



# Aston Fence J&I School Newsletter October 2023



Welcome to our first newsletter of the new school year. All of our children have settled so well into their new classes and they are producing fabulous work linked to this term's topics

## Nuts – reminder



Please note that we are a nut free school and for the safety of our children and staff ask that you **do not** send any nut products into school. Please be aware that many chocolate spreads contain hazelnuts and therefore, they should not be used as a sandwich filling for school packed lunches. Thank you for your support.

## Parking

If you, or someone on your behalf, is dropping-off or collecting your child, we would be very grateful for your support with this matter and ask you to park/wait in a way that is considerate of and respectful to our neighbours.

We have a parking arrangement with Aldi whereby you can park and then walk to or from school. If you are interested, please email the office with your name and vehicle registration so that we can issue you with a parking permit.

We don't underestimate the challenges associated with finding somewhere to park outside school but we are incredibly grateful for your co-operation with this matter.

## Poppies in School



Please note that poppies and other British Legion items will be available in school from the first week back after the half term break. If your child wishes to make a purchase, please make sure that money is placed in a small, sealed envelope labelled with their name and class.

## Disco for Jude

As you are aware, we recently lost Jude to cancer, and we are working with his family to create a lasting memorial to Jude in school. To this end, we are hoping to raise funds to develop 'Jude's Garden' within our school grounds.



Jude loved dance and music, so our first disco this year will be a tribute to Jude with the theme of Sparkle and Glitz. It will be held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November at 5-6.30pm for years 1-6. Children can come in their favourite outfits and add a bit of sparkle if they wish. The cost will be £2 per child which includes refreshments and is **payable on the door**.

Our FS2 team will be in touch with more information on an event for our FS2 children.

## Children in Need



BBC Children in Need is back this year on Friday 17th November 2023 and we would like to support this fantastic event by inviting children to dress in something spotty.

Donations of £1 per pupil can be made on the day and all proceeds will be forwarded to the charity.

## Christmas Fair

We are delighted that we will be able to hold our Christmas Fair again this year on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 4.15-6.00pm. This popular event is a really important part of our school's traditions and funds raised will be used towards our educational visits. We will be emailing further details in the coming weeks but are really hoping you will be able to join us on the night itself.

## Games Lessons


The weather is now turning cooler and children are advised to bring warm outdoor games clothing - jogging bottoms, jumper/tracksuit and a change of trainers. A white t-shirt and black shorts are worn for indoor gymnastics and dance work.



**Trainers & PE Kits** – if you have any PE garments (including trainers) that your children have outgrown, we are happy to take them off your hands and use them as spare kit in school. Thank you.



Twitter

For regular updates on what is happening in school and individual classes, please follow our Twitter feed on  @AstonFence.

## Sickness/appointments



In order to reduce the spread of germs throughout school, Health Protection Agency guidelines stipulate that if your child has either sickness or diarrhoea, they must remain off school for 48 hours from the last episode of illness.

If you would like to text us rather than telephone when your child is absent, or going to be late for school, please contact us on 07494 245043 or email at [office@astonfence.org](mailto:office@astonfence.org) and remember to order a school lunch if one is required.

## Aston Fence Board of Governors

Our board of governors would like to inform you that following recent resignations, Mrs L Ward has been elected Chair of Governors and Mr M Fairweather as Vice Chair.

We would like to thank Mrs Jones and Mrs Joyce for the commitment and support they have provided to the school, staff and children during their time as governors at Aston Fence. As their terms of office have come to an end, we have vacancies for parent and co-opted governors.

What does a school governor do? Briefly, school governors are volunteers who help to manage

a school by holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the pupils, the performance management of staff and overseeing the financial performance to ensure that money is well spent. A governor's term of office is 4 years and they are required to attend meetings at least once per term or more should they sit on panels/committees, attend training sessions and visit the school occasionally during school hours to gain a good understanding of the school's strengths and weaknesses.

