



'The Aspin Owler' – Festive Edition 3!

Friday 21st December 2018

Autumn Term 2018-2019

Issue 9



15 Weeks in...

It seems barely believable that well over a third of the time your children will spend in school this year has gone. A fifteen week term is not unheard of but very long for all concerned and in particular the children, who are starting to show those tell-tale signs of fatigue, with the main one being illness. This is to be expected at a time of year when children have so many other things occupying their minds.

To this end we have kept the children going for as long as possible (last week was 'test' week – very festive!) and the children have responded well and I am pleased with the progress right across school, although we never get complacent.

My thanks to all the wonderful staff that Aspin has in all areas, this past six months has been tricky at times, but the attitude shown in getting Y3 looking even more spick and span than it was previously, and our lack of staffroom for the past four weeks have not dampened our spirits and we look forward to a happy and healthy 2019, not only for ourselves but for all of you as well. We have a hugely supportive parental community and PTA, and a highly involved governing body who all pull in the right direction and long may it continue.

Fund Raising

This term has seen a hugely generous contribution made to a number of charitable causes that we have supported, some we do every year, and it is good to continue to support these.

This term the totals have been;

Children in Need - £405.84

Rotary Polio Appeal - £204.49

Poppy Appeal - £219.08

Save the Children - £566.76

This last total is as a result of our Christmas Jumper Day on the 12th, and from collections taken after our performances.

This makes a brilliant total of **£1396.17**. Thank you.

Parent's Meetings – 14th – 16th January 2019

As I mentioned above last week was our week for our summative assessments right across the Trust, and they go some way to helping us assess children's attainment and progress, although the other thirteen weeks leading up to those assessments gives us far more information. We have arranged Parent's Meetings, and you have already received the dates for these but here they are again;

Monday 14th January – Y1 & Y4 (During the day)

Tuesday 15th January – Y3 & Y5 (During the day) – All Year Groups (3.30 – 7.00)

Wednesday 16th January – FS, Y2 & Y6 (During the day)

You will be able to book these as in October, via the booking system over the holidays. If you are able to come during the day, that definitely eases the evening sessions.

Christmas Performances

Having seen our youngest children perform last week, this week it was the turn of Y4 and Y5 to take to the stage, and they did so with great success.

Y4 reprised 'Christmas is Forever' with real gusto, and a villain that would not have looked out of place on the big screen, especially with that laugh!

Y5 brought a very 'Sulky Santa' whose passion for Christmas had waned somewhat, and it took visits to Fairy Land and to see the Bogeymen to restore it!

Writing this, there is a feeling that you really had to be there – and for those that were present at any of the events they would not have been disappointed. The singing in particular in both performances was of a very high quality. Thank you to both of the Y4 and Y5 teams for getting these to the stage.

PTA & Christmas Fair

My thanks to everyone that helped organise, set up, put away or purely attended last week's Christmas Fair. It is always a lovely occasion and on a Friday night leads very nicely into the weekend. Well done to our Y6's for their Christmas craft stalls, Baker Ross has never been so popular!

I say it time and again but we rely heavily on our PTA, and the numbers of staff that supported the Fair last week shows how much we value them. This term alone they have raised the following;

Teddy Bears Picnic - £46.94

Quiz - £666.06

200 Club - £567.00

Fireworks - £1783.74

Xmas Fair - £2240.76

Cake Bakes (Y1& Y2) & uniform - £404.05

This makes a very grand total of **£5708.55**. We are hugely grateful for every penny.

Record Breakers

Our Science Curriculum Group have been busy planning for and ordering materials for our second whole school topic of the year 'Record Breakers' which you will have received information about earlier this week. This has a real focus on Investigative Science, and speaking to some Y6 children recently they love this area of Science. Not to mention a visit from 'Sublime Science' who are going to do some 'incredible' hands-on experiments! Should be fun!

50th Anniversary

As I mentioned earlier in the year, next July sees the school's 50th Anniversary, and we start planning in earnest for this from January, but if you could start to spread the word we would be grateful. Celebrations will start in the Summer Term, with the actual Anniversary on **Sunday 14th July** provisionally booked in as the Summer Fair day.

