



Ark Ayrton Primary Academy

Newsletter

11th

November

2021

Somers Road Southsea Hampshire PO54LS
T: 02392824828 info@arkayrtonprimary.org

www.arkayrtonprimary.org

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy start to this half term we have had! Below is some key information for you.

Trips and visits

Year Six had an amazing time on their residential and we were so impressed with their resilience, maturity, and kindness that they showed towards each other. They really did have a great time and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff who gave up their own time and commitments, to enable this residential to happen.

Year One have also been out and about this week visiting Marwell Zoo. They were excellent ambassadors of Ayrton and learnt lots about the different habitats that animals live in.

The Year Three Stone Henge trip has been rearranged and any children from Mrs Down's class, who were unable to attend due to COVID, will be invited to attend alongside the other class. A separate letter will follow for this.

In the next few weeks, Year Four are off to Fishbourne Roman Palace to enhance their learning on the Romans and Year Two are visiting the Dockyard to learn about the Navy, so we look forward to hearing all about their exciting days!

Breakfast and afterschool care



Thank you to those parents who have returned their breakfast and after school care forms. We will be in contact with you next week to provide further information; both breakfast and afterschool care will begin on Monday 22nd November.

Poppy Appeal

As many of you will already know, remembrance is an important part of our curriculum and one which we are passionate about teaching. Every child from Reception to Year Six, created a poppy, which we have displayed outside of the front entrance – trying to recreate the Tower of London art installation, but instead as the

Tower of Ayrton! If you haven't seen it, please do walk round to the front of the school and see the children's work. As usual, the children have done us proud with their understanding and thoughtfulness towards those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our democratic freedoms and way of life today.

Some of our children also spoke to the Portsmouth News about their learning on remembrance. They were so reflective and compassionate, showing a clear understanding of its importance. We have poppy merchandise available to buy in school from 50p to £1.50, so please send your child in with some money if they would like to buy anything. Tomorrow, we will also be having a non-school uniform day for 50p, in order to raise money for the Royal British Legion.



COVID Update

Just a reminder to parents that you can now lateral flow test your child if they have been in contact with a positive case. This helps us to find the asymptomatic cases and stop it spreading within school. Lateral flow tests can be ordered online, collected from a Pharmacy, or we have some in school if you can't get them. When we had our outbreak before half term, it was because of the asymptomatic cases who were unknowingly spreading the virus and thankfully, because of your support and testing your children, we were able to find the asymptomatic cases and bring our infection rates back down.

If there is a positive case in your child's class, we will write to you and let you know, so that you can either lateral flow your child if you would like to or book a PCR test. If your child is symptomatic, you still need to book a PCR test, as per Government guidance.

Christmas Concert

Dare I mention the 'c' word so early in November! However, currently, we are planning a Christmas Concert at Portsmouth Cathedral, like we did a few years ago. This will be on Thursday 16th December, so please save the date! Further details will follow nearer the time, and this will also be dependent on what our COVID cases look like and if we have another outbreak.

Parent Volunteer Group

In January, we are looking forward to launching our Parent Volunteer Group. This group of parents will help with organising events in school for our children, fundraising, providing feedback and suggestions to us as to what you think we could do make your child's time at Ayrton even better. If you would like to join our group, please email info@arkayrtonprimary.org to show your interest, so that I can contact you. Tea, coffee and biscuits are a non-negotiable at meetings and it would be lovely to have lots of you join, so that we can work together to ensure our children have the best.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 8th November – Friday 12th November – Poppies on sale to support Royal British Legion.

Friday 12th November – Non uniform day 50p donation for Royal British Legion
Thursday 18th November – Year Two Portsmouth Dockyard trip
Friday 19th November – INSET day
Tuesday 23rd November – Year Four Fishbourne Roman Palace
Friday 10th December – Christmas jumper day and Christmas lunch
Wednesday 15th December – Reception Nativity at Ayrton
Thursday 16th December – Key Stage 1 and 2 Cathedral Christmas Concert
Friday 17th December – Class parties and last day of term

If you ever need to contact me, please phone the school office or you can find me most mornings at the main school gate.

Kind regards,

Suzanne Bennett-Acres

Mrs Bennett-Acres and Team Ayrton

