

Athelstan Primary School
Milford Road
Sherburn in Elmet
North Yorkshire
LS25 6QN



Headteacher
Karen O'Donnell MA BEd PGCPSE
Tele 01977 684037
Fax 0844 251 1228
admin@athelstan.n-yorks.sch.uk



Newsletter

Friday 19th October 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who supported the Book Fair which was held in school this week, we raised a record breaking £904, which is the most we have ever raised from a book fair. All of the money raised will go to buy more books for the children's classrooms. Once again thank you.

Parents' Evening

We had a lot of very positive feedback about the new arrangement in the hall. Appointments certainly appeared to be more efficiently managed. We also had a positive turn out with **97%** of our children having at least one parent or guardian engaging with their child's class teacher. Thank you, a positive supportive home school relationship is extremely beneficial for our children.

Events for next week

Tuesday 23rd October

The school disco is a ticket only event, the final opportunity to buy tickets is 3:30pm on Monday 22nd October.

The price of the ticket **includes refreshments**, children will not need to bring any additional monies as there will be no other items for sale on the night.

Sunshines and KS1 disco is 3.05–4.05pm (Sunshines children must be accompanied by an adult). Children will need to come to school in normal school uniform, if they wish to change for the disco please send clothes in with them and they can change at the end of the school day. Sunshines and

KS1 children will be leaving via their classroom doors, if KS1 parents could please wait at the regular end of day pick up points.

KS2 disco will start at 4.15-5.15pm, please enter by the Milford Road entrance. Children should be collected from the Milford Road entrance, we expect all children to be collected unless you have notified your child's class teacher in advance that they can walk home by themselves.

Year 2 SATS Meeting

This meeting is for families with children in Miss Pugh and Miss Ford's classes, it will be held in Miss Pugh's room which you can access through the Y2 locker area. The first meeting will start at 3:15pm and the second one starting at 6pm. This is Y2 parents' opportunity to find out about the tests their children will be undertaking in the summer term.

Clubs

Due to the disco on 23rd October there will be **no school clubs on Tuesday.**

Thursday 25th October

Open class Mrs Turner's class- Parents/families are invited in to see the children's work. Please arrive at 2:40pm via the Milford Road entrance. Classes hold open class events in the term when they do a production and thus do not have a class assembly.

Maternity leave

Mrs Turner will start her maternity leave after half term, she will be replaced by Miss Hobbs who has already been in school to both meet the children and work with Mrs Turner to effect a positive handover. Miss Hobbs was also present at parents' evening, where many of you had the opportunity to meet with her.

Half term

The children finish for the half term holiday on Thursday 25th and return on Monday 5th November.

Advance Notice

Thursday 8th November is the school's Open Evening for the families of children who will be ready to start in Sunshines in September 2019.

Dinner money arrears

Once again we are seeing a growing group of families who are accruing dinner money arrears, some of which is reaching worrying levels. Can we please reiterate **DINNERS MUST BE PAID FOR IN ADVANCE.** For families

who persistently ignore this we can refuse credit, which means that we will not provide a meal unless it has been already paid for. We also have had to stop some families from ordering further meals until their debt is paid off and still others where we have had to send the debt to NYCC debt recovery team. Please, please, please avoid these scenarios by paying in advance for school meals.

Pantomime letters

Letters have been sent out to Y2 –Y6 children regarding the forthcoming visits to Harrogate Pantomime to see Jack and the Beanstalk. This will take place on 28th November. Please note that the cost of this event is based on everyone making a contribution and that we have already heavily subsidised this visit as well as applying the large discount we get for our school's discount.

We have also sent out a letter today to our children in Y1, Sunshines and Puddles who will also be seeing a pantomime this year. On the 6th December we will be bringing a children's theatre group into school to perform Aladdin. Again please note that the cost of this event is based on everyone making a contribution and that we have already heavily subsidised the performance.

