

ASTON ALL SAINTS CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWS LETTER
SPRING TERM 2019



HAPPY NEW YEAR

A HAPPY NEW YEAR to all our school families!

Dear Parents,

I hope you have all enjoyed the Christmas holidays; the children were full of lovely stories of their Christmas holidays when they returned to school at the beginning of the term.

Thank you to everyone who attended all our Christmas events in school during December; I hope you enjoyed them as much as we did!

Thank you also to everyone who very generously donated gifts for our hamper raffle and of course bought hamper raffle tickets. Along with the sale of concert tickets, the Christmas Fair and the hamper raffle, £1560.00 in total, was raised for school funds. Thank you too to the members of our Friends of Aston group who helped to organise the Christmas afternoon, the Christmas cards fund raiser and the shopping bags [these are still available to buy!]

As always a huge thank you to our teaching assistants who help organise the Christmas concert costumes and props and the hamper raffle too.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Thank you to all our school families who support our school uniform policy. Below is polite reminder of our uniform policy; the full policy is available on the school website or can be obtained from the school office. This is as follows:

- **Burgundy** sweatshirt

- **Burgundy** fleece
- **Burgundy** cardigans
- **White or yellow** polo shirts
- **Black or grey** – trousers or skirts – or shorts in the summer [please do not send children to school in jogging bottoms]
- **Yellow, green or burgundy checked** dresses for the girls in the summer [not blue or purple]

The order forms for school uniform are on the parent notice board in the Foundation classroom and in Infant Centre Bay and on the school website. If any parents need support with the purchase of school uniform, please get in touch with the school office.

Reminder!!! PLEASE ensure that all school uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name! We still have lots of uniform where we are unable to trace the owner because there is no name. School book bags and back packs are available from the school office and usually do not need to be ordered.

PE shorts and tee shirts are available from the school office; please make sure that your child has PE kit in school every week so that they can take part in all PE lessons. Please also make sure that they have suitable footwear for outdoor PE lessons.

ATTENDANCE

Each week we display weekly attendance figures in classrooms so that parents and children are aware of attendance figures for each class. Well done to those classes who gained 100% attendance for a full week in the autumn term.



If parents need to request leave of absence they need to complete a leave request form. These are available from the main notice boards in Infant Centre Bay and Foundation classroom and on the school website. Thank you to all those parents who have made a determined effort to take holidays during the school holidays.

Here is a reminder of the **criteria** agreed by governors.

Head Teachers are now no longer able to grant any absence in term time except under “exceptional circumstances”. This is unlikely, however, to be granted for the purpose of a family holiday.

Governors at Aston C of E Primary School have also agreed that where a request for leave of absence is deemed to be in exceptional circumstances, permission will not be granted:

- If the child has an attendance level that falls below 96% for the previous three terms should the leave go ahead.*
- If the student is due to take any examinations or SATs during this period. [SATs 2019 will be week commencing 13th May]*

Requests for leave of absence must also be made to the school in advance. DfE regulations do not allow any absences to be authorised after they have been taken. Leave of request forms are available from the school office or the school website.

DfE have also stated that parents can be fined by the local authority for taking their child on holiday during term time without consent from the school. Further information about this can be found at www.dfe.gov.uk

Also to help with the planning of holidays, the dates of holidays for the coming year as well as the INSET days are published on the school website in the annual calendar and timetable. If parents do not have access to a computer or printer, please contact the school office and we will happily provide a hard copy.

If your child cannot attend school because they are ill, please contact the school office as early as possible. There is usually someone in the school office from 7.30am each day to take messages. Alternatively, parents could email the message to the school email; emails are checked regularly. astoncofeprimary@rotherham.school

Here are the attendance figures for the autumn term, along with Local Authority figures where they are available

| | school | school | LA | LA |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| | authorised | unauthorised | authorised | unauthorised |
| September | 1.8% | 0.2% | 2.1% | 2.1% |
| October | 3.9% | 0.9% | 2.5% | 1.6% |

INSET DAYS

The remaining INSET days of the school year will be taken on –

- Friday 24th May
- Friday 5th July
- Monday 22nd July

A reminder that our school calendar with dates for the whole school year is on the school website.

CLASS ASSEMBLIES

We would like to invite parents to their child`s class assembly in the spring or summer term. Details of the dates will follow shortly.

