



19th December 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we reach the final day of school and the last newsletter of the calendar year, it feels a perfect moment to pause and reflect on what has been a busy and joyful term. Our Carol Service yesterday at St Botolph's Church was a particularly special highlight, bringing our school community together in song, reflection and celebration, and beautifully capturing the true spirit of Christmas.

Food support over the Christmas period

A reminder that an email was sent to all parents from the school office this week sharing information on ways to access free or low-cost food and also how to self-refer to our local food banks over the Christmas period. This information is also displayed on our school noticeboard should any of our families need this over the festive period.

PE Days – Term 3

Next term, PE Days will be Monday and Thursday for **all pupils**. We ask that pupils wear their **PE kit with their school jumper** on PE Days. Please see below for information regarding indoor and outdoor PE.

Wear Yellow for Mind Day – Wednesday 7th January

On Wednesday 7th January, Year 1 will be hosting a *Wear Yellow for Mind Day* to support the mental health charity **Mind**. Pupils are invited to come to school wearing something yellow (with their usual uniform) to help raise awareness of mental health and wellbeing. We look forward to coming together as a school community to support this important cause.

Clubs for Term 3

Our Term 3 club offer has been designed following Pupil Voice, giving the children the opportunity to suggest clubs they would like to see. While we couldn't accommodate every suggestion, we've worked hard to include a wide variety of activities to inspire, engage and challenge our children. Please see the recent email sent to book your child's space in clubs next term.

Packed Lunch Reminder – Chocolate Spread and Nutella

We would like to remind parents and carers that chocolate spread products, including Nutella, are not allowed in packed lunches due to allergy considerations within school. Many chocolate spreads contain traces of nuts and therefore we cannot have these on our premises. We have noticed an increase in these items recently. If a child does bring these items in, we will ask that they take them home rather than eat them at school. Thank you for your understanding and support in helping us maintain a safe, nut-free environment for everyone.



Limited Spaces in After-School Provision

Due to important staff training on the following dates, spaces in our after-school provision will be limited. Please only book your child on these days if you have no alternative childcare available:

- Wednesday 21 January 2026
- Wednesday 11 February 2026
- Wednesday 25 March 2026

Thank you for your understanding and support.

House Points

This term's house points have been counted and I am pleased to announce that this term, **Fire (RED HOUSE)** won with 2454 house points. They will have a non-uniform day on **Friday 9th January**. Well done **Fire** house.

Earth - 2394

Sun-2207

Water-2210

Fire - 2545

End of Term Attendance

Good attendance helps children grow in confidence, maintain routines, and make steady progress. This term, our highest attendance was achieved by **Rauf class** with **98.89%** – well done on a fantastic effort! Thank you to all our pupils and families for supporting regular attendance this term

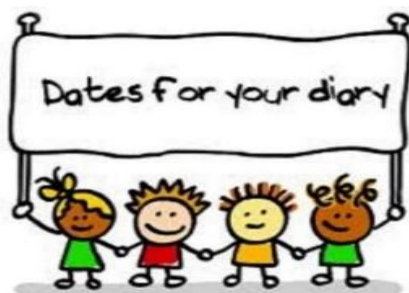


Term 3 Activities

The timetable for PE for Term 3 is shown below:

Indoor	Class
Monday	Dr Seuss, Donaldson, Dahl and Morpurgo
Thursday	Zephaniah and Rauf

Outdoor	Class
Monday	Zephaniah and Rauf
Thursday	Dr Seuss, Donaldson, Dahl and Morpurgo



Term 3	
Monday 5 th January	Return to school for all pupils. Start of Term 3
Wednesday 7 th January	Wear yellow for Mind Day (Year 1 Charity event)
Thursday 15 th January	Behaviour workshop for parent in the hall @1:15pm – more information will be sent in the new year.
Tuesday 20 th January	Science VR day
Wednesday 21 st January	Limited space in our provision after school. Please only book if no other alternative.
Friday 23 rd January	Young Voices @O2 - School choir
Friday 6 th February	Winter Lights event in Gravesend – Year 5 – more information to follow in the new year.
Wb Monday 9 th February	Children's Mental Health week
Wednesday 11 th February	Limited space in our provision after school. Please only book if no other alternative.
Thursday 12 th February	Year 5 trip to the Science Museum
Friday 13 th February	Last day of term 3. Finish at 3:15pm

As we now break for Christmas, I would like to thank our pupils, staff and families for their continued support and wish you all a peaceful, joyful and restful Christmas, with every blessing for the year ahead.

Mrs Martin
Headteacher



Aletheia
Academies Trust

Aletheia Academies Trust's

Recruitment Fair

Interested in a career in education?

Join us on:

Thursday 15th January 2026

17:30 - 19:00

Location: Alkerden C of E Academy, Portbridge Gardens, DA10 1GG

Find out more about Aletheia including:

- ▶ New job opportunities
- ▶ Exciting workshops
- ▶ Chances to network
- ▶ Volunteering & Governance opportunities



**Available to book
via Eventbrite**

Our Workshops

Get into Teaching:

Everything you need to know

Find out more about our School-Centred Initial Teacher Training Programme and take the first step towards a rewarding career in teaching, supported by experienced professionals and real classroom practice from day one

Next Steps for Alkerden

Job Roles & Permanent Move

Find out about Alkerden's upcoming move to its permanent site and the new possibilities it will unlock, including the planned opening of the Primary Phase in September 2026.

Interview Success

From Nervous to Noteworthy

Understand what Aletheia looks for in candidates, strengthen your interview skills, and feel prepared and confident, rather than nervous, for your next interview.

JUST ADDED!