciting step: **learning to use the keyboard**.

We began by asking the children to find random letters on the keyboard. To our delight, they took to this challenge brilliantly and showed great enthusiasm. Because they were so confident, we quickly moved them on to our very own **Aldwyn Primary keyboard-practice software**, which helped them continue building their skills in a fun and engaging way.

**Wow!** The children impressed us with how quickly they could find letters across the keyboard. The next stage in their learning journey will be typing simple words, and before long, they'll be writing full sentences on their own.

Year 1 should feel very proud of themselves — what a great start to their typing adventure!





Attendance for this week = 94.3%

Congratulations to class Nursery and 2S who achieved above the school target of 97% this week.

Well Done!



### The Birthday Message



We wish you many happy returns of the day.  
We hope you will be healthy and strong all the way  
Strong to do right, slow to do wrong,  
And thoughtful of others all day long.



This week and during half term we celebrate the birthdays of:

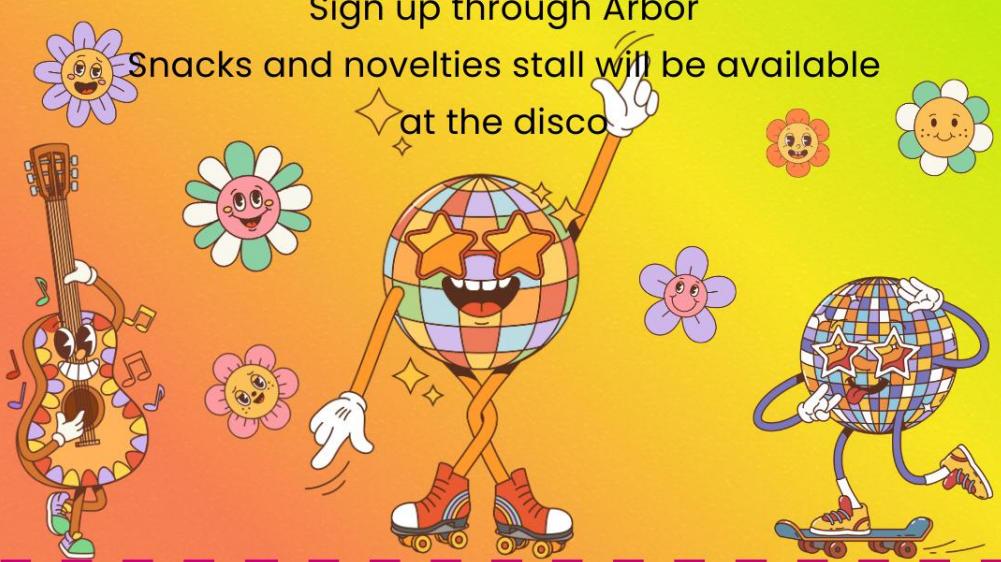
Evie	Luna	Noura	Aydin	Grayson
Emmie	Ella	Avery	Kenzi-Rae	James
Violet	Enar	Endri	Muhammad	Helios
Aria	Grayson	Renae	Rowie	Mrs Allen
Mr Bonsall	Mrs Corbett	Mrs Ahmed		

 **SPRING DISCO**

**Y5/6 Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February**  
**Y3/4 Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February**  
**Y1/2 Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February**  
**3.30pm - 4.30pm**

Sign up through Arbor

Snacks and novelties stall will be available at the disco





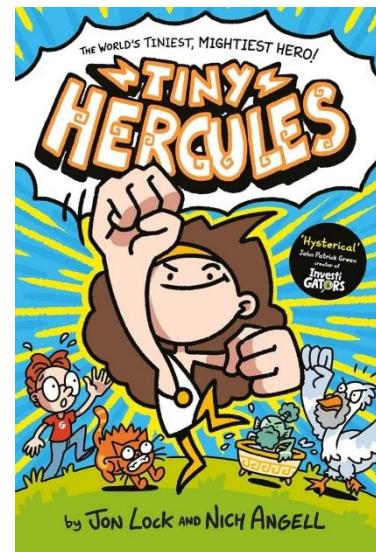
# Aldwyn Book Corner



National Year of  
Reading 2026

## Tiny Hercules

Jon Lock & Nich Angell



Get ready for legendary laughs with Tiny Hercules! Perfect for fans of Bunny vs Monkey and Dogman, Tiny Hercules is the hilarious debut full colour children's graphic novel from co-creators Jon Lock and Nich Angell.

