



Abingdon Primary School

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Newsletter Friday 23rd February 2024

Dates for your diary:

Monday 19th February – back to school

Tuesday 27th February Year 5 and 6 visits to Reddish Vale Country Park

Friday 1st March – Freddy Fit (school PE kits please)

Friday 1st March – KS1 visit to St Elizabeth's Church

Tuesday 5th March – DEAR for parents 8.50 – 9.10

Thursday 7th March – World Book Day and Author visit

Monday 11th March – British Science Week

Monday 11th March – Choir performance at Disney Junior Choir concert(6.30pm)

Friday 22nd March – Holi celebration day (for 25th March)

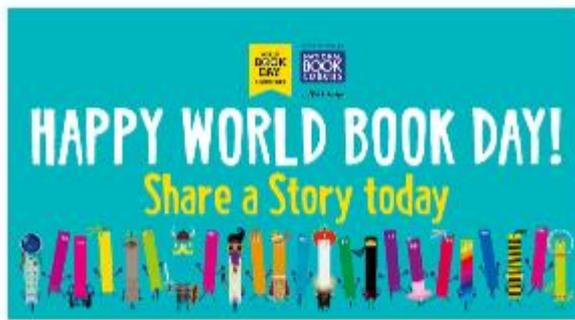
Thursday 28th March – Finish for Easter **NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**

Monday 15th April – Return to School

Dear All,

Where is the time going!? I can't believe that it will be March next week! It is nice to see the days lasting longer and the first signs of spring are creeping in. We have definitely hit the ground running this half term with our WOW experiences for the classes. Although another short half term, it is again packed full of activities and events. We have our Upper Key Stage 2 children making good use of our local surroundings with a visit to Reddish Vale Country Park; and our younger children visiting St. Elizabeth's church.

Thursday 7th March is annual World Book Day. We have 3 events (see below) on the day that the children can take part in – They can decorate a potato at home as their favourite book character and bring it in (Prizes for the best in each key stage; They can dress up as their favourite character on the day as usual; and all the children will be meeting an author on the day too



Thursday 7th March

As world book day is fast approaching, we wanted to let you know what will be happening.

- 1) Decorate a potato as your favourite book character. There will be a prize for the best entry in each Key Stage.



- 2) There will be an author visit from Ben Andrews. He is a disability rights activist and has been on Granada Reports. He will be coming in talk to all the children about his book, Better Places.



He will also be doing book signings on the day.
Please return the attached pre-order form and money to school if you would like to buy a copy.

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- 3) All children, and teachers, are also very welcome to come into school dressed as their favourite book character. They can also bring in one of their favourite books from home to talk about.



Wellbeing Challenge

This week's challenge may seem a little unconventional but, believe me, it works!

Laughing yoga - It might sound a bit zany, but there's a yoga practice where all you have to do is laugh. Laughter can help reduce stress, depression, and anxiety, and improve self-esteem, among many other mental and physical health benefits. Here are some ideas for laughter yoga games with kids.

Partner Funny Face – Pair together and take turns making funny faces at each other.

The 'Copy My Laugh' game – Sit in a circle. One person starts off with a laugh that is then copied by the next person, and so on. The goofier, the better!

'Funniest Thing that Ever Happened to Me' Stories – Take it turns to tell the funniest story that happened to you. When retelling these tales many people can't help but chuckle at the memory, and laughter is contagious!

Even if you start the session with a forced laugh, it actually becomes genuinely funny before you know it!



Year 3 and 4 English WOW

Mr Amesbury definitely 'WOWed' all the Year 3s and 4s this week with his adventurer skills. He brought in all his gear for his cycling and mountain climbing adventures to start off the children's work on the book 'Great Explorers'. The children were amazed by the things he had in his rucksack and how heavy it was! – snow shoes, helmet, climbing clips and a helmet were just some of the items. They were also all great at talking about what an explorer might need for a big adventure. We are looking forward to seeing their writing over the next few weeks.



Smoking, mobile phones and dogs on school property

Smoking is not allowed anywhere on council property this includes vaping.

Mobile phones should not be used anywhere on the premises – this includes the playgrounds. Children in year 5 and 6 who bring phones because they walk to or from school alone must turn them off before coming in the playground. Please remind them of this when they leave the house in the morning.

Dogs are also not allowed on school premises. This includes dogs on leads, dogs being carried, or even in a buggy.

Thank you for your support in these three areas.

