

ASTON HALL JUNIOR AND INFANT SCHOOL

SPRING TERM 2 NEWSLETTER 27.2.17

Mrs Bestall - Head of School

OUR SPRING TERM 2 TOPIC IS OUT OF THIS WORLD...

A warm welcome back to Aston Hall Junior and Infant School ☺. I hope that you all had a lovely half term break and that your children are already enjoying their new Spring Term 2 topic - 'Out of this world'.

We have fantastic learning opportunities planned across school this half term to enthuse and inspire your children as they learn about our planet and solar system. Please look out for class newsletters for more information (...along with space shuttles being launched and some mysterious happenings around school over the next few weeks!).

A BIG THANK YOU - YOUR FEEDBACK IS IMPORTANT TO US

We had an amazing 109 responses to our parental survey last term - please find a summary of your responses below.

- ✓ 90% of parents/carers feel their child is happy at Aston Hall J&I School
- ✓ 91% agree their child feels safe in this school
- ✓ 91% agree that their child is taught well
- ✓ 89% feel their child makes good progress
- ✓ 93% feel their child is well looked after
- ✓ 84% feel that their child receives appropriate homework
- ✓ 86% agree that we make sure our pupils are well behaved
- ✓ 88% agree that we deal effectively with bullying
- ✓ 89% agree that school is well led and managed
- ✓ 89% feel that school respond well to any concerns raised
- ✓ 85% feel that they receive valuable information about their child's progress
- ✓ 88% would recommend this school to another parent



What you said you would like.....

- Improved communication
- More opportunities for parents to share learning

What we did....

1. We rolled out Class Dojo to all classes incl. the Class Story function to improve communication.
 2. We are currently updating and improving the availability of information on our website incl. a new Google Calendar function
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1. We scheduled Literacy Workshops in the Spr./Summer Terms for parents to share literacy learning in school
 2. We invited parents into school for special celebration assemblies e.g. piano recitals, string and wind concerts and Young Leaders Award Assembly for Y3/4! Look out for more opportunities planned for later this term!

Spring Term Parents' Evening

Wed 22nd March 3:15-6pm
Thurs 23rd March 3:15-5pm

This is an opportunity to discuss your child's personal, social and emotional development and share both successes and next steps for their learning and progress. We also aim to share information on our new assessment system and end of year expectations. Please look out for appointment sheets that will be up in cloakrooms on Monday 13th March.

SAVE THE DATE!

Thurs 2nd March AHJI World Book Day (fancy dress)
Thurs 2nd March Young Leaders Award for Y3/4 2:15pm
Wed 15th March WPT Music Festival for Y5 and Y6
Weds 22nd March Parents' Evening 3:15-6pm
Thu 23rd March Parents' Evening 3:15-5pm
Fri 24th March Red Nose Day (letter to follow)
Wed 29th March Y3/4B 'Pioneer the Musical' at Magna
Thurs 30th March Y3/4B 'Pioneer the Musical' at Magna
Fri 7th April Break up for Easter
PLEASE ALSO LOOK OUT FOR KS1/2 'BIKE IT' INFO TO FOLLOW!

ASTON HALL LOVES READING!**WORLD BOOK DAY**

We had an amazing day on Thursday with our World Book Day celebrations! A massive thank you to parents and carers for helping the children create imaginative and ingenious costume ideas to really get involved in the theme of the day.

LITERACY WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS

Our recent Reading and SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) workshops for parents and carers in Y6 have been a great success, due in no small part to our Literacy Leader Mrs Lester-Binney who has organized and led these workshops. Please watch this space for future sessions!

NSPCC SUPPORT

As you are aware, the NSPCC have attended school over the past couple of weeks to work alongside the children in assemblies and class workshops on how to keep themselves safe. Thank you so much for your support and also for your generosity towards the NSPCC's 'Speak out. stay safe' fundraising project - together we have raised around (an absolutely staggering!) £4000! These funds have been collected by the NSPCC and the children were thanked in a special assembly led by NSPCC workers, along with their mascot Buddy before half term. As the NSPCC state, every childhood is worth fighting for...thank you for helping make a real difference Aston Hall!

ATTENDANCE

Our attendance figure for 2016-2017 has been set by the Local Authority at 96.5%.

Along with other schools in the authority, we will not be able to authorise regular term time holidays this year. Holiday forms are still available from the school office and, in line with guidance, your child's overall attendance and records of any previous holidays from the past 3 terms will be considered before you receive a written reply to your request. This letter will state either:

1. The holiday is unauthorised but parents will not be recommended for a fine on this occasion e.g. excellent attendance and short holiday duration
2. The holiday is unauthorised and parents will be recommended for a fine e.g. due to previous term time holidays, poor attendance and/or length of holiday etc.
3. The absence is authorised due to 'exceptional circumstances'. Please note - any request for exceptional circumstances will need to be supported by a letter from an employer etc. that states that the term time absence is unavoidable.

'Friends of Aston Hall School'

have long supported fundraising activities to help raise money for school funds - for which we are so grateful. Along with all schools, the funding we receive from the government is reducing, despite our running costs increasing. Therefore, the work of our fundraising group has never been as important to help us continue to provide quality resources and additional experiences for our children. If you feel you would like to make a real difference to the children of Aston Hall School by helping raise funds to continue to purchase resources etc. - please watch this space! Miss Newton will be working alongside this group and will be recruiting additional volunteers to actively support us - if you are able to help please look out for a letter from Miss Newton inviting you to a meeting later this term.

**YOUNG LEADERS AWARD**

A huge well done and thank you to all children and staff in Y3 and Y4 for their hard work in The Youth Trust Project. Our Y3/4 children and staff have worked so hard this term to make a real difference to the people of Aston - collecting litter, organising coffee mornings at a local church and making parking around school safer. These children have achieved a Young Leaders Award to recognise their efforts which they received in assembly yesterday. Thank you to all for attending this event to celebrate the huge amount of work that has gone into this project. THANK YOU AND WELL DONE Y3/4 CHILDREN AND STAFF!

MEDICINES IN SCHOOL POLICY

A polite reminder of our school policy please:

- *School staff are only able to administer medication that has been **prescribed 4+** times a day by your child's GP.
 - *If your child requires any other medication which is **not** prescribed, this is at the Head teacher's discretion.
 - *All medication needs to be stored at the **front of school** and handled by staff to ensure the safety of children at all times (apart from inhalers which should be kept in the child's classroom). NB - please check routinely that your child's inhaler is in date.
 - *Medication can only be administered where **parental permission** has been given via a form from the school office which details exact dosage/time etc.
- If your child is ill, please contact the school office so their absence can be authorised. If they have had sickness or an upset stomach, they are able to come back **48 hours after the last sign of illness.**
- Please be assured that all the above guidance is to ensure the safety of all our children. Thank you

As always, if you have any feedback or would like further information, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see me or a member of staff. Thank you for your continued support.
Mrs Bestall (Head of School)



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www.astonhallschool.co.uk

