

Asterdale News

Asterdale Primary School Newsletter



July 26th 2017
Number 8

The Asterdale Hub

Asterdale Primary School will take occupancy of the previous 'children's centre' building, in September. This fabulous facility, located next to the infant playground, will be able to be used extensively by the pupils and staff from the school. We are looking forward to 'expanding' our premises and enhancing our provision for teaching and learning at school.

Asterdale Acorns

Our very own breakfast and after school club will begin on Thursday 7th September from 7.30am for breakfast and until 6pm for after school care. These will both be in the new 'Asterdale Hub' building. The before and after school care provision will be known as 'Asterdale Acorns'. There will be a daily charge for this facility and registration forms are available in the main school office or via the school website.

We look forward to starting our new venture in the Autumn.

Summer Festival

If you were able to join us at the recent Summer Music Festival, we hope you enjoyed the event as much as we did. It was a spectacular event that really did highlight many of the additional talents of our children in the musical sense. We were treated to fine singing and violin playing during the afternoon and evening. Coupled with great cakes and teas being served, a wonderful time was had by all.

Our children are to be congratulated, but special thanks must go to Mrs Williams and Mrs Creswell who planned and organised the whole event.

Fantastic News!

We are delighted that the new sun canopy/shelter has been installed in the infant playground recently. This offers our children a place of shade away from the sun, a place to sit and chat with friends and a meeting point for parents at the end of the day – especially when the weather is bad! It is already being put to good use!

Our thanks to the PTFA for their donation towards the cost of the installation. The 'official' opening took place by the infant children last week and the new name for the structure is 'The Barn'. We hope you will enjoy it!

Silk Mill Poppies

Our Y6 and Y5 pupils have had the opportunity to visit the Silk Mill to have a look at the wonderful display of ceramic poppies, part of the national tour to commemorate the centenary of the First World War.

Y6 have used the display as inspiration for their art project in school, recreating the silk mill building and the cascade of poppies. We hope you were able to view the Asterdale version during our recent open afternoon.

School Website

Please do remember to have a look at our school website which contains useful information, class pages and copies of newsletters or other forms that may be required. It can be found at www.asterdaleprimaryschool.co.uk

Attendance at Asterdale

Our thanks to all the children who have managed full attendance this last term and indeed the whole of the academic year. We recently held a special 'attendance' assembly where the 29 children logging 100% attendance this year were presented with 'attendance caps' and enjoyed a special afternoon of pizza making, cap designing and a disco.

Congratulations to those pupils and a big thank you to Mrs Barley, Mrs Caplan, Asda and the PTFA for their help and support!

Sports Day

Thank you to everyone who could join us at the recent sports day at school. A fabulous afternoon was enjoyed by all and we had superb weather too! Congratulations to all the participants and our thanks to all the staff for their support and especially to Mrs McCormick for her slick organisation!

Inset Days 2017-18

To help with your planning for the next academic year, we would like to remind you of our Inset Days for 2017-18.

Wed 6th September 2017

Mon 2nd October 2017

Mon 27th November 2017

Wed 3rd January 2018

Fri 22nd June 2018

Summer Visits

A huge thank you to all staff and volunteers who have supported by planning and taking the children on a range of exciting visits this term. These include a trip to Gulliver's Kingdom, White Post Farm, Magna, Conkers and the Black Country Museum. We have received such praise about how our children represent the school. Thank you!

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 Thursday 7th September to Friday 20th October 2017 are welcome to do so – the price will be £68.20, allowing for Inset Day on Oct 2nd.

A reminder to all families in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 that the Universal Infant Free School Meals programme is available for pupils in these year groups, 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.

Nursery Places

We have Nursery places available for September for any children who are 3 or 4 years old. Some families may be eligible for up to a 30-hour funded nursery place, including accessing the before and/or after-school provision at Asterdale Acorns.

Please contact either Mrs Stanley in Nursery, or the school office for more information.

Staffing updates

A big welcome to Miss Howard who has been appointed as a Teaching Assistant colleague, to support pupils in school.

An additional welcome to Ms Earp and Miss Sawford who have joined our team of midday supervisors from September.

