



Ark Ayrton Primary Academy

Newsletter
Autumn 2
2020

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Dear Parents and Carers

I cannot believe we are already at the end of the penultimate week of this Autumn term. Despite the ongoing challenges and situation, school has remained a very happy and positive place to be throughout.

The children have amazed us with their acceptance of how things need to be, their resilience and they have made some great progress, not only catching up with the months missed but also with the curriculum for this year so far. Their books are full and show this clearly.

The staff have been nothing short of amazing also – maintaining a calm, positive and consistent approach, so that the children have been able to feel as safe as possible, happy and secure within their surroundings and still enjoying their learning. I am sure you will want to join me in thanking them for their exceptional work this term.

We would all like to take this opportunity to thank you for the support and understanding you have shown as we have adjusted to the new normal and for the part you have played in helping to ensure all the successes of this term too.

Fund raising

We are delighted to have been able to raise money this last half term for some very worthwhile charities – thank you so much for your support.

Children In Need - £179.64

Royal British Legion - £296

Save The Children - £105.11

School Photos

I hope you have received your child's school photo if you ordered it. A number of parents have asked about sibling photos. I have arranged for the photographer to return in the Summer term to take class and sibling photos.

Mrs Payne

After 15 years teaching at Somers Park and Ark Ayrton Primary, we are very sad to be saying farewell to Mrs Payne who will be leaving us at the end of this term to take up a new position in another Portsmouth School. Many of you will know Mrs Payne as a class teacher, Nurture Group teacher and most recently our SENCo. She has worked passionately to support

hundreds of children and families during her time at the school and has made a huge difference to their education and lives. We will all miss her very much and wish her every success in her new position. From January, Mrs Tabraham, who some of you may remember was our previous SENCo, will be returning to support us temporarily. She will be available on Tuesdays and Fridays.



Covid will not stop Christmas at Ayrton!! Please see our exciting festive programme and arrangements for the last week of term.

Monday 14th

Please send your child in with £1 as a donation for the Christmas party food that we will be supplying for all classes.

Children may also bring in 20p to name the elf – there are enough names for every child to have 1 go!

Children may also bring in 20p to guess the number of sweets in the jar

Monday afternoon all classes will have the opportunity to have a socially distanced visit to see Santa in his grotto and all will receive a small gift.

Tuesday 15th - Christmas Hamper Raffles

Tickets will only be on sale on this day for the Child and the Adult Christmas Hampers. Tickets are 20p each – please send the money in with your child on the day if you would like tickets and make sure the children know which hamper they want to buy tickets for.

Cake sale – Xmas cake sale (provided by our catering team) in classes to bring home.

Wednesday 16th

Christmas lunch – you should have already ordered this and paid for this if your child is not entitled to free school meals.

Christmas Pantomime – I have arranged to be able to stream the current Kings Theatre Pantomime Dick Whittington to all the classrooms after their Christmas dinner so the whole school can ‘go to the pantomime!’ I’m sure the children will all love it!

Thursday 17th - Christmas Parties – children may wear their party clothes on this day, they must wear sensible shoes and no jewellery.

As per my letter yesterday, term now finishes at the normal times on this day.

We will welcome the children back for the start of the Spring Term on Tuesday 5th January 2021.

We are still working on our video of our performance so do hope to be able to share that with you next week. Please also look out for the Christmas wreaths the children have made based on 'The 14 Days of Christmas' – see if you can spot the 2 new additions to this famous song!

Finally, on behalf of the staff and myself, we wish you all a very happy Christmas, stay safe and enjoy the time with your wonderful children. Take good care and here's to a positive 2021 with everything returning to normal as soon as it can.

Thank you for all your support.

Mrs A H-Chapman

Headteacher