He's brave! He's strong! He's the size of a jam jar! He's Tiny Hercules, the world's tiniest, mightiest hero – and he's winning his way back to Tiny Olympus, one legendary deed at a time!

Tiny Hercules has been banished to Earth as a punishment for ruining Tiny Zeus's bodacious party. To get home he must complete twelve legendary tasks but it isn't going to be easy – even for a demigod. Crash landing in the peaceful town of Chutney-on-Toast, Tiny Hercules soon spots his first task: defeating a lion!

Except it's not a lion . . . it's actually a cat! Soon, Tiny Hercules is racing across town after the cat and causing chaos as he goes. When the cat's owner, 10-year-old Jeff, and a suspiciously Zeus-like swan join the chase all hell breaks loose in this zany comic book adventure!

*Review taken from [www.Booksfortopics.com](http://www.Booksfortopics.com) a wonderful website showcasing a wealth of fabulous books for children.*



On Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February, Mrs Phillips will be creating a Pancake bar for dessert. If you would like your child to have a dinner on this day, please order it through the Arbor App by 7.30am Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February

**ALDWYN PRIMARY  
25<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**

# Pancake bar

Treat yourself to a pancake today and  
choose your own toppings

Sauce, fresh fruit, squirty cream, syrup,  
marshmallows



# St Mary's Church

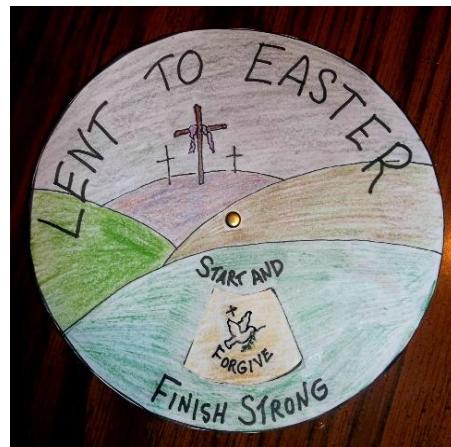
Church Street, Droylsden



**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February**

**From 11am – 12.30pm**

**Messy Lent**



**Come along and join in with free crafts,  
songs and light refreshments**

**All Primary School children welcome with  
their parents / carer**



# FEBRUARY HALF-TERM CRAFTS

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February**  
Dukinfield Library, 11am-12pm

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February**  
Ashton Library, 11am-12pm

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February**  
Hattersley Library, 2-3pm

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February**  
Droylsden Library, 2-3pm

information.direct@tameside.gov.uk  
0161 342 4000

# BEAVERS

□ 413<sup>th</sup> Beaver Scouts... Now recruiting!!!

WHAT?

Scouting gives young people a brilliant foundation for life... Beavers are young people, aged 6 to 8 years

WHY?

## Fun, Adventure and Teamwork

Learn new skills and independence!

Make lasting friendships!

Develop kindness, & responsibility by helping others!

Enjoy outdoor activities, games and challenges in a safe, supportive environment!

Explore curiosities about the world!

Build confidence and resilience!

Earn badges and wear them proudly!

WHEN?

Thursdays 17:45-19:00 (term times)

WHERE?

413<sup>th</sup> Scout Hut, The Moravian Settlement, Love Lane, Droylsden, M43 6ED

HOW?

Search 413<sup>th</sup> Scout Group on Facebook and request to join or email [sam\\_z\\_burgess@yahoo.com](mailto:sam_z_burgess@yahoo.com).

A member of our team will pick up your message!

