

Athelstan Primary School
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Newsletter Friday 7th September 2018

Dear Parents

Welcome back to everyone for the start of not only the new term, but also the new school year. We would also like to extend a very big welcome to all our new families who have joined us for the first time this September. We feel that the start of the new year went really well and we believe that the transition days undertaken at the end of last term have most certainly contributed to children feeling more confident and ready to start in their new classes.

Morning Drop Off

We have had various parents ask the question about leaving their children on a morning, please note that although we are more than happy for parents and carers to wait with the child/ren **you do not need to wait** in the playground. School staff from 8:15am supervise children and children can be left to be supervised by school staff from this point onwards. We do like to encourage independence with our children and this does give them a very secure opportunity to begin to develop their confidence. If however you need to speak to a class teacher then please do so as they will be on the playground from 8:20am KS2, 8:30am KS1.

A reminder that the bell goes for KS2 (Y3-Y6) classes at 8:30am and for KS1 classes (Y1 & Y2) at 8:40am.

School mail and communication

This is a reminder that we will distribute mail in accordance with the consent previously provided by yourself. This will be either a hard copy or an email. Newsletters are also uploaded onto the website, every week on a Friday. It is really important that you access a newsletter on a weekly basis otherwise you and your children will miss important messages and information. It makes life very difficult for everyone when parents complain that they didn't know about something when we have informed you through the newsletter. This is our means of communication. We do not text information.

School Meals

Athelstan School offers a daily choice menu on a three week cycle. Children can choose on the day to have a hot lunch, jacket potato or sandwich. They may also

bring a packed lunch from home. Children from Sunshines to Year 2 are eligible to receive a Universal Free School Meal. This is funded through the UFSM grant and is not means tested. We would like to encourage all children from Sunshines to Year 2 to take up this offer, which is potentially a yearly saving of £446.50 for each child. We will be having some taster days for the children in the next few weeks. Menus can be found on the website, at the school office and on the display notice boards outside of school.

The cost of a school meal for children from Year 3- 6 has risen this year to **£2.35**. Please make payments for school meals through your Parent Pay account. The cost of a nursery meal is £2.10. Please ensure that meals are paid for in advance and kept in credit, accounts should not be allowed to drop into arrears.

If you think, your child/children be eligible to receive a Free School Meal then please complete the claim form below and return to the address shown, or return to the school office. Even if your child already receives a UFSM as there are other benefits from claiming a Free School Meal. Children in nursery may be eligible for a Free School Meal if they stay for both a morning and afternoon session, please use form 1

[X:\FSM claims\a.FMB1 - FSM APPLICATION \(Sept 2018\).pdf](#) (Nursery,Y3,Y4,Y5,Y6)

[X:\FSM claims\a.FMB2 \(18-19\) Sept 2018.pdf](#) (Sunshines,Y1 and Y2)

If your application for Free School Meals/Pupil Premium is successful as well as generated funds for school your family will be able to access:

- Support for school visits – including residential visits
- Support with group music lessons – including the loan of instruments
- Support with the cost of after school clubs –including clubs run by outside providers
- Support with access to holiday club events- including whole family trips
- Pupil Premium Families will receive from school a £30 voucher, per child, for school uniform and/or bags sold in school.

Parking

This primary school, has substantially more parking than any other local school. In addition we have provided a number of bike and scooter stations and do encourage children where possible to walk, scooter or cycle to school. In order to assist everyone please can we ask parents to follow some very simple steps

Please do not park in the disabled bays unless you are clearly displaying a blue badge.

Please do not park in the named disabled bays.

Please do not park on the yellow lines. (They are there for a reason)

Please do not park on the grass verges, this damages the ground and causes costs for repair which means less money to spend on your children)

Please do not park on the hatched lines, middle of the teardrop, or in front of the entrance gates

Please do not park in the front of the staff car park

Please be considerate of local residents at the Highfield entrance and the Rose Ave entrance, do not park across their driveways and Double Park

Break time Fruit and Juice Y1-Y6

Healthy snacks and drinks are available at a low cost for children to enjoy during morning break Y1 –Y6. The snacks available range from apples, cucumber, carrots, melon, milk and fruit juice. Children may bring in their **own fruit** however please **do not send children into school with any other snacks for break time**. Some snacks may appear healthy but do have a high sugar and salt content. Children in other age groups are provided with healthy snacks.

Water Bottles

Please ensure that your child's water bottle for classroom drinking is CLEAR. Children must not bring in solid bottles to have in the classrooms. Can we also remind families that these should only be filled with water. Water bottles are now in back stock to buy from school at £1.50. Please log onto parent pay to make payment.

After School Clubs

Notification of clubs has been sent out today via text message. There are still places left in some of the clubs. To book log onto to Parent Pay to reserve your child a place. If attending a sports club please remember to ensure that children have the appropriately kit for this club. If your child is unable to attend any session, please let the school office know.

Y6 children going to Kingswood next week may join clubs week commencing 17th September. Please log onto Parent Pay to reserve a place. A refund for the missed week will be applied accordingly to your Parent Pay account.

