



NEWSLETTER

8th September 2017

SCHOOL NEWS

Welcome Back!

We hope that you have all had a wonderful summer and have enjoyed spending some quality time with the children. We have been hearing lots of stories already about the visits and experiences they have all had, often told with much enthusiasm!

The children have made a fabulous start to the new term with an excellent attitude to their learning and behaviour. We have all been extremely impressed with the mature, focused approach already adopted by many of the children. A particular mention must go to our new Y3 pupils who are wowing their class staff with their knowledge and approach to work and others around school are impressed by their maturity and conduct. Thanks go to our Y6 pupils who are acting as Y3 buddies and are doing a great job at helping the new children settle in. We also welcome two other new pupils and their families to the school into Year 4 and Year 6.

Over the summer the staff have been working hard preparing wonderful learning experiences for the children and also giving thought to further improvements in school. On Monday we discussed the Dojo system and have decided to make some changes in light of feedback from pupils and staff.

Dojo changes:

The system will now involve awarding dojos rather than removing them. Children will have the opportunity to earn 4 everyday, 1 of which will be for lunchtime. Weekly totals will be collated and bronze, silver and gold awards given out termly. Dojos will still be linked to the school's Golden Rules. Teachers will now be sending messages home via the dojo system to highlight examples of positive behaviour.

In addition to this the children will also have the chance to earn 'Going the Extra Mile' awards. These will be awarded to a child if they have done something above and beyond the Golden Rules where their teacher would like to give them extra recognition. The child will receive a special postcard which will be posted home and a sticker to wear in school. They will also be given a House Point token for their House team.

Although we have used the House system for sports day it isn't something that we have used in school for other things. The houses will now have a much higher profile in school and weekly totals will be collated as the houses compete against each other for 'Extra Mile' awards. New house teams have been developed so you may find that your child is now in a different house to the one they have competed in for previous sports days. We have tried as much as possible to keep them the same and to also ensure siblings are in the same house.

Attached to this newsletter is a form. Please go through this with your child over the weekend. We would like the children to think of names for the new houses based on famous people linked to science, maths, literature, architecture, engineering, conservation or human rights. Suggestions will be considered next week and the new house names will be announced on Friday 14th September.

UNIFORM

Thank you for your support with school uniform. It was wonderful to see the children all together in assembly on Monday- they looked so smart!

Just a reminder to say that shoes MUST be plain black. There should be no stripes or flashes etc on them at all. If your child does not come to school in the correct footwear they will be given a pair of school shoes to wear from our supply in school. Hair bows must be in the school uniform colours- red, blue, grey, white or black.

PE kit must be a white T-shirt and navy shorts and earrings must be removed. If your child cannot take out their earrings on their own then please ensure they are removed at home on PE days. This helps to keep everyone safe during PE activities.

ALL SCHOOL CLOTHING MUST BE CLEARLY LABELLED WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME.

CAR PARK

Thank you for your co-operation with the new car parking arrangements. Before the summer break the Governors issued 3 permits. Please ensure that you do not use the car park at the start and end of the school day and that grandparents or other family members who are collecting children know these arrangements also.

This allows us to keep the school entrance safe at the busiest times of the school day.

ATTENDANCE

Our attendance for last year was 96.7% which is above the national average. We are still determined to work hard to achieve our target of 97%. We know the children have a much better chance to achieve if they are in school.

Please be aware that holidays in term time are not authorised and may result in a fixed penalty fine.

If your child needs to attend an appointment can you always try to ensure that these are after school. We know that this is not always possible but please try to arrange things so that your child does not need to leave school early.

TRANSFER TO SECONDARY SCHOOL

Letters have been sent home this week regarding Y6 applications to secondary schools for September. To help you make an informed choice the local secondary schools all have open events where you can have a look around and meet the staff:

Workington Academy- 20th September 6pm

St Josephs- 21st September 6pm

Cockermouth- 28th September 6pm

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have recently changed your address or phone number please can you ensure that the school office has all 'up to date' information. Can all Y3 parents ensure that the data collection sheets are returned as soon as possible please if you have not already done so.

SCHOOL CALENDAR 2017-2018

Events coming up this term:

Tuesday 12th September: Wizard of Oz production in school

Monday 18th September: Steel drum workshops in Y6

Tuesday 26th September: Y6 to REACT Science Show

Monday 2nd October: 5B Viking Day

Thursday 5th October: 5S Viking Day

Monday 16th October: Y6 to Life Centre

23rd - 27th October: Half Term

Thursday 2nd November: School photos

Tuesday 7th November: Flu Jabs

Thursday 9th November: Y6 to Imperial War Museum Manchester

Wednesday 15th November: Y5 & Y6 High Five Netball Competition

Wednesday 29th November: Christmas Fair

Wednesday 6th December: Whole School visit to Theatre by the Lake

Friday 15th December: Break up for Christmas

Thursday 4th January: Return to school

Thank you for your continued support. We are all looking forward to another exciting year at Ashfield!

Mrs Frost

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

PLEASE CAN YOU GIVE US SUGGESTIONS FOR OUR HOUSE NAMES

Hogwarts have Godric Gryffindor, Rowena Ravenclaw, Helga Hufflepuff, and Salazar Slytherin.

Who inspires you?

Who do you think has made a phenomenal contribution to our world?

We are looking for names of people from the fields of:

Literature

Maths

Science

Engineering

Architecture

Conservation

Human Rights

In the space below please state who you would like to nominate and why you have chosen them. You need to present a convincing argument that shows your person has made an inspirational contribution, who is someone that we can admire and who is a good role model for our school.

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House Nomination Form

Person.....

Reason for choosing them.....

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Your name..... Class.....