

*Warriors of learning and challenge***ANDERTON PARK NEWSLETTER****Issue No. 20****0121 464 1581****6th February 2018****www.andertonparkschool.org.uk, Twitter: @AndertonPark****Belonging questionnaire**

We are aware that in a big school like ours sometimes families can feel isolated or alone. We want to build a greater sense of community and help families connect at Anderton Park. We would love to hear your ideas about how this could happen. On the back of the newsletter is a questionnaire to give you the chance to tell us what would help you. We would love it if ALL parents could complete the questionnaire and return it to the school office or your child's teacher. We are applying for some funding to help us run a project on this and your responses will help us in our application and make sure that what we plan, will help you. You can leave your name on the questionnaire if you are happy for us to contact you for any more of your ideas.

Dinner money

We have a lot of parents who build up dinner money debt and clear it off every few weeks before letting it build up again. Instead of doing this, please could parents ensure that they have put enough credit on their child's account to cover each week.

If you are experiencing difficulty in paying dinner money, please speak to your child's Class Teacher or a member of staff in the main school office as soon as possible. Your child could change to home dinners or have a packed lunch temporarily, giving you more time to clear the dinner money debt. Do come and speak to staff, we would like to help you before it becomes unmanageable.

ParentPay Update

We are so pleased that more parents are now paying for school meals and trips through ParentPay. Most weeks over 60% of parents pay for dinner money online or by PayPoint and we would love it if more parents paid for trips like this. Looking at the trips we have had so far this school year, these are the percentages of parents in each year group that have paid through ParentPay -

Reception	48%
Year 1	33%
Year 2	30%
Year 3	29%
Year 4	29%
Year 5	30%
Year 6	30%

As you can see, Reception parents are really leading the way in making online payments. Thank you Reception parents!

If you have any questions at all about ParentPay, school dinners or trip payments, please speak to Mrs Aris in the main office. Thank you all once again for being so positive about these new changes.

Spelling Bee

On Monday 11th & Tuesday 12th February we are having a Spelling Bee in school. Parents spend some time with children at the weekend learning your given spelling words.

Quotes from staff

We asked staff for their favourite quotes so each week we will give you one of them. This week we have...Mrs Majevadia whose favourite quote is "*Do not underestimate yourself by comparing yourself with others. It's our differences that make us unique and beautiful*".

Breakfast Club

We are so pleased that so many families are taking up the opportunity to help their children have a positive start to the day at Breakfast Club. We love having so many children there each day. Breakfast Club is currently full so if you would like to add your child to the waiting list, please speak to the school office and we will contact you when spaces become available.

Parents' Evening

Parent' Evening will be on **Wednesday 27th February**, 3.45pm onwards. Please speak to your child's class teacher on Monday 25th or Tuesday 26th February to arrange a time to see them on Wednesday afternoon.

Half Term

We break up for half term on Friday 15th February and are back to school on Monday 25th February. Look out for information about a 'Readathon' in next week's newsletter...

Anderton Park School app

The new and exciting APS app has been launched and is ready for you to download. To download, access your play store and search for 'School Jotter'. Download this and then search for Anderton Park Primary School in the school list. You will then receive notifications when there are important updates, including weekly newsletters.

Thankful Thursday

Gratitude helps to keep our minds healthy and so we have started 'Thankful Thursday.' This involves taking just a little time each Thursday to stop and think about the things you are thankful for. The aim is to help us make thankfulness a habit and cultivate a culture of gratitude. What will you think about tomorrow? Try the below exercise -

Sense Countdown:

1. Sit or stand straight and still. Close your eyes or look downward.
2. Take three deep breaths in and out.
3. Open your eyes and notice:
 - Five things you can see
 - Four things you can touch
 - Three things you can smell
 - One thing you can taste

**Celebration assemblies**

Assemblies for Y1 - 6 take place on Wednesdays at 1.45pm. Y5 & 6 - Large Hall, Y1 & 2 - Sports Hall, Y3 & 4 - Small Hall. Nursery and Reception's assembly will be at 1.30pm on **Friday 8th February**, in the Sports Hall.