Money to School

A request to all families who are sending cash to school after the summer break, such as for the payment of dinner money or trips. We will not be able to accept the 'old style' £1 coin as these will cease to become legal tender in October 2017 and we must prepare our cash collection in advance of this date. Thank you for your support with this.

School Uniform

As we begin preparations for the new school term in September, may we take this opportunity to remind all families of our school uniform, which consists of:

- grey or black trousers, skirt, pinafore or tailored shorts
- a white or yellow blouse/shirt/polo shirt with a collar
- bottle green cardigan, sweatshirt or jumper (with or without school logo)
- yellow or green striped/checked dress
- black or brown sensible shoes or smart black trainers (no logo)

Our school PE kit consists of:

- black plimsolls
- black or navy shorts
- plain white t-shirt (no collar)
- suitable storage bag to leave in school

Please could all uniform be named. Items with the school logo can be purchased from Morley's in Chaddesden who supply our school uniform.

We are very proud of our smart appearance in school and thank you for your support in maintaining this.

PTFA

Our very grateful thanks to all members of the PTFA, staff, parents, friends and community members who helped facilitate the annual PTFA summer fair. It was a great afternoon with a range of stalls, activities and events, including our fabulous summer raffle. The event raised an incredible £600 and still counting! Many thanks to all the parents, family and community members who came along to support the afternoon.

The PTFA have been very active throughout the year, promoting and supporting a range of events, including discos, school trips, Y6 leavers BBQ, the presentation of trophies and achievements and of course the Christmas and Summer Fairs. An incredible amount of money has been raised during the year which has been donated back into school to support a range of enrichment activities for your children. These have included contributions to bus transport for trips, the sun canopy in the infant playground, trophies and awards, funding enrichment activities such as dance, science week etc.

The PTFA will continue to meet next year and we are always on the lookout for new members. There is a planned PTFA meeting early in the new term for all parents, carers and friends to join us. We hope at this meeting to explore ideas for PTFA events throughout the year and consider fundraising suggestions. Dates to follow in the new term.

Future Events

Autumn Term 1 (Sep-Oct 2017)	
Wed 6 th Sept 2017	Inset day (school closed to pupils)
Thur 7 th Sept 2017	Return to school for pupils (8.55am)
Mon 2 nd Oct 2017	Inset day (school closed to pupils)
Fri 20 th Oct 2017	Break up for half-term
Autumn Term 2 (Oct-Nov 2017)	
Mon 30 th October 2017	Return to school for pupils (8.55am)
Mon 27 th Nov 2017	Inset Day (school closed to pupils)
Tues 19 th Dec 2017	Break up for Christmas

Term Dates 2017-18

The school will be following term dates as published by Derby City Council for the academic year 2017-18. These are available on both the DCC and Asterdale websites, with the addition of 5 planned inset days as detailed earlier in the newsletter. In summary, the term dates are:

Term 1	Sept 7 th – Oct 20 th 2017
Term 2	Oct 30 th – Dec 19 th 2017
Term 3	Jan 4 th – Feb 16 th 2018
Term 4	Feb 26 th – Mar 23 rd 2018
Term 5	Apr 9 th – May 25 th 2018
Term 6	June 4 th – July 25 th 2018

And Finally . . .

It goes without saying that our summer newsletter is always written with such happy memories. We are saying goodbye to our current Year 6 who are all moving on to new schools and many new experiences at West Park, Littleover Community School and Friesland School. We shall certainly miss every one of them and we hope they remember their time at Asterdale with happy thoughts. We wish Chloe, Conner, Matteo, Skye, Max, Connor, Maisie, Lauren, Olivia, Daniel, Owen, Andrew, Luke, Jamie, David, Katie, Emma, Brooke, Kian, Reece, Jack, George, Michael, Ryan, Leah, Shafiera, Brandon and Freya all the very best. It has been lovely sharing this time with you and we know you have all got your own special memories of Asterdale! With our good wishes and 'good luck!'

On behalf of all the staff, pupils and governors, we would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday and look forward to seeing the children on Thursday September 7th from 8.45am, with the bell ringing at 8.55am. Happy holidays to all!