



AYCLIFFE DRIVE PRIMARY SCHOOL

AUTUMN 2021 NEWSLETTER / INFORMATION SHEET NUMBER 1

It has been a lovely start to the new school year. The children have all settled well and are showing excellent learning behaviours. We have lots planned for this academic year; the autumn term is filling up fast.

Well done to our new Reception and Nursery pupils and their families, you have done a great job at settling into Aycliffe Drive Primary School. We have been very impressed by how quickly all the children have managed to adapt to their new routines and classes.

We are all desperately hoping for an uninterrupted year but coronavirus is still with us and we would like to thank parents for continuing to wear their facemasks while on the school grounds. We will continue to monitor the situation.



28TH SEPTEMBER INDIVIDUAL AND SIBLING PHOTOS

The school photographer will be in on 28th September, taking individual pupil and sibling photos, which will then be available for you to purchase. Further details on how to purchase these will be sent in due course. Please ensure that your child is in their full uniform and looking extremely smart!

SAFEGUARDING UPDATE - ON-LINE SAFETY TIKTOK

TikTok is a popular app. Your child must be over 13 years old to use TikTok.

As with all internet platforms, there are pros and cons to their use;

What should parents be concerned about?

When you download the app **users can see all the content without creating an account** although they are not able to post, like, or share anything until they've set up an account on the app.

By default, all accounts are public so anyone on the app can see what your child shares. However, only approved followers can send messages to them.



Users can like or react to a video, follow an account or send messages to each other. There is the risk that **strangers will be able to contact your child** on the app.

Children may be **tempted to take risks to get more of a following** or likes on a video, so, it is important to talk about what they share and with who.



Does TikTok have any safety features?

Like Facebook and Instagram, it has a digital wellbeing element (which is password protected) which alerts users who have been on the app for more than 2 hours. You can also turn on 'restricted mode' to filter out inappropriate content on the app.

Set your account to private

You can set an account to be private so that all videos can only be seen by the creator and no one else on the platform. With a private account, you can approve or deny users and limit incoming messages to followers only.

Please note that even with a private account, your child's profile photo, username, and bio are still visible to all users on the platform. You can manage who can comment, duet and direct message your child on the app.

Family Safety Mode links a parent's TikTok account to their child's and once enabled, they will be able to control Digital Wellbeing features, including:

Screen Time Management: Control how long their teen can spend on TikTok each day.

Direct Messages: Limit who can send messages to the connected account or turn off direct messaging completely.

Restricted Mode: Restrict the appearance of content that may not be appropriate for all audiences

How to report inappropriate content on the TikTok app?

You can report content that doesn't follow TikTok's community guidelines within the app.

<https://support.tiktok.com/en/safety-hc/report-a-problem>

You can delete followers or 'Fans' by choosing the fan you'd like to remove and selecting 'Block' from the menu of options. <https://support.tiktok.com/en/using-tiktok/followers-and-following/following-and-unfollowing>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/esafety-news/tik-tok-app-safety-what-parents-need-to-know/>

Special Awards & Achievements



Congratulations to Charlotte in Oak who has been awarded "Best in School" for a Year 4 & 5 Art competition organised by Dacorum Young Artist. Each best in school will be entered into an overall competition, which will be held on the 25th September. Well done Charlotte and good luck in this weekend's competition.



Congratulations to Dolcie in Birch who was awarded a medal in Ballet. Wonderful achievement Dolcie, well done.

Please send details to admin@aycliffedrive.herts.sch.uk, we would love to hear what the children are doing outside of school.



School Matters! Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

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. You must also provide a confirmation letter or email for sickness and evidence of any medical appointments. Without this information, the absence will not be authorised and may result in a **fixed penalty notice** from the local authority.



DON'T 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.



Congratulations to **Ash**, last week's winner of the Attendance Cup with 98.1%. Second place goes to Hawthorn with 97.4%. Third goes to Maple with 95.2%. Well done everyone

Overall Attendance for this year

Class	Attendance		Class	Attendance	
Ash	97.9%	😊	Hawthorn	96.6%	😊
Elm	93.4%	😞	Willow	95.2%	😞
Birch	92.4%	😞	Maple	96.9%	😊
Sycamore	88.3%	😞	Redwood	93.1%	😞
Chestnut	94.3%	😞	Oak	94.6%	😊
Laurel	91.5%	😞	Overall total	93.8%	😞

Attendance over 96% - a smiley face 😊

Attendance below 96% - a sad face 😞

School Uniform

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



Small reminder, All KS2 pupils wear ties (unless they are wearing a summer dress).

Term Dates

Autumn Term 2021	
Monday 25 th - Friday 29 th October	Half term
Friday 26 th November	Occasional day (pupils not in school)
Tuesday 21 st December	School closes at 2pm for Christmas holidays
Spring Term 2022	
Wednesday 5 th January	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Thursday 6 th January	Pupils return to school
Monday 14 th - Friday 18 th February	Half term
Friday 1 st April	School closes at 2pm for Easter holidays
Summer Term 2022	
Tuesday 19 th April	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Wednesday 20 th April	Pupils return to school
Monday 2 nd May	May Bank holiday
Monday 30 th May - Friday 3 rd June	Half term
Wednesday 20 th July	School closes at 2pm for Summer holidays
Thursday 21 st July	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Friday 22 nd July	Staff training day (pupils not in school)

Coming up this term

22 nd September	Redwood visit to Duxford
23 rd September	KS1 History Workshop
24 th September	Wear something Blue for Crohn's disease
28 th September	Individual and Siblings photos
29 th September	Maple visit to Duxford
6 th October	Year 6 Go Ape Wendover
22 nd October	Wear it pink for Cancer research
2 nd November	Redwood, Fire services visit
3 rd November	Flu Spray
26 th November	Occasional Day