



Aycliffe Drive Primary School

Autumn 2020 Newsletter / Information sheet number 5

The weeks seem to be flying by and whilst we do not know what Christmas will look like for families. We are trying to keep school as normal as possible and despite the challenges, your children have continued to come to school and continued to thrive.

Safeguarding Headlines



We are required to keep the school building well ventilated to mitigate the risk of Covid-19 transmission. We are keeping the classroom windows open to improve ventilation. As the weather is getting colder, please make sure your child comes to school with suitable warm layers. We are happy for your child to bring a fleece in to wear in class, we would prefer red but grey or black would also be suitable.



Christmas Cards

Christmas cards will be a little different this year. We ask that your child's Christmas cards are only sent to their friends that in their own classroom. Unfortunately, we will be unable to deliver cards to their friends in other classes. Each class will have their own post box. Please ensure they come in early. All cards, will be quarantined for 72 hours, before being given to their friends to take home.

Year 2 Phonics



Year 1 Phonics Screening in June was cancelled due to Covid-19; Year 2 children are now expected to sit the Phonics Screening test in the second autumn term. The children in year 2 will sit the test on the 7th and 8th December

In order to prepare for this, Year 2 children are taking part in daily phonics sessions to recap sounds, which should have been taught in Year 1.

Special Awards & Achievements



Congratulations to **Molly** from **Hawthorn** who recently took exams in Performing Arts obtaining a Distinction in Ballet, Honours in Modern, Highly Commended in Mime Performance and a Pass in Drama.

If your child has received any special achievements or awards outside of school, let us know. Please send details to admin@aycliffedrive.herts.sch.uk, we would love to hear what the children are doing outside of school.

Upcoming Events

24 th November	Maple Parent Consultation
25 th November	Flu Spray
26 th November	Harry Potter Day - Oak
27 th November	Occasional Day
 1 st December	Chestnut Parent Consultation Nursery Christmas Fire
2 nd December	Birch Parent Consultation
	Oak Parent Consultation
3 rd December	Sycamore Parent Consultation
4 th December	 Nursery Parent Consultation Pyjamas Day for the Hospice of St Francis (Letter to follow)
7 th December	Year 2 Phonics Screening
 8 th December	Year 2 Phonics Screening Nursery Christmas Fire Reception Parent Consultation
 9 th December	Laurel Parent Consultation Birch Christmas Fire Redwood Christmas Fire
 10 th December	Reception Parent Consultation Chestnut Christmas Fire Oak Christmas Fire
 15 th December	Hawthorn Christmas Fire Willow Christmas Fire
 16 th December	Reception Christmas Fire Laurel Christmas Fire
 17 th December	 Christmas Jumper Day (Letter to follow) Sycamore Christmas Fire Maple Christmas Fire
18 th December	Break up for Christmas Holidays - Staggered finish times, letter to follow

Reception applications are now open

The online application for a place in our reception class for September 2021 opened on **Monday 2 November 2020** and closes on **Friday 15 January 2021**.



You can apply for a reception place at:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/actweb/education/admissions/startpage.cfm>

Forgotten stuff

A reminder that parents are unable to drop off any forgotten lunches, water bottles or other items once their child goes into class. Children who forget their lunch will be provided with a school packed lunch (KS2 children will be charged if not entitled to FSM).

If water bottles have been forgotten, children are able to have water in class. If your child arrives late to school and the gates are shut, please ring the buzzer and the office will open the gate for the child. The child will then need to go to their classroom and knock on their fire doors. Parents must not enter the site.



School Uniform

The school office remains closed to visitors, if you require any items please send in a clearly marked envelope, with your child's name, class, which items you need and how much money is in the envelope, this will then be passed to the school office. Any purchased items of uniform will be sent home to you via your child.



Elastic ties	£3.35
Short ties	£3.90
Long ties	£4.35
Red book bags	£3.15
Red shoe bags	£2.20
School badges	£0.75



Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club opens from 7.30, the cost per session is £3.50 and £3.00 for siblings. Sessions can be booked and paid for, in advance using the Schoolgateway. If you would like your child to attend, please email the school office.



Attendance from the start of the Autumn Term

REPORTING ABSENCE. Please report all absences by ringing the school office and leaving a message on 01442 404008 before 8.30 on the day of absence. It is important you give us the reason for the absence so that we can monitor any potential outbreak of illness.

Please remember to provide a confirmation letter for sickness and evidence of medical appointment because without this information the absence will not be authorised!

Please remember, if you or a member of your household are displaying symptoms of Covid-19 and require a test, please keep your child/children off school. We also ask that you keep us updated.



Do not forget! The school does not authorise holidays in school time and the local authority will issue fixed penalty notices for taking children out of school unless there are unavoidable, extreme circumstances when the school may authorise this.

Well done to Oak Class, this week's winner of the attendance cup with a very impressive 98.5%, closely followed by Laurel with 98.3% with Birch in third with 97.4%



Overall Attendance

Class	Attendance		Class	Attendance	
Ash	89.3%	☹	Hawthorn	96.9%	☺
Elm	93.2%	☹	Willow	95.4%	☹
Birch	93.9%	☹	Maple	94.4%	☹
Sycamore	93.9%	☹	Redwood	94.9%	☹
Chestnut	95.7%	☹	Oak	97.5%	☺
Laurel	96.7%	☺	Overall total	95.4%	☹

Attendance over 96% - a smiley face ☺

Attendance below 96% - a sad face ☹

Term Dates

Autumn Term 2020	
Friday 27th November	Occasional Day (pupils not in school)
Friday 18th December	School closes at 2pm for Christmas Holidays
Spring Term 2021	
Monday 4th January	Staff training (pupils not in school)
Tuesday 5th January	Staff training (pupils not in school)
Wednesday 6th January	Pupils return to school
Monday 15th - Friday 19th February	Half term
Friday 26th March	School closes at 2pm for Easter holidays
Summer Term 2021	
Monday 12th April	Staff training (pupils not in school)
Tuesday 13th April	Pupils return to school
Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June	Half Term
Wednesday 21st July	School Closes at 2pm for Summer holidays
Thursday 22nd July	Staff training (pupils not in school)

School Governors

We are currently looking for new co-opted and parent governors to join our friendly governing body. Our governors come from a range of different backgrounds, skills and experience but all share a common interest of wanting the best possible education for the children in our school. If you are interested, please contact the school office for an application form.