APSA

Mrs Helen Hunter the Chair of The PTA would like to extend a welcome any new members to join APSA.

APSA support the school through fundraising opportunities and it would be great to see some new faces this term to help support this worthwhile organisation. A letter will be sent out next week with more details of how you could become involved. The Summer Fair held at the end of the summer term raised an amazing £1500.

We have already planned a few events for the autumn and would be delighted to have your support.

Being a school volunteer

Volunteers in school are very important to us and can have a real and positive impact for the children. Helping children to read, supporting craft activities and taking part in school visits are some of the ways you can give your help and support to school and the children. Equally if you would like to help and don't actually want to work directly with the children (let's be honest not everyone does) there are roles in school which we would love to have some help with working in the library in the wild life area etc.

If you were able to offer even just an hour a day once a week on a regular basis, this would be really appreciated. To be a volunteer who comes into school regularly you will however need to undertake a DBS check and have a brief induction. This can be arranged with Mrs Thompson. Please contact the school office if you are able to help.

Y6 Kingswood information

Doors will be open from 8:20 am. Please can **the children** bring their luggage to the small hall (remember they are responsible for carrying not adults). Parents will need to attend in school only if they need to complete any paperwork for medication. We will be leaving at **11.30am** from the playground at the rear of school. Families are welcome to wave the children off as we drive down Rose Avenue. However can we stress that parents **do not park down Rose Avenue** as this restricts access for the coach.

School will keep you up to date of our arrival through text messaging. Pictures will be available on the school Facebook page. Please be aware due to the very rural location internet access is limited, so there will be postings once during a day.

If you have any concerns please email

Mrs Whelerton stwhelerton@athelstan.n-yorks.sch.uk but again please note this email address will not be monitored all the time as Mrs Whelerton will be supervising your children and also again there is very limited internet access.

School Photos 28/09/18

We are changing the way we organise school photographs this year.

For children in Puddles and Raindrops who are not normally in school on a Friday morning (i.e. it is not one of their sessions) if they would like an individual school photograph then they can come into school at 8:30 am for that photograph to be taken.

All other children (including those who have a regular session in Puddles and Raindrops) will have their individual and school age sibling photograph taken during the normal school day. Proofs will be sent home with the children

For those who would like a family photo we have organised a dedicated family session starting from 2:30pm until 7pm. This session is by appointment only; it will not be possible for families just to turn up on the day. To book a family photo appointment you must either

- Email the school office on admin@athelstan.n-yorks.sch.uk
- Phone the school office on 01977 684037
- Send a written letter in requesting an appointment
- Call into the office at the start/end of the day

The office staff will hopefully be able to provide you with a suitable time.

Proofs of the family session will be available on Monday 1st October

Dates for this term

What is going on	When is this happening	Who is this aimed at
Meeting for Sunshines families	18/09/18	All families with a child in the Sunshines class
Y1 Phonics meeting	25/09/18	All families with a child in the Y1 classes
School photographs	28/09/18	See above
Bikeability	8-11/10/18	Y6 children
Parents' Evening	16 & 17/10/18	All families with a child in Sunshines – Y6
KS1 Sats Meeting	23/10/18	All families with a child in the Y2 classes
Open class	25/10/18	Families with a child in Mrs Turner's class
School Disco	25/10/18	Children from Sunshines – Y6
Break up for half term	Thursday 25/10/18	Whole school
Back to school	Monday 05/11/18	Whole school
New 2019 Sunshines starters Open evening	08/11/18	All families with a child due to start in Sunshines in September 2019
Class Assembly	09/11/18	All families with a child in Mr Ivel's class
Open Class	14/11/18	All families with a child in Miss Barton/Miss Middlebrook's class
Children in Need	16/11/18	Whole school
Open Class	19/11/18	All families with a child in Mr Tull's class

Open Class	21/11/18	All families with a child in Mrs Corrin's class
Open Class	22/11/18	All families with a child in Miss Pugh's
Class Assembly	23/11/18	All families with a child in Miss Town's
Open Class	27/11/18	All families with a child in Mrs Pedley/Mrs Whitehead's class
Visit to Harrogate Pantomime	28/11/18	All children from Y2-Y6
Class assembly	30/11/18	All families with a child in Mrs Whelerton's class
Y5 Christmas Carols	07/12/18	All families with a child in the Y5 year group.
Y3 Christmas Carols	10/12/18	All families with a child in the Y3 year group.
Sunshines Christmas Production	11/12/18	All families with a child in Sunshines .
Y1 Christmas production	12/12/18	All families with a child in the Y1 year group.
Y2 Christmas production	13/12/18	All families with a child in the Y2 year group.
Christmas school lunch	14/12/18	Whole school
Christmas Jumper day	14/12/18	Whole School
Christmas Fair	14/12/18	Whole school
Break up for Christmas	21/12/18	Whole school
Back to school	Tuesday 8/1/19	Whole School

Yours sincerely

Miss Karen O'Donnell