Reminders

School Uniform

Can we please remind families about our school uniform expectations for Y1 – Y6

Boys' Uniform:

- Plain white, navy or pale blue shirt, long or short sleeves -(polo shirt acceptable)
- Plain grey or black trousers, long or short- not denim
- Plain Royal blue jersey, cardigan or sweatshirt (with crest available from School only)

Girls' Uniform:

- Plain white ,navy or pale blue shirt , long or short sleeves (polo shirt acceptable)
- Plain grey or black skirt or pinafore or trousers – not denim

- Plain Royal blue jersey, cardigan or sweatshirt (with crest available from School only)

In summer girls can wear blue/white gingham check dresses or blue/white striped dresses if they like

Sensible flat shoes, trainers or sandals in **dark colours** only

We have noticed a number of children in inappropriate footwear and several girls in leggings which are not part of our school uniform for children in Y1 – Y6. Please support school with maintaining our school uniform standards.

We also have a PE dress code which again the majority of children and families respect but we do not have everyone complying.

- White t-shirt & Black shorts

Parent Governor

One of our parent governor's term of office is about to expire and thus the post is up for re-election. We can at this point open up this process to any eligible individual who would be interested in standing.

ELECTION OF PARENT GOVERNORS

I am writing to let you know that there is to be an election of Parent Governors.

The term "parent" includes anyone who has custody of a child registered at the school, as well as "natural" parents. Parents can stand for election and vote in secret in the election, if a ballot is needed.

As well as parents, the governing body is made up of governors appointed by the Local Authority (the County Council), school staff, the headteacher and governors appointed by the rest of the governing body (community governors). In voluntary controlled schools there are also foundation governors.

Parent Governors have a **four*** year term of office and continue to serve even if their child(ren) leaves the school during this period.

What Do Governors Do?

The governors' work affects most aspects of the school's work. They establish, with the Headteacher, aims for the school, and approve policies – for the curriculum, behaviour and discipline, for example; and are responsible for the school's budget and the use and maintenance of the premises. More generally, they are expected to be in touch with the local community and to help guide the school to meet the community's educational needs. They are also expected to help the school explain to the community what the school is trying to achieve for their children. A leaflet, providing further information, is available either in schools or from the Governor Support, County Hall, Northallerton, tel. 01609 532936, e-mail Governor.Support@northyorks.gov.uk

The governors, together as a body, have a range of legal responsibilities, so being a governor is an important commitment and new governors should be willing to attend training to help them learn what is entailed.

Do Parent Governors have Special Responsibilities?

No. Parent Governors do not have "extra" duties. All governors are equally responsible and discharge their responsibilities as a body, not individually. The Parent Governors speak as parents: they can't speak for all parents.

Are there any restrictions which could disqualify parents from becoming Parent Governors?

Yes, but they are unlikely to apply to most parents considering becoming a parent governor. The restrictions are contained in the School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2003, Schedule 6 and subsequent amendment Regulations. Parents putting themselves forward for election will be required to sign this form and return it with a nomination form. If any of the restrictions apply you should not proceed with your nomination as a governor. Also, you are disqualified from election or appointment as a parent governor if you are an elected member of the local authority (-or if you are paid to work at the school for more than 500 hours in any twelve month period commencing on 1 August and finishing on 31 July).

Governors are subject to enhanced DBS checks and the elected parent will be provided, by the school with the requisite form to complete and take to the headteacher along with proof of identity (as detailed in the list of Valid Identity Documents).

How are Parent Governors Elected?

Parent Governors must be people (aged at least 18) who have a child(ren) at the school when they are elected. Nomination forms are available from the school. Each form must be signed by the candidate. Candidates can also make a short statement about themselves – a maximum of 50 words will be allowed and this will be rigidly applied. A simple form for this purpose will be provided with nomination forms.

If more nominations are received than there are places to fill, there will be a secret ballot and I will send to each parent, ballot forms (1 per parent) and envelopes for their return. The form explains how votes may be cast.

If the number of nominations received is the same as the number of places to be filled, then those people will be declared elected. If there are fewer, those nominated will be declared elected and it will be for the governing body to fill any remaining vacancy by appointing a parent governor.

The rules for the election are written down in Procedures set by the Local Authority, and these can be inspected at the school.

Result of the Election

The names of those elected will be displayed at the school for at least seven days and will be included in the next edition of the school prospectus.

Anyone having any query about the election is invited to contact the school.

**THE CLOSING DATE FOR NOMINATION IS MONDAY 5TH NOVEMBER
3PM**

Yours sincerely

Miss K O'Donnell