



Asterdale Primary School

Borrowwash Road

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Together We Can...



Headteacher: Mr J O'Leary

Chair of Governors: Mr P Appleton

## Newsletter 12

26<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back after Easter!  
I hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable break.

This half-term is incredibly short but still with a lot of learning to enjoy and get through!

Please look out for class newsletters on individual dojo pages with more class-specific information too.

Mr O'Leary  
Headteacher





Our school focus values this term are...

**RESILIENCE**



RESILIENCE

**SELF-BELIEF**



SELF-BELIEF

### SEND Coffee Morning

Mrs Fray will be hosting a coffee morning for parents Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May (9-10am).

This will provide information about SEND provision and chance for parents to ask any questions too.

### Uniform reminders

As we enter the summer term – please note some reminders about uniform:

- *No leggings*
- *Footwear should be plain shoes or black trainers (no large logos please)*
- *Medium to long hair to be tied up*
- *PE kits should be wherever possible black pumps for indoor kit*
- *Stud earrings only (no hoops) – please remove on PE days*
- *No other jewellery, nail varnish or make up*

Reminder – all pupils need a water bottle in school along with their reading diary and reading book daily

### Mellors catering:

We hope that children are really enjoying the new exciting meals provided by our new catering contract (Mellors) this week!



Check on dojo for the menu each week.

Reminder – meals are £2.90

A note from the catering team:

*Keep up with the adventures of Percy Pineapple and sneak peak of meals! (Instagram: [adventures\\_of\\_percy\\_pineapple](https://www.instagram.com/adventures_of_percy_pineapple))*

### Enrichment opportunities –

Clubs this half-term include:

- Animation Station
- Cycling
- Basketball
- Girls' football
  
- PCSOs visit: Hate Crime & Knife Crime - workshops
  
- Year 5 – Mayans workshop (in school)
  
- Year 3 will also be visiting the local dance studio as part of our PE curriculum offer

### Soft Starts

Thank you to parents/carers for your positive feedback on the gate this week about our soft starts approach to the school day across school.

Reminder: gates open 8.45am and close 8.55am

## Parent Governor

Please see on dojo an information pack relating to a parent governor vacancy at Asterdale.

If interested, please see the office / speak to Mr O'Leary to discuss more about this opportunity!

**PARENT  
GOVERNOR  
VACANCY**

## Key dates this term


Thurs 24 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 6 – enrichment visit to Holocaust Centre
Weds 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Forest School begins for Nursery & Year 2 classes
Weds 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 3 Dance – PE enrichment begins
Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	SEND Coffee Morning 9-10
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank holiday – school closed
Weds 7 <sup>th</sup> May	Y5 Mayans workshop (in school)
Week beginning 12 <sup>th</sup> May:	KS2 Year 6 SATs
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> May	School photographer visit (class photos)
Thurs 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Year 4 – Trip to Magna (enrichment)
Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Last day of term



# Attendance = Excellence



Attendance is everyone's business

<u>This week's attendances:</u>		<b>Whole School:  95.2%</b>	
Reception	89.9%		
Year 1	97.4%		
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>100%</b>		
Year 3	94%		
Year 4	96.9%		
Year 5	92.4%		
Year 6	96.4%		

**Well done to Year 2 for our highest class attendance this week!**

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

Our individual class and whole-school target each week = 97% minimum

Please make every effort to ensure your child is in school and on time every day.

Wherever possible, dental and doctors appointments should try to be arranged for out of school hours.

If your child is going to be absent, please inform the school office before 9am.

There is an option to leave a voicemail to report your child's absence too.

Please do not only report absence through class dojo.



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25<sup>th</sup> April 2025

## Parent Governor Election

Dear parents and carers,

Asterdale Primary School has a vacancy for the role of parent governor on the local governing board. We have always been extremely lucky to have wonderful parents on our local governing board, helping us to support the school and our Headteacher.

We'd love to hear from you if you'd like to join us. You don't need to be an expert in education to join the Board, but you do need to share our commitment to making sure every child at Asterdale is supported to achieve their potential.

We meet several times a year as a full governing board, usually in the afternoon, and we also hope that the successful candidate will be able to visit school throughout the school year.

### The role of the local governing board:

The local governing board, as detailed in the Terms of Reference and Scheme of Delegation, is responsible for:

- Supporting strategic leadership;
- Creating robust accountability;
- Oversight and assurance for the school's educational and financial performance.

**Parent governors** play a key role in bringing a **parental perspective** to the local governing board, but do not speak on behalf of parents and carers.

### Expectations of governors

Our parent governors should have:

- A strong commitment to the role and a passion for improving outcomes for children.
- Good inter-personal skills, curiosity, and a willingness to work as part of a team and learn and develop new skills.
- A commitment to attend meetings and to visit school periodically as part of the local governing boards monitoring plan.
- A willingness to access governor training.
- An understanding of the importance of maintaining confidentiality.

### **Interested?**

#### **The next steps:**

Please complete the candidate form below and return either Mr O'Leary (headteacher), the school office or via email: [admin@asterdale.odysseyct.org.uk](mailto:admin@asterdale.odysseyct.org.uk) by the closing date of Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May.

A ballot will be held if there are more applications than vacancies. If there are fewer applicants than vacancies, parent governors will automatically be appointed to the local governing board. Candidates will be informed if a secret ballot is required, following the closing date.

If you have any queries about this process or would like to find out more about the role, please contact Mr O'Leary (headteacher).

Yours sincerely,

Mr. O'Leary  
Headteacher

# Parent Governor Application Form



Candidate name:	
Candidate address:	
Candidate statement for including on ballot paper, to include, your background, skills and experience which would enable you to support our school	<i>Maximum 120 words</i>

## Confirmation of Entitlement to Stand for membership of the local governing board

I confirm that I:

- Am a parent or carer of a registered pupil at Asterdale Primary School
- Am aged 18 or over
- Am not a current pupil at the school
- Am not the subject of:
  - A bankruptcy restrictions order or an interim bankruptcy restrictions order
  - A debt relief restrictions order or an interim debt relief restrictions order
  - A sequestration that has not been discharged, annulled or reduced
- Have not been disqualified from being a company director
- Have not been removed as a trustee for a charity by an order made by the Charity Commission or the High Court on the grounds of misconduct or mismanagement in the administration of the charity

- Have not been removed, under section 34 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, from being concerned in the management or control of any body
- Have not been removed from office as an elected governor within the last 5 years
- Am not included on the list of those unsuitable to work with children
- Am not disqualified from working with children, barred from regulated activity and/or disqualified from registering for childminding or providing daycare
- Am not disqualified from registration under Part 3 of the Childcare Act 2006
- Am not subject to a direction of the Secretary of State under section 142 of the Education Act 2002, or to a section 128 direction
- Have not been disqualified from being an independent school proprietor, teacher or employee by the Secretary of State
- Have not been sentenced to 3 months or more in prison (without the option of a fine) in the 5 years before becoming a governor or since becoming a governor
- Have not received a prison sentence of 2 and a half years or more in the 20 years before becoming a governor
- Have not at any time received a prison sentence of 5 years or more
- Have not been fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on school or educational premises during the 5 years before becoming a governor or since becoming a governor
- Have not refused a request to make an application to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_