



Alameda Middle School

Ambitious ■ Motivated ■ Confident to Soar

September 2026

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back!

After a long, hot summer, it was lovely to welcome the children back to school yesterday. I can genuinely say that there was a wonderful buzz around school, and it was a very positive start to the academic year.

The pupils returned looking smart and well presented in the correct school uniform, and we would like to thank parents and carers for your support in maintaining our high standards.

A particular well done to our new Year 5 pupils, who did incredibly well on their first day. Inevitably there will be some minor challenges as they adjust to a middle school, but please reassure them that we understand mistakes are part of settling in. If they lose a locker key, arrive late to a lesson or forget their reading book, they will not be in trouble. Everything is new for them, and it will take time for them to adjust and fully find their feet.

We are here to care for our pupils as well as educate them, and our primary aim is for them to be happy and enjoy coming to school.

Keeping in touch

If you need to bring something to our attention, your first point of contact should be your child's form tutor. The full staff list can be found on the school website. Staff can be contacted using the following format: first name initial, surname, followed by alamedamiddleschool.org.uk. For example: jross@alamedamiddleschool.org.uk

MCAS

If you haven't already done so, please take a moment to log in to your MCAS (MyChildAtSchool) account and download the app.

If you have not yet logged in, we will resend your login email at the end of the day on Friday. Please note that the link in this email will remain active for **24 hours**, so we encourage you to complete the setup as soon as possible.

MCAS will be our main way of staying connected with families, so it is important to make sure you can access your account and have notifications switched on. Through the app, you will receive school announcements, letters, reminders and other important updates, helping you to stay informed about what is happening at school.

We look forward to keeping you connected and up to date throughout the year!



Headteacher: Mrs J Ross

Station Road, Ampthill, MK45 2QR T: 01525 750900

E: office@alamedamiddleschool.org.uk www.alamedamiddleschool.org.uk

Homework

Homework will be set from next week. All homework set is recorded on MCAS. This is accessible on PC/tablet and mobile phones. Students, parents and staff have individual logins.

Teachers will outline the task and provide any necessary resources. Where possible, these resources will be attached to the homework task on MCAS. As we are all new to MCAS, please bear with us as we get to grips with setting homework. Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

How often and how much?

	Maths	English	Science	Humanities
Year 5	✓ Weekly	✓ Weekly		
Year 6	✓ Weekly	✓ Weekly		
Year 7	✓ Weekly	✓ Weekly	✓ Weekly	
Year 8	✓ Weekly	✓ Weekly	✓ Weekly	✓ Geography - half termly History - half termly

Please note: In addition to the homework outlined above, other subjects may set occasional homework designed to enhance pupils' learning both in and out of the classroom.

Year 5 Reading Competition

We hope you have enjoyed reading *The House at the Edge of Magic* this Summer. If you haven't already done so, now is the time to get creative and enter our exciting Year 5 competition!

Imagine your own magical house, inspired by the story. You could draw, paint, craft or write about your magical home – the choice is yours! 🎨🏠✨

Be as creative as you can!

How to enter:

- 📖 Bring your entry to Mrs M in the library during September, or
- ✉ email it to library@alamedamiddleschool.org.uk

We can't wait to see your magical creations! ✨🏠

Looking ahead

At the start of next week, we will share our extra-curricular timetable and each subject's Autumn Term curriculum plan.

This is a fantastic opportunity for you to encourage your child to take part in the wider life of the school and to see how you might help their learning at home. For example, you could help them to select topic books from the library, watch relevant documentaries together or even plan a museum trip!

Finally, one of the most valuable ways you can support your child's emotional and academic development is by encouraging them to read regularly. Research consistently highlights the benefits of reading for children and young people, including improved vocabulary, comprehension, cognitive development and wellbeing. Most importantly, it doesn't matter what they read, as long as they enjoy it!

Your support in making reading a regular part of their routine will prove invaluable to them, both now and in the years ahead.

Thank you for your continued support. We are really looking forward to working with you and your children over the coming year and to seeing them grow, learn and thrive.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JR' followed by a stylized flourish.

Jacqueline Ross
Headteacher