



# Altofts Junior School

## March 2026



Dear Parents and Carers

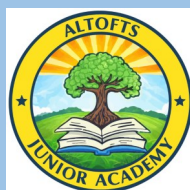
We have had an incredibly busy and enriching half term, with many exciting opportunities for the children. I had the privilege of taking some of our Junior Leaders to London, where they spent the morning in Parliament and the afternoon at the Royal Courts of Justice. During the visit, the children learned about the roles of the House of Commons and the House of Lords, before taking part in a mock court case in a real courtroom. The case involved a defendant who had sent threatening messages via social media, and the children fully immersed themselves in their roles, carefully planning their arguments and responses. Our two barristers, Myles and Emily, were particularly impressive. They can only be described as both relentless and highly skilled in the questions they posed to the witnesses and defendant. In fact, they were praised by the facilitator as being “two of the best barristers from a junior school” — a wonderful achievement and a real testament to their confidence and ability. All of the children made us incredibly proud and their behaviour was commented on by many members of the public in London and on the train.

Year 6 provided a fun-filled day for the children yesterday with their Easter activities, raising several hundred pounds. Thank you for your generosity and continued support and well done to Year 6 for organising and delivering such a fantastic event—a nice break for them in amongst their hard work preparing for their SATs. Year 3 impressed Mr Goodhand with their knowledge of the Stone Age period on their visit to Murton Park and Year 4 have enjoyed sessions on dental hygiene and are looking forward to their visit to Nell Bank. Year 5 enjoyed some art work delivered by the Hepworth Art Gallery and had a special treat today: sitting on the Year 6 benches in assembly! A very well received treat!

### **Waterton Trust update**

The conversion to Waterton Academy Trust will take place on 1st April 2026. When we return to school after the holidays, you will notice new signage around the exterior of the school, and we are excited to be known officially as Altofts Junior Academy.

Our new logo, shown below, has been designed by the children to reflect our identity and values as part of Waterton Academy Trust.



### **School Uniform**

The new logo has now been sent to Fairway Graphics and items will be available to order shortly. There is absolutely no expectation for families to purchase new sweatshirts or cardigans immediately. Please only replace uniform items as and when your child grows out of their current ones. Non-logo items remain perfectly acceptable as part of the school uniform.

We have recently noticed an increase in trainers being worn with school uniform, as well as branded items being used for PE. Our intention is to keep PE kit non-branded so that it remains affordable for all families. It also helps reinforce an important message to children about following rules and expectations.

We kindly ask for your support in ensuring that your child wears the correct uniform, including non-branded PE kit and appropriate footwear (no trainers) with their school uniform.

Thank you for your continued support.

### **WhatsApp**

On 11th March this year WhatsApp have changed the rules and have announced a new account type designed for children. You can find out how to set it up [here](#). One of the biggest issues we have with the older children is their comments in groups and with this new version of WhatsApp parents can see everything their child types. Please have a look at setting this up if your child uses WhatsApp. Again another safety feature to keep them safe online.

### **Rubbish on Greenfield Road**

We have had a complaint raised by a neighbour who lives on Greenfield Road. They have said that there is an increasing amount of rubbish been left along the street so they wanted school to make parents aware of this and ask for it to not happen.



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### Reminders

#### **School dinners and Breakfast Club**

All bookings must be made and paid for **in advance** via the MCAS app. Children will not be admitted to Breakfast Club by teaching staff, as they need to be checked in by Breakfast Club staff to confirm that they have been booked and paid for. Dinners will not be available to book in school.

Bookings will be available from 1st April via MCAS.

#### **School uniform**

General reminder as the new term starts of the biggest issues we have:

- Black polishable shoes and trainers should only be worn on PE day
- No leggings at any time
- No logos on PE uniform
- Shoulder length hair tied up

#### **Food Bank**

Reminder that we have a basket in reception for any donations of food for the local food bank.

Wishing everyone a wonderful Easter.

Have a lovely break

Mrs Vickers

Headteacher



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### Diary dates

#### Summer Term

Thu 16/04/2026 (All day) - Year 4 Nell Bank

Fri 17/04/2026 (All day) - Year 4 Nell Bank

Wed 22/04/2026 3:00 PM - 3:15 PM - Parents evening

Mon 11/05/2026 (All day) - SATs Week Year 6

Mon 01/06/2026 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM - Y3 Trip to Bagshaw

Tue 02/06/2026 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM - Y3 Trip to Bagshaw

Wed 03/06/2026 (All day) - Year 4 Roman Day

Wed 03/06/2026 1:15 PM - 2:45 PM - Class 8 Inspire

Thu 04/06/2026 (All day) - Year 4 Roman day

Thu 04/06/2026 1:15 PM - 2:45 PM - Class 9 Inspire

Fri 05/06/2026 (All day) - Year 4 Roman day

Mon 08/06/2026, 9:00 AM to Wed 10/06/2026, 3:00 PM - Y6 Bikeability

Tue 09/06/2026 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM - class 9 Barley Hall

Wed 10/06/2026 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM - Class 8 Barley Hall

Thu 11/06/2026 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM - Class 7 Barley Hall

Mon 15/06/2026, 3:00 PM to Thu 18/06/2026, 3:30 PM - Book fair

Mon 15/06/2026, 9:00 AM to Wed 17/06/2026, 3:00 PM - Y6 Bikeability

Wed 17/06/2026 (All day) - Y3/4 am - Y5/6 pm - Sports Day

Mon 22/06/2026, 9:00 AM to Wed 24/06/2026, 3:00 PM - Y6 Bikeability

Wed 24/06/2026, 7:00 AM to Fri 26/06/2026, 5:00 PM - London Residential

Mon 29/06/2026, 9:00 AM to Fri 03/07/2026, 3:00 PM - St Wilfrid's transition week

Wed 01/07/2026 (All day) - 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM - Summer Fair

Tue 14/07/2026 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM - Year 6 leavers show

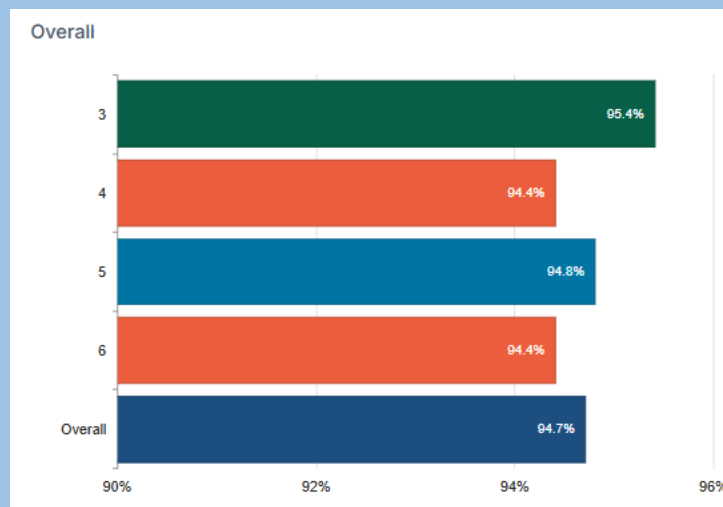
Wed 15/07/2026 9:15 AM - 10:15 AM - Year 6 leavers show

Thu 16/07/2026 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM - Whole School Leavers service at church



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Well done to Year 3 who have the highest attendance this academic year. Our target is 96% so attendance will remain a priority.