

*YEAR 4 AND 5  
OPEN  
EVENING*





# Almond Hill – climb training

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At Almond Hill we know that life is a journey and climbing the hill with us is part of that journey. In order to climb the hill, we need lots of skills and knowledge in our backpack.



# Keep Climbing

## What?

- This year we are making a change to the 'Top of the Hill' badge system.
- Introducing a different colour badge for each year group.
- 4 to collect as you move through the school.
- Each year the Top of the Hill 'status' resets.
- Children must earn the Top of the Hill badge each year.  
No longer an 'automatic' system

## Why?

- Children change a great deal from Year 3 – Year 6
- It is a lot of pressure for children who receive badge in Y3 to maintain for 4 years.
- Expectations of the climb in each year group are different and get more challenging.
- It feels good to prove yourself with new teachers, classes and expectations
- Children have the potential to earn 4 badges instead of 1!





# *HOME LEARNING*

**Adapted Challenge**

**Age Expected Standard  
Challenge**

**Extra Challenge  
(Optional)**

Home learning is sent home on a **Thursday** and is due the following **Tuesday**.  
If it is not returned on the due date, staff will spend break or playtime with the children to support their learning.

Ideally the children will be able to:

- Complete the work independently
- If unable, they can ask their class teacher for extra support



# The Let Grow Project

Once a month, the optional extra homework will be a 'Let Grow' project task. This project has been seen to help develop children's independence, confidence and pride both in and outside of school.

The children only have to do one thing:

Do something new, by themselves, with permission.

Then, come and share what they have done with the class!



## AND WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

Freedom from fear, the joy of seeing your child thrive,  
and confidence and trust in your child's capabilities and decisions!

Interested in learning more? Visit us at [letgrow.org](https://letgrow.org).

# How it works

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Your child will come home once a month with a Let Grow homework sheet with activity ideas linked to that month’s theme. The project is run by an American organisation so some of the spellings/vocabulary may be different and our Junior School children would usually choose from the 'Elementary' column. Here are some examples from the September/October list with the theme 'Independence'. Remember these are just suggestions; your child's project can be anything – we will celebrate them all equally.

ELEMENTARY	MIDDLE SCHOOL
Head to the kitchen and make something for yourself (prepare your own breakfast, lunch, or snacks; plan a dinner and make it).	Build an outdoor fort.
Make breakfast for the family.	Build a treehouse.
Bake something delicious (including putting it in the oven). Bring some of that delicious thing to your neighbors.	Climb a tree.
Learn a new skill, like how to jump rope/skateboard/skate/rollerblade/ride a bike.	Dig a big hole.
	Find some insects (do not bring inside).
	Safely cross a busy street.

## 1. YOUR CHILD MAKES A PLAN.

Each month during this school year your child's teacher will assign a Let Grow activity as "homework" (homework your child will look forward to!). Your role is simply to help your child determine what that project will be. (Activity Idea Lists are provided monthly for inspiration.)

- LOOK over the Let Grow Activity Handout with your child.
- TALK about their ideas and share your own stories.
- DECIDE on an independent activity together.

## 2. ACTIVITY TIME!

When your child does their activities, resist any temptation to jump in to help or supervise. Allow appropriate independence so that your child has the opportunity to enjoy doing something by themselves and feel a sense of accomplishment. Letting go is an act of bravery!



**"YOU'VE GOT THIS."**

## 3. HOW DID IT GO?

Soon after your child has completed their activity, spend a few minutes with them to allow them to reflect on their experience. This opportunity for reflection is an important part of the process and can enhance their growth. It also allows you a window into just how independent your child can be.



## READING

Regular reading rehearsal is crucial for building reading fluency which is transferrable to every subject.

Over the last few years, we have spent £8,000 purchasing exciting, appropriate and varied reading books. There's something for everyone!

