

*Warriors of learning and challenge***ANDERTON PARK NEWSLETTER****Issue No. 23****0121 464 1581****6th March 2019****www.andertonparkschool.org.uk, Twitter: @AndertonPark****Debate Mate**

The results of the Urban Debate League (that took place a few weeks ago) are in...Anderton Park are 2nd best of the 10 West Midlands primary schools, and 27th nationally out of 104 schools. Great news! We're so proud of our debate team and all their efforts. A big thank you to Mr Batchelor for arranging the competition and being so enthusiastic about debating!

APPS Governing Body

We are very happy to announce two new co-opted governors, Mrs Rukhsana Hussain and Mr Malcolm McArevey. We are really looking forward to working with them.

Want to hire our Sports Hall?

We have a new lettings policy agreed by the governors which enables people to hire the Sports Hall from 3.30 - 6.00pm, on weekdays. It can only be used for sports or arts purposes. So if you know any aerobics, Zumba or karate teachers, who are looking for a space, please let them know about our Sports Hall. It may be possible to let the hall later in the evening. Please contact school if you are interested. The rates are as follows -

- £20 per hour
- £50 per session (am or pm)
- £100 all day

Mr Catlow - Children's Coach of the Year

You may have seen on twitter that Mr Catlow has been awarded Children's Coach of the Year for the region of West Midlands, by Basketball England. We are so proud of Mr Catlow and feel so privileged to have him at Anderton Park!

World Book Day

Tomorrow is World Book Day! What a great way to celebrate reading. We've had a lot of new books recently, for example Harriet Tubman, Mohammed Ali, Stephen Hawkins, Coco Chanel and lots more. Why not pick one of them to dress up as? You don't have to dress up, but World Book Day is celebrated globally and many children dress up as a character from a book. Check Twitter for photos of children's costumes.

Knife crime concerns

I'm sure we all share concerns about what we've heard in the news about the recent killings in Birmingham. If anyone works with youth teams or has any ideas about how we can help, please let me know and we can set up a parents' working party. I'm going to a briefing with Raymond Douglas soon to find out more.

Quotes from staff

We asked staff for their favourite quotes so each week we will give you one of them. This week we have...Mr Batchelor whose favourite quote is *"If you stand for nothing, what will you fall for?"* - Hamilton.

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 11.00am on **Friday 8th March**, in the Sports Hall.

Equality at Anderton Park

Please watch my recording on our website - <http://www.andertonparkschool.org/important-information/information-for-parents>.

I have met with over 25 parents and answered all the questions and worries they had. I am meeting a few more this week. There will be no large meeting about this. Police had to be called last week at a ward meeting in a church where a fight broke out whilst discussing this. We are not the Jeremy Kyle Show. We are a primary school. We will not be having large meetings like this. Dr Bashir and Mr Mahmood are two of our governors and they are arranging to meet with two parents to listen to their fears. Thank you to all the parents who have phoned in and spoken to me and other school staff offering their support towards APS & all the work we do with equality. It is so valuable to hear from you.

Games Café

We had so many families take part in the Games Café this week! Thank you to everyone who attended, we hope you found it a great opportunity to meet each other and have some fun. We look forward to seeing you there again next week! The next Games Café will be on Tuesday 12th March 2019 3.30pm - 4.15pm. Collect your children from their classes and join us in the Small Hall. All children must be accompanied by an adult who is responsible for them.

Book Fair

The book fair arrives on Friday 8th March and will be with us until Thursday 14th March. It will be open from 3.30 - 4.00pm in the Small Hall.

Growth Mindset Quote of the Week

"Great works are performed, not by strength, but by perseverance" - Samuel Johnson

Thankful Thursday - healthy minds

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 -

MINDFUL SOUNDS

Materials: live or recorded sounds such as a ringing bell, nature sounds or calming music

1. Sit straight and still. Close your eyes and take three deep breaths in and out.
2. When you begin to hear a sound, concentrate on what you can hear.
3. Pay attention to whether you hear it louder in one ear than you do in the other.
4. Keep your eyes closed until the sound is completely gone.
5. If you notice your thoughts wandering, bring your attention back to the sounds you can hear.
6. After you open your eyes, remain silent until you hear a voice again.

