

# Asterdale News

## Asterdale Primary School Newsletter



April 7<sup>th</sup> 2017  
Number 5

### World Book Day

A very successful World Book Day event was held at the beginning of March. A great variety of costumes were worn – many from the Roald Dahl story books and other book characters.

Activities and events took place throughout the day for the children, including an invitation for parents to read their favourite story in class.

Very grateful thanks to all families for their support and to Mrs Sheard for organising the event.

Following on from this, we have expanded the book provision available to the pupils for the school reading scheme, buying 300 new titles at a total cost of £1500. This means that our children have access to a greater range of books, including both fiction and non-fiction titles.

We are very grateful to Mrs Sheard and Mrs Holland who have worked to overhaul and catalogue all the book bands. Thank you also to Mrs Barley and the parent volunteers who recently joined with us at school for a 'book repair' afternoon.

### School Council

Pupils in our school council have been busy working on several projects with the individual class representatives. They have been meeting with Mr Fell to organise new benches and look to repair the old playground benches, in addition to sorting new fixed goal posts for the football field.

They are currently organising their stalls for the school summer fair and planning a new exciting competition involving wooden spoons!

More information to follow.

### Y5 Taster Day

Pupils in Year 5 have recently spent an enjoyable day at West Park, finding out about life at Secondary School.

### ICT Resources

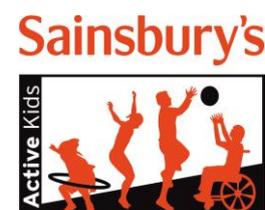
As a school, we have very recently purchased 15 new laptops and 6 new programmable robot toys called beebots.

This will enhance the ICT provision for the children and enable the new computing curriculum to be effectively delivered and improve computer access for the children.

### Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

A reminder to all families that we are still collecting the Active Kids vouchers from Sainsbury's supermarket and petrol station. Please bring any vouchers into school and post in the collection box in the main corridor in school.

We will be saving up to buy sports equipment and toys for the playground.



## Y6 Parliament Visit

Our Y6 pupils have recently enjoyed a whole day visit to the Houses of Parliament in London. The children also had an opportunity to meet with our local MP, Pauline Latham who will be hopefully making a follow up visit to see the pupils at Asterdale soon.

Our pupils are to be praised for their exemplary behaviour and very mature attitude throughout the whole of the day.

Grateful thanks to Mr Evans, Mrs Williams, Miss Brocklehurst and Mrs Pringle (Governor) for organising and supporting the visit to London.

## PTFA

Our PTFA continue to work to support the school – many thanks to all the volunteers who have supported the many recent events.

### Spring Disco

A very big thank you to the children who joined us for the Spring Disco, where a fabulous £231 was raised. A special thank you to our DJ - Gary Williams.

### Easter Egg/Hat Competition

This was held earlier during the week and a splendid turn out of decorated eggs and hats displayed by the children. Thank you again to the PTFA for the generous donation of prizes and judging the competition in school.

The next PTFA event planned is a late Spring disco on May 24<sup>th</sup> from 5-6pm for EYFS & KS1 and from 6.15-7.15pm for KS2 children. A tuck shop will be available.

The PTFA are busily organising the annual Summer Fair, planned for Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July at 3.45pm. Help will be gratefully received and a meeting will be held on Wed 26<sup>th</sup> April at 2.45pm in the Green Room to discuss plans. All are welcome.

## 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 from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April until Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2017 are welcome to do so – the price will be £52.80, allowing for Bank Holiday Monday on May 1<sup>st</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.

## Attendance

Attendance and punctuality at school is monitored closely each week. We ask that parents/carers notify school by 9.10am 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.

Overall school attendance is currently at 95.5%, which is below the Government target of 96%.

## Inset Day

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

## Money to School

A request to all families who are sending cash to school after the Easter break, such as in dinner money envelopes. From April 24<sup>th</sup> 2017, we will not be able to accept the 'old style' £5 note as these cease to become legal tender in May 2017 and we must prepare our cash collection in advance of this date.

We are also planning to no longer accept the old style £1 coin when we return to school in September.

Thank you for your support with this.

## Woodland Tree Planting and Eco projects

Pupils in KS2 have been involved in two large eco projects at school. We were fortunate to receive 200 saplings from the Woodland Trust and these have been planted in our own woodland and hedgerows around school. Thank you to Mrs Sumner for co-ordinating this work.

Additionally, Y4 pupils have been busy preparing the raised garden ready for summer planting and groups of pupils have been planning schemes for the growing season.



## National Science Week

Asterdale children have been taking part in a whole range of science themed activities in line with the National Science Week recently held. These included science investigations and explorations, quizzes, poster design and competitions with prizes of microscopes and bug catchers being awarded to pupils who were declared winners.

Well done to everyone who took part!



## Forest School

Our Forest School programme continues to go from strength to strength with groups of children having an opportunity each week to spend time in the woodland area, building dens, fire lighting, cooking, making shelters, team working and so on. We wondered if any families had any old wellies or waterproofs that they no longer require enabling us to keep a stock in school? Please bring to either the school office, Mrs Williams, or Mrs Stanley. In addition, if any one has any trees they have recently felled or are about to fell, we would be keen to chat with you as we always have a 'wood need'.

## Thank you

As huge thank you to all the children, staff and parents who have contributed to Mrs Forrest's and Mrs Sheard's fundraising campaign, in preparation for the 100km bike ride for cancer charities. Our non-uniform day raised a staggering £228 and we are both overwhelmed by your generosity. Thank you to all who have contributed via the 'just giving' pages.

## Spotty Day

Our children in the Reception class have excelled themselves during one of their theme days. They completely planned a whole 'spotty day' when they wore spotty clothes and independently planned a range of spotty activities. There was even spotty food to share! Congratulations to all the children.

## School Website

Our newly built website for Asterdale Primary School is nearing completion and is just about ready to launch. We hope it will be fully up and running after Easter and will be able to direct you to our web address.

## Clubs

A number of lunchtime and after school clubs are running at Asterdale which your child may be interested in.

Tuesday	Cookery	(Y4)	3.30-5pm
Tuesday	Master Cadets	(all pupils)	3.30-4.30pm
Wednesday	Soccer Stars	(all pupils)	3.30-4.30pm (£3 per week)
Thursday	Boccia	(KS1)	12.30-1pm
Thursday	Cricket	(KS2)	3.30-4.30pm

In addition, a craft club will be running for Y2 (details to follow Easter) and a gymnastics club for pupils in Y1-Y6 (Friday 3.30-4.30pm - £15 for 4 weeks, run by Premier Sports)

## Future Events

### Summer Term 1 (Apr – May 2017)

Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> Apr 2017	Return to school for pupils (8.55am)
Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> Apr 2017	School Photographer – whole class pictures
Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> Apr 2017	PTFA Meeting – 2.45pm Summer Fair planning
w/b Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	Y2 & Y6 Sats
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> May	PTFA Disco (EYFS & KS1 5-6pm, KS2 6.15-7.15pm)
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 5 <sup>th</sup> July 2017	Sports Day 2pm
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> July 2017	Nursery Trip – Gulliver's Kingdom
Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2017	Reports to parents/carers
Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2017	Open Afternoon 2.30pm – all parents/carers invited
Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> July 2017	Y6 Leavers Service 2pm followed by Y6 BBQ at 5pm
Tue 25 <sup>th</sup> July 2017	Y1 Trip to Magna
Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> July 2017	Break up for Summer

## And finally...

As we prepare to break up for Easter, may we wish you all a happy holiday and 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.