

**RE: High Performance Learning**

**5<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

Dear Parent(s)\*,

At Alder Tree Primary, we are a High Performance Learning (HPL) school, which is a nationally recognised reward. HPL is based on the belief that all children can achieve highly, and we want to help them grow both in how they behave (their Values, Attitudes and Attributes – VAA's) and how they think (their Advanced Cognitive Performance characteristics – ACP's).

As you are aware, we have turned these into friendly animals and characters to help children think, learn and behave to a high standard. Your child may have come home from school with a postcard with one of the VAA's or ACP's circled – they should have discussed why they have been given this with you.



**Postcards Home During Half Term**

This half term, we would like to involve you in celebrating these skills at home. Your child will bring home a special, blank HPL postcard. We would love every child to receive a written message from their parent or carer during the half term break. The idea is simple: choose one HPL VAA or ACP that your child has shown at home and write a short message praising them.

Please keep this really simple and positive. Here are some examples from everyday life:

- Helping with shopping:  
"You were a great Collaborative Camel today helping me choose the shopping."

Principal: **Kate Burton**

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 Alder Tree Primary



- Building Lego:  
"You showed brilliant Persevering Penguin skills when you kept trying with your Lego model."
- Reading together:  
"I loved how you were an Enquiring Eagle and asked great questions when we read your book."
- Trying new foods: Open minded octopus
- Order their drink when out or perform a poem- Confident crocodile
- Bake buns- Strategy planning to build a recipe

We have more ideas on the HPL section of our website. Also feel free to be a Creative Chameleon and do anything else you like.

Most importantly, we would love to see pictures of this or any creations. Therefore, please feel free to email them into the school office - [info@aldertreeprimary.org.uk](mailto:info@aldertreeprimary.org.uk) or bring anything in with the completed postcard when we return to school on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

Class teachers will be celebrating these achievements in the first week back. You might also want to use some of the encouraging phrases from our leaflet, such as: "I know it's hard, but you can keep trying," or "Well done – you never gave up!"

### **How You Can Support HPL at Home**

Small conversations and moments make a big difference. You can support your child by:

- Praising them for being hardworking, confident, enquiring, openminded or creative.
- Encouraging them not to give up: "You can't do it yet... keep trying!"
- Asking about their day and what they enjoyed or found hard.
- Talking with them about their feelings and showing interest in their ideas.
- Giving them small responsibilities and allowing them to learn from mistakes.
- Showing your own positive attitude to learning.

Thank you for working with us to help every child BELIEVE, BELONG and BECOME their best selves. We look forward to seeing your postcards after half term.

Yours sincerely

**Mrs K Burton**  
**Principal**

\* The term 'parent' includes any person or body with parental responsibility such as a foster parent, carer, guardian or local authority.

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