

Asterdale News

Asterdale Primary School Newsletter



February 16th 2018
Number 4

Non-Uniform Day

Our School Council have been busy thinking about their fundraising target for the year ahead. They are still dedicated to raising funds for the Trim Trail we hope to buy later in the year and have suggested a dedicated fundraising campaign for a defibrillator that we can locate outside the school gates, on Borrowwash Road. Recently, staff at school received First Aid Training, including the use of a defibrillator. It became apparent to us all that there was no AED unit located this side of the A52, hence the proposal of a fundraising campaign to try and raise the £800 we need to buy a defibrillation unit.

We are absolutely overwhelmed by the generosity of our school and parent/carer community as a staggering £365 has been raised from your very kind and generous donations – thank you! I know the School Council are busy writing to local businesses in the locality to ask if they would like to contribute to our defib fund. Once again, a very big thank you to everyone!



Staying safe online

This week, the pupils in school have been learning how to keep safe when online. There have been special assemblies and all the children have been involved in activities in their own classes that raise awareness of keeping safe on line, when using the internet.

All children will be receiving an information leaflet to share with their families about how to stay safe on line.



Staffing

We have said 'goodbye' to Miss Robinson, our catering supervisor this term. Miss Robinson has been part of the Asterdale team for several years and we wish her well as she embarks on new travelling adventures. We welcome Mrs Thomas as our new catering manager, commencing her post on Feb 26th 2018. Mrs Thomas has lots of exciting ideas for our lunchtime provision and is keen to work with the children in school to plan menus for the term ahead.

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 and should be paid in advance. Payment for the whole term (until March 23rd 2018) can also be made at a cost of £44.00. Cheques should be payable to Derby City Council.

A reminder to all families in Reception, Y1 & Y2 that the Universal Infant Free School Meals programme is available, offering a hot meal at lunchtime at no cost to parents/carers. Any families in YR-6 who think they may be eligible to claim for Free School Meals, please ask in the school office or see the school website for more information. Children may also bring sandwiches to eat at lunchtime. We request that 2 weeks' notice is given to the office to make any changes to the usual lunchtime pattern.

May we respectfully remind all families that we will not let dinner money debt accumulate. We thank those families who make payment in advance of the school meal being taken. Families are provided with a note each week informing them of any outstanding debt and we value a prompt response in settling the debt. We will advise families if debt accumulates beyond two weeks and suggest that sandwiches are brought to school until the debt is cleared. Thank you for your help and support with dinner money payment.

Attendance – every day counts

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).

Could we remind all carers and parents that school is not able to authorise term time holidays, unless in exceptional circumstances. Any families who feel their request for a term time holiday meets exceptional circumstances, are politely requested to complete a 'Leave of Absence' form available from the office or the school website at least 2 weeks before the anticipated holiday.

Our current attendance data is checked and monitored each week by week. The Government target is 96% with Asterdale Primary School tracking at 94.7%.

Thank you for continuing to promote positive attendance.

Vacancies

We currently have two vacancies in school that are advertised on the Derby City Council recruitment pages. One is to join the midday supervisor team – working 5 days each week from 11.55-1.20pm during term time only and the second vacancy is as a catering assistant working in the school kitchen, from 10.30-1.30pm each day for 5 days each week. Again, this is a term time contract. Please enquire in the school office if you need further information.

We are always keen to add names of people who would be interested in being added to our 'relief' list for midday and catering support. Please see colleagues in the school office for more details.

Parent's Evenings

School will be holding the second of our consultation evenings on Wed 21st and Thursday 22nd March. More information will be sent out upon our return to school.

Governors

Our dedicated group of Governors continue to work to support the work of the school at the strategic level. We would like to thank Rev Eleanor Berry and Claire Pointon who are retiring from their Governor positions this month, for all their years of service and wish them well. This now means we have two vacancies within the Asterdale Board of Governors and our clerk Mrs Deepa Jamal will be sending out letters after half-term.

World Book Day 2018

Pupils at Asterdale are incited to dress as a character from their favourite book on World Book Day (Thursday 1st March 2018). There will be a number of activities and events taking place in each of the classes throughout school.

We also invite parents to join us from 3pm on World Book Day, where they are invited to bring their favourite story suitable for reading to their child's class or a small group of children. Please could you let your child's class teacher know if you are able to join us at 3pm before February 28th 2018. All parents and carers are welcome.

Future Events

We can offer a summary of planned events for the year ahead – further information regarding other activities will be sent out nearer to the time.

Spring Term 3&4 (Jan – Apr 2018)	
Mon 26 th Feb 2018	Return to school
Wed 21 st Mar 2018	Parent Consultation Evening 3.45-5.30pm
Thur 22 nd Mar 2018	Parent Consultation Evening 3.45-6.15pm
Fri 23 rd Mar 2018	Break up
Summer Term 5&6 (Apr-July 2018)	
Mon 9 th Apr 2018	Return to school
Mon 16 th April 2018	School Photographer – Class Photos
w/b Mon 14 th May 2018	Sats Week – Y2 & Y6
Fri 25 th May 2018	Break up
w/b Mon 11th Jun 2018	KS1 (Y1 & Y2) Phonics Screening Test
Fri 22 nd June 2018	Inset Day for staff – no pupils in school
Wed 4 th July 2018	Sports Day
Thur 5 th July 2018	Reserve Sports Day
Wed 18 th July	Reports to Parents
Fri 20 th July 2018	Open Afternoon 2.30pm
Mon 24 th July 2018	Y6 Leavers' Service 2pm
	Y6 BBQ 5pm
	PTFA School Summer Disco 6.15pm (all year groups)
Wed 25 th July 2018	Break up

And finally...

Thank you to all our children and families for their support over the last term. On behalf of the staff and governors, we hope you have a relaxing holiday break.