Parent governors are elected by the parents and bring an important and valued perspective to the work of the governing board. They play a vital role on governing bodies, holding the unique position of having a parental viewpoint of the school. Through their children, they have a first-hand experience of the delivery of the curriculum, and how the school is perceived from the 'consumers' point of view.

Co-opted governors are appointed by the governing body who, in the opinion of the governing body, have the knowledge, experience and skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school.

If you, or a friend/relative, have a passion for education, are prepared to contribute to discussions offering challenge and support to the headteacher, but be sensitive to the pressures under which they work; have an interest in education and the welfare of children; and be willing to learn and attend relevant training, we would love to hear from you. For more information, please email our clerk, Mrs Montisci at [office@astonfence.org](mailto:office@astonfence.org) for more information.

## **Operation Encompass**

Aston Fence is part of a project which runs across Rotherham and South Yorkshire called Operation Encompass. The initiative is supported by the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership and is a link between South Yorkshire Police, schools and colleges.

Operation Encompass is designed to provide early reporting on any domestic abuse incidents, where the police have attended, and which might have an impact on a child in an educational setting.

A key member of staff in the school will be informed when a domestic abuse incident has occurred within the previous 24 hours or over the weekend. This will enable the school to monitor children possibly affected and, where required, support if necessary.

The designated member of the safeguarding staff will use this information in the strictest confidence. They will also ensure that the school is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children, or their families, who have been involved in, affected by, or witnessed a domestic abuse incident.

## **Congratulations**

Congratulations to Mrs Robinson, formerly known as Miss Clogg, who got married over the summer. We wish Mr & Mrs Robinson all the happiness for the future.





## Dates for Your Diary

### **OCTOBER**

**Fri 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Mon 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Tue 31<sup>st</sup>**

**Last day of term**

**School open**

Y6 Visit Crucial Crew

### **NOVEMBER**

**Thu 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Thu 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Thu 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Thu 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Fri 17<sup>th</sup>**

Y1 Visit Cannon Hall

Y1-Y6 Disco for Jude – 5-6.30pm

Open Evening – 1.30-6.30pm

Y2 Visit Cannon Hall (details to follow)

Children in Need

### **DECEMBER**

**Fri 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Mon 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Tue 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Wed 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Thur 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Wed 20<sup>th</sup>**

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**Thu 21<sup>st</sup>**

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**Thu 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Fri 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Christmas Fair - 4.15-6.00pm

FS2 Christmas Concert – 9.15am

Y1&Y2 Christmas Concert – 9.15am & 1.30pm

Y3&Y4 Christmas Concert – 9.15am & 1.30pm

Y5&Y6 Christmas Concert – 9.15am & 1.30pm

Y3&Y4 Christmas Party – am

Y1&Y2 Christmas Party – pm

FS2 Christmas Party – am

Y5&Y6 Christmas Party – pm

Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper

**Last day of term**

**Inset Day - School closes for Christmas**

### **JANUARY 2024**

**Mon 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Wed 17<sup>th</sup>-Fri 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Mon 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Tue 30<sup>th</sup>**

**School open**

Y6 Residential – Sheringham Youth Hostel

Y3 & Y4 Visit Creswell Craggs (details to follow)

Y5 Visit Murton Park (details to follow)

### **FEBRUARY**

**Fri 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Mon 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Last day of term**

**Inset Day**

### **MARCH**

**Thu 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Last day of term – school closes for Easter**

### **APRIL**

**Mon 15<sup>th</sup>**

**School open**

### **MAY**

**Mon 6<sup>th</sup>**

**w/c Mon 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Fri 24<sup>th</sup>**

**School closed - May Day**

Y6 SATs week (and possible the week after)

**Last day of term**

### **JUNE**

**Mon 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Tue 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Fri 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Inset Day**

**School open**

**Inset Day**

### **JULY**

**Tue 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Last day of term**