A big thank you to all those parents and grand parents who are helping in school on a regular basis, your help and support is greatly appreciated! If there is anyone else who would like to come into school and help please either get in touch with your child`s class teacher or call in and have a word with me – you will be most welcome! It will be necessary for all volunteers to complete a DBS check and details will be provided to all parents and grandparents wishing to volunteer in school.

Mrs Meek, our crossing lady, has asked me to pass on her thanks to children and parents for the cards and gifts she received at Christmas. She was really touched by your thoughtfulness and kindness.

Contact details

Please could we remind parents to update contact details with the school office when phone numbers/email addresses/ postal addresses change? Occasionally we need to contact parents during the school day, for example of their child is ill, so it is **vital** that we have up to date contact details. *Thank you.*

SATs Week 2019

SATs week 2019 will take place week beginning 13th May and the tests will run from Monday to Thursday. These national tests are for Y6 children. The Y2 children will undertake the Y2 SATs and schools can administer these throughout May. This year as Easter is so late and the May Bank holiday is at the end of the first week after Easter, there will only be nine school days between Easter and the beginning of KS2 SATs.

Curriculum Week

For the spring and the summer term, we are making some changes to our termly curriculum weeks. Instead of these, all classes will hold an “experience day” to which school families will be invited. These will take place in either the spring or summer term and parents will be informed of these dates as and when these days are to take place.

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

Here are the dates for the spring term 2019. This newsletter will only be posted on the school website but where parents have requested a hard copy this will be sent home with their child.

Dance lessons

This term we are very excited that dance teacher, Louise Wells, will be working again with all classes in school; she will be teaching a wide variety of dance, based on the current work being followed by each class. As parents are aware all schools receive funding for PE; Sport Premium, to develop different aspects of PE in school. For the spring term we are using our sport premium money to develop dance.

Wednesday 6th February, Wednesday 13th February and Thursday 14th February there will be an orchestra practice – please could all members of the school orchestra remember to bring their instruments to school on these dates? I am sure that Mrs Thompson Smith will remind the children nearer the time! Thank you

Thursday 24th January – MESSY CHURCH

Reverend Dagmar will be holding a Messy Church session in school starting at 3.30pm. The children will be provided with refreshments and a range of activities to take part in. For these sessions, all children must be accompanied by an adult.

Thursday 31st January

Parents of the children in Y5 will be invited to a meeting about the forthcoming residential visit to Whitby. The meeting will take place in the Y5 classroom and will begin at 6pm.

Friday 25th January

All the children in school will be attending a performance of Snow White in the school hall. This will be performed by a professional theatre group and the cost will be funded totally by school. I am sure the children will all enjoy this theatre performance – this is a company we have used for several years and their performances are always great fun.

Friday 15th February– there will be a family service and this will be led by the children in Y4. Everyone is welcome to join us for this special service.

SCHOOL WILL CLOSE FOR HALF TERM FOR ALL CHILDREN AT 3.15PM ON FRIDAY 15th FEBRUARY AND WILL RE OPEN ON MONDAY 25th FEBRUARY AT 9AM.

WHITBY WEEK – Monday 11th March to Friday 15th March

The children in Y5 will be spending the week in Whitby at the Seacliffe Hotel and I am sure they will have the most amazing week!

MUSIC WEEK - week beginning 25th March

Parents of children who play a musical instrument will be invited to join their child's music lesson. Letters will follow nearer the time with all the details of Music Week.

Tuesday 26th February, Wednesday 27th February and Thursday 28th February- Open Evenings for all classes. Letters will follow nearer the time and as with the autumn term open evenings we will be holding some appointments during the school day.

Wednesday 3rd April, Wednesday 10th April and Thursday 11th April there will be an orchestra practice – *please* don't forget those instruments!

Friday 12th April – the **EUCHARIST** will be led by the children in the confirmation group and they will be able to make their first school communion at this Eucharist. All our families are very welcome to join us for this service which will be held in *All Saints Church*.

SCHOOL WILL CLOSE FOR ALL CHILDREN ON FRIDAY 12TH APRIL AT 3.15PM AND WILL RE OPEN ON MONDAY 29TH APRIL.

Thank you for reading this newsletter and we look forward to seeing you at the various events and meetings during the spring term.

Yours sincerely

S. Mellon

Head Teacher