



# Asterdale Primary School

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**Together We Can...**

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Headteacher: Mr J O'Leary

Co-Chairs of Governors: Mrs C Burgess & Miss G Hulse

19<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Here is the final newsletter for this Autumn term and also for 2025!

Some end of term thankyou's...

- To our exceptional 'Team Asterdale' staff who work relentlessly everyday in providing the best possible learning experiences and opportunities for each and every child. They deserve great praise (and a rest!)
- To our school governors who have supported and challenged leaders in demanding our standards of 'everyday excellence' in every aspect of school life
- To our incredibly committed and passionate PTFA who have consistently gone above & beyond in providing incredible 'magic moments' to further enhance school experiences for our children
- To all of our parents/carers and wider school community for your continued partnership working and sharing our school values and ethos to create such a great Asterdale community
- And finally - to all of our amazing children for their wonderful attitudes to learning and hard work since September. Every child has continued to make personal progress and we have seen in action our 'everyday excellence' expectations and school values being displayed across school.

Wishing all of our Asterdale community a relaxing Christmas period filled with festive fun and special moments. Thank you for your continued support.

School learning resumes for all learners on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January.

Kind regards  
**Mr J O'Leary**  
Headteacher



## Farewell to Miss Knowles

At the end of this term, we say farewell to Miss Knowles who leaves us after a very long association with Asterdale – good luck for your next adventures & thank you for your contributions to our school. Miss Robinson joins us working alongside Mrs Edwards in Reception class in January.



## Welcome Mrs White

Our new School Business Manager, Mrs White, will join us in February 2026 too. Welcome to our team!



## End of term awards...

### Attendance!

A huge well done to the **SIXTY ONE** children with 100% attendance this term. Enjoy your festive treat and certificates!



### Everyday Excellence – Autumn term award winners

Well done to the children named below for receiving 'Everyday Excellence' Class Champion awards for the autumn term following nominations from class teachers:

Nursery: Joey	Reception: Ollie	Year 1: Fope	Year 2: Sophie
Year 3: Olivia	Year 4: Isla	Year 5: Ella	Year 6: Elysa



### Reading Raffle!

Well done to the children named below whose names were drawn from class 'everyday reading' raffles this morning in our end of term assembly. They will make an exciting visit to a book shop with Mrs Stuart in the new year...



Year 1: Riley	Year 2: Kobe	Year 3: Rory
Year 4: Ellis	Year 5: Brodie	Year 6: Harry L



## Christmas donations...

As we embark on our exciting Opal Playtimes journey, we are collecting any unwanted items from home as part of our resource collecting.

Over Christmas, if you have any unloved or unwanted old toys or items that are still in good condition, school would gladly receive them! (Dolls, scooters, costumes, old play kitchens... the list is endless!)

Look out for our 'donations store' which will soon be on-site for any items needing a new home!



## A gift from Santa...

With our Opal Playtimes project in mind, it could be a potential item on children's Christmas lists for waterproofs, wellies and outdoor kit from Santa as we will be using our outdoor space all year around!



A parent consultation relating to future school uniform will take place in 2026 as we evolve the outdoor playtime space further too.

## Asterdale Ark...

As always, any items for uniform or food/toiletries would be gladly received for our Asterdale Ark too.

## Personal Development –

Congratulations to Mr Seaman who has been appointed as our whole-school Personal Development Lead. Mr Seaman will be working closely alongside senior leaders and school staff to further enhance our enrichment and wider-offer beyond the academic for all children.

### What are we working on?

- Opal playtimes
- Enrichment offer – including a broad range of activities and enrichments for all
- Developing our school Asters values further including our implementing 'Asters Teams'
- 'Asterdale Activity Passports' for each child to build upon during their time at Asterdale

### How will your child benefit?

- Growing confidence across all aspects of learning
- Opportunity to broaden their experiences
- Collaborative learning with others
- Developing further lifelong skills for learning applicable to the wider world



## Enrichment at Asterdale...

Residential for Year 4!

Exciting news! We will be expanding our learning away programme with an additional residential experience for our Year 4 learners in 2026 as part of our curriculum delivery and enhancement to cultural capital in Key Stage 2.



## Stay & Learn...

Thank you to all parents/carers who have been able to come along to some of our Stay & Learn events this term which have included:

- Stay & Read events – all classes
- TT Rockstars – Year 4
- Stay & Craft events – KS2
- Bystanders workshops for parents

Next term we will continue these 'Stay & Learn' events following positive parent feedback in sharing our learning approaches between home and school.

## Santa!

Santa made a guest appearance this week at Asterdale! He was very pleased with the behaviour of all pupils and passes on his positive feedback for all parents & carers!

He gave a special gift reflecting our school expectations for Everyday Reading too... Thank you to our PTFA for coordinating this magic moment in our school calendar.



### Key Stage 1 – Superstars!

A special mention to our Year 1 & 2 Nativity stars for their outstanding nativity performances this week! All children performed with great confidence and showcased excellent oracy skills too. We are really proud of you all!



### A note from the office...

Please can all outstanding school debt payments be made as soon as possible.

Individual payment plans can be arranged in exceptional circumstances – please contact the office to arrange.

## Attendance = Excellence



Attendance is everyone's business

### **This term's class teachers (Sept – Dec)**

Class	%	<b>Whole School:</b>  <b>95.3%</b>	<b>MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.</b>
Nursery	95.7		
Reception	94.8		
Year 1	94.6		
Year 2	97.7		
Year 3	95.9		
Year 4	96.5		
Year 5	93.5		
Year 6	91.9		

**Well done to Year 2 for being our attendance leaders this term!**

Our whole-school attendance target is 97% for all learners.

### **INSET Days 2025**

Reminder of school INSET days for 2026:

- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February
- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May
- Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June





**HAVE A WONDERFUL BREAK!**

**From:  
Mr O'Leary & Team Asterdale**