Contacting staff

Please remember your first port of call is your class teacher. ☺ KS1/Reception staff are always on their classroom doors to meet and greet. KS2 staff are always available at the end of the day. Class Dojos are picked up by teachers during 'office hours' and they do endeavour to reply as timely as possible.



ClassDojo

NumBots and Time Table RockStars



There are two brilliant apps, which school purchase each year. – Numbots and TTRS. Both can be used at home and we would love them to be used more! Numbots is for our KS1 children (Reception will get a log in in the Spring term) and it is a great way to practise fluency of numbers. Times Table Rockstars is a great way for Y2 onwards to practise their times tables. All the children should have logins – The login is the same for both apps. Even just 10 minutes a day on an app like this can really boost children's confidence, number recognition and fluency with numbers – and although it is screen time, you know they are doing something worthwhile and educational.

Breakfast Club Timings

Just a reminder that breakfast club does not open until 07.45am. We are beginning to see children arriving earlier than this. The staff are not responsible for the children until 07.45am, therefore the children are not supervised before this time and are still the responsibility of parents.

Parking

Reddish Vale Start Well Nursery next door have politely asked us to remind parents about not parking in their car park. The car park attached to the nursery is for their employees and visitors, and on occasions, there are no parking spaces for them at critical times. They will be closing and locking their gates between 8.30 and 9.00 am and 2.30 and 3.20 pm.

Jumpers

We are seeing a bit of an increase in hoodies and other non-uniform jumpers, particularly on PE days. Please refer to the uniform list below. Teachers will offer spare uniform jumpers to children who come wearing different jumpers. Please also put your child's name on their jumper, we have another big pile of unnamed jumpers forming- which will be disposed of at the end of the term.

Snacks

Our local authority advisors tell us that there is a huge increase in dental decay and obesity in children in our area and as a community we should all work together to tackle it.

Here is our plan for a healthier day at school:

In the morning, the children have bagels – these are from the National Schools breakfast programme and are nutritionally balanced. They are served with a small amount of margarine.

At snack time, the children are able to bring a *normal sized* snack if they wish, but please ensure that it is fruit, or low sugar snack. Examples might be food like – cheddars, sreen, raisins, crackers etc (crisps, sweets, chocolate will not be allowed)

At lunch time Taylor Shaw provide us with nutritionally balanced low sugar hot meals, if you are bringing a packed lunch please look at the sugar content and the amount of food within the lunchbox.

Afternoons – KS1/Rec children have free fruit (national scheme)

Water should be in all bottles.

We will sometimes have rewards that are food/sweets – however, these are very occasional, which models the idea of everything in moderation.

Some children bring in sweets for their birthday - this is not an expectation, but if you choose do to we ask parents to only do this on a Friday. Their birthday will still be celebrated in the class on the day of the birthday of course - as all children's birthdays are special.

Please also remember that we are a nut free school – no nuts or nut products should be brought in as snacks/lunch including snacks like peanut butter.



As a school, many of us are parents ourselves and understand the frustrations around snacks. However, we want the best for the children in the school and eating healthily supports this.

Free School Meals

A reminder that families can apply for Free School Meals via this link: <https://www.stockport.gov.uk/free-school-meals/apply-school-grants-free-school-meals> - all you need is your NATIONAL INSURANCE NUMBER. If your child has just gone into year 3 they will no longer be on Universal Free School Meals, so if you think you might qualify please apply as soon as possible.

Even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, it is beneficial to apply for Free School Meals as your child can also access a range of other benefits and school help supplement some additional provision for you and your child(ren).

If you would prefer to apply using a school computer/internet, that is no problem and we can arrange a private area with a computer for you to apply. Just ask at the office, call 0161 480 4531 or email admin@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk.

School Uniform

We have a lot of lost property – mainly jumpers with no names in. Please make sure **names are in all items of clothes** – especially cardigans/jumpers and coats! It is impossible to find lost items without this.

White polo shirt
Red cardigan/jumper – with or without logo (**NO other jumpers**)
Black/dark grey trousers/shorts/skirts/pinafores
Black shoes or all black trainers (no colour variations accepted)

PE Kits for PE days

White t-shirt and black shorts/joggers with school jumper. (**NO other jumpers/PE kits!**)

School Lottery

For those families new to school, we have a school lottery that is run by the website below. Every ticket sold provides much needed funding for our school.

If you would like to take part please do sign up using the link below. Thank you.

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/>

Last week, one of our parents won £6.00!

