

# Asterdale News

Asterdale Primary School Newsletter



February 10<sup>th</sup> 2017  
Number 5

## Eco Schools and Big Bird Watch

Many congratulations to all the children across the school who participated in the recent 'Eco Schools and Big Bird Watch' event. These involved children from Y3-6 walking to Elvaston Castle and enjoying the wonderful surroundings watching birds, taking in the outdoor environment and enjoying a picnic lunch. Children in Y1-2 enjoyed their walk in the local area, making their way to Cambridge St Park and spotting birds in the locality. The event formed a sponsored activity to try and raise money for our eco project, replacing the external sheds and renovating the Woodland Walk. Pupils from Reception and Nursery used the outdoor school environment to spot birds and complete their sponsored event.

The two separate days were both fantastic and our children are to be congratulated for their exemplary behaviour and full involvement in the activity, bird watching and for being sponsored. We are awaiting final totals and will of course let everyone know the full amount raised, but early indications are in the region of £1500! Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way at all.

We are very grateful to the parents and volunteers who helped support the event, either by helping on the day with walking or at the venues. We teamed up with staff from the RSPB who had previously been into school to hold workshops to help the children with their 'bird spotting' knowledge.

We are very grateful to all the staff who supported the events and to the staff who had a key role in the organisation of the event.

Watch the outdoor space for the development of the outdoor area.



## Sainsbury's



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## Sainsbury's Active Kids

We are collecting the 'Active Kids' vouchers from Sainsbury's supermarket and petrol station. Please send in any vouchers for your children to post in the box in the main corridor. The vouchers will help us buy new resources and equipment for PE and sport across the school.

## School Council

Pupils in our school council have been very busy over the last few weeks. They have held council meetings with the catering team, conducting surveys across the school to find out about food choices the children like and to explore the option of 'theme days' at school lunchtime, reflecting food around the world or special events. A new menu is planned for Easter time, where we hope some of the children's suggestions will be incorporated into the plan.

School council have planned the 'pyjama day', held today on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February. Pupils were invited to wear their pyjamas for the day (including slippers if required!). Pupils kindly donated £1 to wear their PJs. A grand total of £212.65 was raised for the Macmillan cancer charity. Thank you to everyone for their support.



**MACMILLAN.**  
**CANCER SUPPORT**

## Attendance

Attendance and punctuality at school is monitored closely each week. We ask that parents/carers notify school by 9.30am each day if their child is likely to be absent and the reason for the absence. Voicemail messages can be left on the main office phone (01332 662323) or via the school email address ([admin@asterdale.derby.sch.uk](mailto:admin@asterdale.derby.sch.uk)).

To meet our safeguarding requirement, school will endeavour to contact parents by phone or text to request information regarding pupil absence. Thank you for your support with this.

## Fine Dining Friday!

We have recently launched 'Fine Dining Friday' here at Asterdale. Each week, the midday supervisor team will select a pupil who has shown exceptional kindness, thought, good manners and friendship throughout the week. The 'Fine Diner' can choose a friend to join them at the 'top table' in the dining room on every Friday. Tablecloths, artificial candles and crockery will all be laid out ready for the 'fine dining' experience. Thank you to the midday and catering team who organise this event each week.

## Dinner Money

Dinner money is charged at £11 per week or £2.20 per day and we appreciate payment either by cheque or cash every Monday morning please. Families who wish to pay until Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2017 are welcome to do so – the price will be £74.80, allowing for Inset day on March 17<sup>th</sup>.

A reminder to all families in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 that the Universal Infant Free School Meals programme is available for these pupils, offering a hot meal at lunchtime at no cost to parents/carers. Children are also able to bring sandwiches to eat at lunchtime. Any families in Y3-6 who think they may be eligible to claim for Free School Meals, please ask in the school office for more information.

May we ask that dinner money is paid in advance of the children taking a meal and that dinner money debt does not accumulate. Thank you.

## Inset Days

A reminder that school will be closed to pupils for staff training on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March and Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June.

## Y5 Mechanical Advantage

Our Y5 children recently attended a fabulous music event at the Derby Playhouse. They had been working with both Mrs Williams and Rachel Wilkes from the music partnership for several weeks and participated in a schools wide singing event. Our children were to be complimented on their exemplary behaviour and participation.

## Future Events

Spring Term 2 (Feb – Apr 2017)	
Mon 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2017	Return to school for pupils (8.55am)
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb 2017	Parent Consultation Evening 3.45-6.45pm
Thur 23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb 2017	Parent Consultation Evening 3.45-6.45pm
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> Mar 2016	PTFA School Disco (times TBC)
Thur 16 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Y6 Parliament visit
Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Inset Day (school closed to pupils)
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup> Apr	PTFA Easter hat/egg competition
Thur 6 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Y5 Easter Service (parent invite – more details to follow)
Fri 7 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Break up for Easter
Summer Term 1 (Apr – May 2017)	
Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> Apr 2017	Return to school for pupils (8.55am)
w/b Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	Y2 & Y6 Sats
Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	Break up for half-term
Summer Term 2 (June – July 2017)	
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	Return to school for pupils (8.55am)
w/b Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	KS1 (Y1 & Y2) Phonics Screening Test
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	Inset Day (school closed to pupils)
Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> July 2017	Break up for Summer

## Forest Schools

Our forest schools provision continues to go from strength to strength here at Asterdale, with groups of children enjoying their time out in the woodland and outdoor area.

If any families have any spare wellies or waterproof clothing that they no longer need, we would gratefully receive these items for our children to use.

## And finally...

As we prepare to break up for half term, may we take the opportunity to thank everyone for all the support they have given to the school over the term. It is much appreciated by all in school.

On behalf of the pupils, staff, governors and PTFA, may we wish everyone a very happy and safe holiday and we look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2017.

