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Together We Can...



Acting Headteacher: Mr J O'Leary

Chair of Governors: Mr S Higginbotham

# September Newsletter



20<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We've all enjoyed a very busy first few weeks of learning at school! Pupils are looking super smart and ready for learning – thank you parents/carers for your support in upholding our shared school expectations.

Below are some recent updates and news for you.

As always, if you need to contact me you can either email, message via class dojo, make an appointment or find me on the gate before/after school.

Mr O'Leary  
Acting Headteacher

## Our values

This half-term we are focussing upon our whole-school drive of 'Asterdale Everyday Excellence'. Already some pupils have received a 'Proud Learner' certificate to celebrate and share at home. This approach is to promote excellent standards for learning, behaviour and attitudes for all pupils in all subjects.

Alongside this, our 'Asters' values will soon be launched and introduced to all children. These form the 'golden thread' of our character attributes that we all strive to promote for our learners. More information to follow soon!

## We strive for...

-  **Aspiration**
-  **Self Belief**
-  **Teamwork**
-  **Empathy**
-  **Resilience**
-  **Safety**

## Vacancies

We currently have several new vacancies available for working within our amazing school team.

All information can be found by contacting the school office for more information.

# Attendance = Excellence



Attendance is everyone's business

## This week's attendance...

Nursery	95.6%	<b>Whole School:</b>  <b>95.4%</b>	
Reception	97.4%		
Year 1	93.4%		
Year 2	97.4%		
Year 3	94.6%		
Year 4	98%		
Year 5	91.5%		
Year 6	96%		

Our whole-school minimum attendance target is 97% for all learners.  
This means missing no more than 5 days per year.

Did you know... 5 minutes late every day = 3 lost days learning per year

### Good attendance is important in order for children to:

- Achieve their potential.
- Develop a positive attitude towards school and maintain good habits of punctuality and attendance.
- See themselves as an important part of the school community and to value and respect school life.
- Schools recognise that this can only be achieved through a close partnership with parents.

### Questions to Consider:

- Do you know what your child's current attendance and/or punctuality figure is?
- Do you know what this figure means?
- Do you speak to you child about their attendance?
- Do you communicate with us when your child is not in school?

### Some strategies to improve punctuality:

- Bedtime routines – Packing school bag ready for the next day, getting to bed earlier, setting a time for the television,
- iPad/computer and other devices to be turned off.
- Morning Routines – Setting the alarm earlier, no television until ready for school, having breakfast before leaving home.

0 days of school	100%
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%

## Office reminder:

Appointments: Reminder that these should be made wherever possible out of school time to avoid impact on vital lost-learning.

### Upcoming events:

#### **Harvest Collection:**

We will be celebrating our Harvest Assembly very soon and are now collecting donations of food, toiletries, cleaning products, tins, laundry products and pet food as well as other suitable long package-life consumables.

Donations will help to support our local Spondon community. All donations greatly appreciated. Thank you!



#### **Hello Yellow Day:**

10<sup>th</sup> October: £1 donations:

Dress in yellow clothes to celebrate World Mental Health Day (Young Minds)



#### **European Languages Day: (no charge)**

Next Friday (27<sup>th</sup> Sept)...

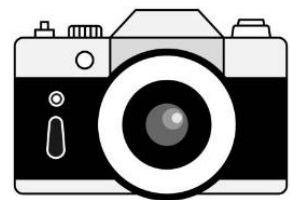
Pupils are invited to come to school wearing colours of any European country as we celebrate European Languages Day (linking to our diversity learning)



#### **School photographer:**

##### **Reminder for Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept:**

Our school photographer will be in school on Monday for individual photos and sibling groups. If you would like a photo with siblings who do not attend Asterdale please arrive at 8.30am.



### Pupil roles and responsibilities:

Children are currently voting in classes for new important pupil-led roles and responsibilities in school. Our school 'elections' are currently being held and new pupil leaders will be elected very soon!



### PTFA: Events this term:

- Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> October: PTFA Disco (linking to Hello Yellow Day)
- Tues 22<sup>nd</sup> / Weds 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct – PTFA creche / book fayre & uniform fayre (parents eve)
- Weds 11<sup>th</sup> Dec – Christmas Quiz Night
- Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> Dec & Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Dec – Secret Santa

### Early Years Events

- 16<sup>th</sup> October - Stay and Learn: (more information to follow – all parents welcome)
- 12<sup>th</sup> November – Open Morning for new starters (Sept 25)
- 14<sup>th</sup> November – Open Afternoon for new starters (Sept 25)

### NSPCC Workshops

Pupils have engaged with assembly workshops linking to the NSPCC's 'Speak out. Stay safe.' Programme this term. This is a programme for children aged 5-11 which aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a safe adult or Childline.

This child friendly programme is aligned with the curriculum and consists of age appropriate virtual assemblies and supporting class-based activities which we have reviewed, alongside NSPCC volunteer led face to face workshops for children aged 6-7 and 9-11. The content is delivered in an engaging and interactive way with the help of the NSPCC mascot Buddy.



### **Additional NSPCC resources for families to help keep children safe:**

Parent/Carer support: [www.nspcc.org.uk/parents](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/parents)

Activities to extend learning at home: [www.nspcc.org.uk/activities](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/activities)

Online Safety Hub: [www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety)

Childline – under 12's

Childline have an accessible website with advice, support, games and activities.

[www.childline.org.uk/buddy](http://www.childline.org.uk/buddy) (5-7)

[www.childline.org.uk/kids](http://www.childline.org.uk/kids) (7-11)

Talk PANTS is a simple conversation to help keep children safe from sexual abuse.

[www.nspcc.org.uk/pants](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/pants).