The following books will be sent home or offered:

- **Colour banded reading books** (even for free readers)
- **Books for fun** from the class library (these are offered but the children do not always wish to borrow them)

*Children need to ask their class teacher if they can change their book. The best time for this is usually first thing in the morning.*



# *SCHOOL UNIFORM*

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## *PE UNIFORM*

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## *THE AUTUMN LONG TERM PLAN Y4*

Science	Sound	Electricity
Computing	The Internet (Online Safety)	
Topic Block 1	History – Ancient Greeks	Geography – Trade
Topic Block 2	DT – Structures	Music – ‘Mamma Mia’ (Charanga)/Christmas based
MFL	Je me presente (Presenting myself)	
PE	Cricket Gymnastics	Dance Netball
PSHE	Friendship & Conflict	Respect & Democracy
RE	Christianity, Hinduism and Sikhism – Beliefs and Practices, Symbols and Actions	

### English

We are in the process of replanning our English curriculum but we will be studying a range of different units throughout the year including fantasy, adventure, poetry and diary writing and non fiction texts such as persuasion and biographies.

We will also be taking part in the writing competition again in January.



## *THE AUTUMN LONG TERM PLAN Y5*

English	The English Curriculum is u	
	Charlie and the Chocolate Factory	The Present
	Biographies	The Explorer
Maths	Maths is taught daily using a fast-paced curriculum wh plan can be found in the link below.	
Science	Forces	Space
Computing	Systems and searching	
Topic block 1	Geography – Rivers, Mountains and Biomes	DT – moving mechanisms
Topic block 2	Music – ‘Lean on Me’	DT – moving mechanisms
MFL	Weather	
PE	Handball Cross Country	Gymnastics Hockey Swimming – pop up pool
PSHCE	Resilience	Discrimination
RE	Beliefs and practices	Symbols and actions. Prayers, worship and reflection.
Enrichment	Science trip      Cinema trip      DT afternoon Anti-bullying week      Remembrance	

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## *THE SPRING LONG TERM PLAN Y4*

Science	States of Matter	
Computing	Programming & Games – Repetition and shapes (Online Safety)	
Topic Block 1	History – The Romans	DT – Sewing
Topic Block 2	Art – Still Life	
MFL	En Classe (In class)	
PE	Tag Rugby Fitness	Athletics Football
PSHE	Safety	Managing Risks
RE	Christianity, Hinduism and Sikhism – Identity and Belonging, Prayer, Worship and Reflection	



# *THE SPRING LONG TERM PLAN Y5*

English	Writing project (3 weeks) -	Macbeth
	Anglo Saxon Speech	
Maths	which includes (but is not limited to) maths fluency, probl	
Science	Materials	
Computing	Data Handling (micro: bit)	
Topic block 1	History – Anglo Saxons	History - Vikings
Topic block 2	Art – mixed media	
MFL	School	
PE	Dance Volleyball	Lacrosse Tennis
PSHCE	Safety	Community
RE	Justice and fairness	Sources of wisdom
Enrichment	Easter Journey afternoon   Love your Heart Science morning   Happy Chicks	



## *THE SUMMER LONG TERM PLAN Y4*

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Science	Animals Including Humans	Living Things and their Habitats
Computing	Programming & Games – Programme a game (Online Safety)	
Topic Block 1	Geography – South America/ Cities	Art – Collage Photo realism
Topic Block 2	Music – ‘Dancing in the Street’ (Charanga)	
MFL	Quelle est la date? (What is the date?)	
PE	Rounders Tennis	Orienteering Sports Hall Athletics
PSHE	Growing & Changing	Relationships & Emotions
RE	Christianity, Hinduism and Sikhism – Sources of Wisdom, Human Responsibility and Values, Justice and Fairness	



## THE SUMMER LONG TERM PLAN Y5

English	The Nowhere Emporium	The Highwayman
	Watertower	
em solving, fractions and time. The maths long term		
Maths		
Science	Living things and their habitats	Animals including Humans
	Programming B (selection in quizzes)	
Computing		
Topic block 1	Music – Fresh Prince	Geog – Volcanoes and Earthquakes
Topic block 2	Art – Sculpture	DT – food tech
	The Weekend	
MFL		
PE	Athletics Netball	Rounders OAA
PSHCE	Healthy choices	Money/ Enterprise
RE	Identity and belonging	Ultimate questions
Enrichment	<u>Bikeability</u> DT Afternoon at TAA	



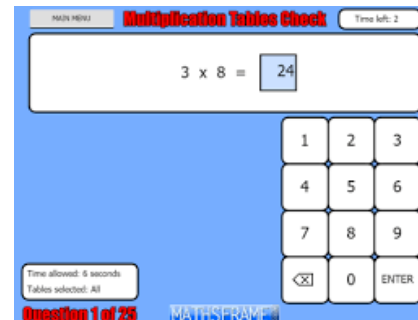
# *YEAR 4 TIMES TABLE CHECK*

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## **What is the Multiplication Tables Check?**

The Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) is a key stage 2 assessment to be taken by pupils at the end of year 4 (in June). The MTC's purpose is to ensure the times tables knowledge is at the expected level. This is a statutory test (like the Y1 phonics check and Y6 SATs)

The Multiplication Times Tables Check is an online test where the pupils are asked 25 questions on times tables 2 to 12. For every question, you have 6 seconds to answer, and in between the questions, there is a 3-second rest. Questions about the 6, 7, 8, 9, and 12 times table come up more often. The questions are generated randomly based on the rules of the MTC.





## *PARENTS' EVENING*

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In response to parent feedback, the school will continue with a hybrid of **online** and **face to face** meetings for the parent teacher interviews. This will be a similar model to last year. We hope that this helps parents and carers to attend with more ease.

The first ones for this academic year are being held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October and Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October.





# NAVIGATING THE WEBSITE



Almond Hill Junior School

+ QUICKLINKS



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Welcome to

## Almond Hill Junior School

Almond Hill is a community school situated close to Stevenage Old Town. It is situated in a very pleasant environment adjacent to The Barclay School and within walking distance of its main feeder infant school Letchmore Infants' and Nursery School.





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SCHOOL DOG

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GRAFHAM WATER

BREAKFAST & AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

SCHOOL MEALS

SCHOOL UNIFORM

ARCHIVED





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SCIENCE

RESOURCES TO SUPPORT  
LEARNING

CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER

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# *YEAR 4 TRIPS & VISITORS*

- We are hoping to provide a range of trips and visitors which may include:
- Cineworld
- RE visit – Hindu temple (Spring term)
- Shuttleworth House – Geography and Science trip (Summer term)
- Stevenage regeneration trip
- Various sporting events TBC





## *YEAR 5 TRIPS & VISITORS*

National Space Centre



DT afternoon at  
Thomas Alleyne's Academy

Cineworld



Chick hatching – linking to life cycle learning





**STEVENAGE**  
**BETTER**  
a place for everyone

# Year 4

Following on from the workshop run by the Regeneration team at Stevenage Borough Council, the children will be taking a trip to see projects that are completed in the town. They will be taken on tours to see how the town has developed and what they are doing to make Stevenage better. We feel this is really beneficial as they learn about their local area and how it has changed over time.





**STEVENAGE**  
**BETTER**  
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# Year 5

Following on from our trips to the new town in year 4, we will be taking part in another event linking to the regeneration of Stevenage this academic year. We have been working with the Stevenage Borough Council to show the children what regeneration is and how they are regenerating Stevenage to benefit them and will continue to do so whilst the projects are being built. We will be looking at completed projects as well as ones that are under construction and will be discussing how we can make Stevenage even better.





## ***SPORTING CLUBS AND EVENTS***

There are plenty of different sporting events that will be taking place across the year. Some of these events will be competitions where we put our best team forward, and some will be for fun and enjoyment.

Children will be asked to volunteer for different events, and all children will be given a chance to participate in at least one event or club if they would like to. We will also be conducting regular intra school competitions and lots of lunchtime activities..





Competence in  
swimming

# Children have access to swimming lessons in Years 4-6

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The national curriculum requires children to learn to swim 25 metres

If your child can already swim 25 metres then they do not need to access the lessons

We have a pop up pool on the playground for 4 weeks after half term – the month of November

To make accelerated progress children should access the lessons every day for the whole four weeks

They will be assessed at the start and the end of the four weeks and earlier if they achieve this competency sooner

# Organisation

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There are mobile changing rooms

Lessons in the mornings in Year 4 and afternoons for Year 5 – Year 6 can have catch up lessons

Children will need a swimming costume, towel, goggles and swimming hat

Lessons are £4.50 each and the maximum cost is £90

Qualified swimming teacher, lifeguard and school staff to support

# Inclusion

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No one will be excluded due to cost or availability of resources

We will try to find a way to remove barriers for any child

Swimming is a life skill and could even save their life!





## *HOW TO CONTACT US*

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[Year4@almondhill.herts.sch.uk](mailto:Year4@almondhill.herts.sch.uk)

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