



# Newsletter

## September 2018

### A Message from Mrs Frost

Welcome back everyone. Welcome also to our new children and families joining us in Year 3!

None of us can quite believe that we are here again already, this Summer certainly has flown by. The late breakfasts and lazy afternoons now seem a distant memory.

I would like to start by saying a huge thank you for all your support for the school last year. Family illness took me away from school quite a bit in the final weeks of term and I don't feel that I got the chance to speak to everyone before we broke up for the holiday. Your support is vital in everything we do and when we all work together great things are possible.

This term has started with the usual pace and excitement that we are used to at Ashfield. All the staff came in on Monday to prepare for the new term and take part in our annual Safeguarding update training. It was wonderful to see our lunchtime supervisors, our site supervisor, our Governors and one of our volunteers also attending the training this year. All this helps us to ensure that your children are safe at all times.

All the children have settled in brilliantly, looking smart and ready to learn as soon as they stepped through the gate on Tuesday morning. All the classes have been spending some time getting to know their new teachers and introducing themselves to their topics for this term. We had a great discussion in assembly on Tuesday thinking about what school is for and what education is. Wednesday's assembly was spent thinking about our Golden Rules and how by sticking to them it helps to make us better people. This half term we are focusing on 'Looking after property' in particular the toilets and hall floor at lunchtime.



We love to read at AJS.

Can I just take this opportunity to remind you of a few school procedures:

School shoes must be plain black, headbands and bows must be the colours that are in our school uniform and earrings must only be studs and must be removed for PE days.

Our side gate opens at 8:35am. Please ensure that your child is not on the school grounds too early as there is no-one on duty to ensure their safety. If you need early morning supervision please contact the school office to arrange a place in our wrap-around care.

Contact forms will be sent out to you shortly (Year 3 have already received these). Please make sure that you check the details are still correct on these forms, particularly contact numbers and medical information. Can you please ensure that there are at least two telephone numbers that can be used for emergency contact. This will help us if one contact is not available.

Please make sure that packed lunches are as healthy as possible. Crisps, sweets, chocolate bars and fizzy drinks are not allowed. If we notice that a child's lunch repeatedly contains these items we will contact you to discuss help and guidance on this issue.

Finally, please ensure that you do not take your child out of school for holidays during term time. Last year 72 children took unauthorised holidays in term time which resulted in us losing 328 days in school. Holidays are not authorised and taking them repeatedly, in September or with children attending Year 6 is particularly damaging to your child's education and may result in a fine.

We already have some exciting events planned for this term. Next week Year 5 are going to Brockhole and on Wednesday we have a theatre company coming to school to perform Jungle Book for us. Workington Youth Partnership are visiting us over the next couple of weeks to make poppies and flags for this year's Remembrance Day 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary commemorations. During the week beginning 24<sup>th</sup> September we will also be housing CDEC's Hidden Stories exhibition in school. This exhibition will be open to all family members and deals with the stories of people who have settled in Cumbria from different places around the world.

All school staff will also be undertaking training on Children's Mental Health this half term to gain basic mental health first aid awareness. We already have two members of staff with Child Mental Health First Aid accreditation- Mrs Thwaites & Mrs Quayle. In October we are going to be welcoming a competitor from the last INVICTUS Games and hopefully we will also be organising a School Council Conference for all Workington schools to give the children the opportunity to work alongside each other on common issues.

Phew before you know it, it will be Christmas! Watch out for further information coming soon on dates for the rest of the term.

*Mrs Frost*

#### Quotes from a few of our new Year 3s

Ada (3B) I like all of my friends and I've made some new ones and they're really nice.

Aidan (3B) I like doing the work because I like doing art.

Leo (3K) We do lots of good work and we have good teachers.

Kaiden (3K) I like that we do really fun work.