Our **first Super Draw of '24** is just around the corner, and guess what? This weekend one of our supporters could be the lucky winner of a **£1,000 luxury holiday!**

But hold on, we get it – everyone's got their own idea of the perfect getaway. So, we're spicing things up a bit. If travelling isn't your cup of tea, no worries! The winner can also opt for a **£1,000 cash alternative**. Yep, we're all about making dreams come true, your way.

A cabin in the Lakes, a luxury spa break, a West-End musical weekend, or jump on the Eurostar for a European escape: the choice is yours – so make 2024 the start of your next great adventure!

How the lottery works		
<p>£1 per ticket</p> <p>That's right, unlike many other lotteries, our lottery tickets are only £1 per week.</p>	<p>Help us do more</p> <p>For every ticket you play, 76% goes to our school and prizes.</p>	<p>£25,000 grand prize</p> <p>Match all 6 numbers and you win the JACKPOT!</p>



Attendance:



★ The class with the highest overall attendance each week will have the opportunity to 'spin the wheel'! The wheel has lots of different choices on – some of these have been updated this year by the children.

★ Each class who achieves 97% or higher each week, or who show great improvement, will have an extra playtime the following week.

Attendance monitoring includes broken weeks and lateness. You MUST contact school if your child is late or absent.

The class with the highest attendance this week was: **Rec Otters with 97.1%** They have won 'a Pyjama day in class! The class teacher will let you know what day it will be on.

No other class had over 97% attendance this week, so only Otters have an extra play!

Hot chocolate

Each week we invite a child from each class (who is chosen for being a role model for behaviour) to come and have hot chocolate and marshmallows with the headteacher. But sadly, we could not hold it today. Back to it next week!



Gold Table

Children are chosen by their midday supervisors for their lunchtime behaviour. Each Friday we have a 'Gold table' in the hall where the children have their lunch, they also receive a prize from the 'Gold Box'. But sadly, we could not hold it today. Back to it next week!

Class Stars of the Week

Each week children are chosen for showing our core values. We award certificates in Celebration Time each Friday. Well done to all our stars:



Reception Badgers: Hannah

Reception Otters: Elliott

Year 1 Hedgehogs: Willow

Year 1/2 Squirrels: Inaya

Year 2 Foxes: Ariaiah

Year 3 Falcons: Evan

Year 3/4 Kites: Conor

Year 4 Owls: Nhyiraba

Year 5 Kestrels: Bradley

Year 5 Merlins: Faith

Year 6 Ospreys: Ayana

Year 6 Hawks: Ruvindi

Year 6 Eagles: Lama

Golden Broom

Y5 Kestrels won the Golden Broom this week for having the tidiest classroom. Well done for setting a fantastic example to others.

The Golden Broom is awarded by Mr Bosson (Site supervisor) .



Finally, I hope you have a lovely restful weekend.

Ms Spendlow
Headteacher

Holiday Dates 2023-2024

Autumn term

Monday 4th September	INSET
Tuesday 5th September	INSET
Wednesday 6th September	Back to School
Friday 20th October	Finish for half term holiday
Monday 30th October	School returns
Friday 22nd December	Finish for Christmas

Spring term

Monday 8th January 2024	INSET
Tuesday 9th January	School returns
Friday 9th February	Finish for half term holiday
Monday 19th February	School returns
Thursday 28th March	Finish for Easter

Summer term

Monday 15th April	School returns
Monday 6th May	May Day Holiday
Friday 24th May	Finish for Whit holiday
Monday 10th June	School returns
Friday 26th July	Finish for summer holidays
Monday 29th July	INSET
Tuesday 30th July	INSET

Covid-19 advice

- Children with mild symptoms of a respiratory infection include covid-19 but are otherwise well should continue to attend school. They should stay home if they have a high temperature and are unwell, and can return to school when they no longer have a high temperature/feel well enough.
- It is not recommended that children should have a covid-19 test unless directed to by a health professional, but if a child under 18 does test positive, **they should stay off school for 3 days after the day they took the test. They can return to school after the 3 days if they are well enough.**

The isolation period for COVID-19 is 6 days with a negative LFD test (24 hours apart on day 5 and day 6). See the link below for more information

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>

School advice is still:

If your child is displaying any of these COVID related symptoms

-a high temperature

-a new, continuous cough

-a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

or

if your child receives a positive lateral flow test, **they should remain at home until they are feeling well again.**

Please inform school if anyone in your child's household tests positive for Covid-19.