



# Aston Fence J&I School Newsletter December 2023



## Thank You

This will be our final newsletter of the year. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support throughout 2023. It is very much appreciated! On behalf of all the staff, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas with gifts under your tree and wonderful people around it.

## Children in Need

Following our recent non-uniform day, we managed to raise £195.00 for this very worthy charity. Thank you for all your donations.



## Poppy Appeal



Thank you for your contributions towards the Poppy Appeal. School raised £540.60 towards this vital welfare benevolent work.

## Tesco Blue Token Scheme

In September, Miss Richardson made an application to the Tesco Stronger Starts scheme for funding to support the development of a sensory room within school and we are delighted to announce that we have been successful in our bid.



This means that customers will be able to vote for our project via the blue token scheme in specific Tesco stores from mid-January until the end of March 2024. Although we will be competing with two other projects, we are guaranteed a minimum of £500 towards our project which is just fantastic.

Please see below for a list of stores taking part in the voting for our project.

- Sheffield Abbeydale – S7 2QB
- Sheffield Beighton - S20 1EA
- Sheffield Totley - S17 3LP
- Sheffield Birley Moor Rd – S12 4WG

We realise that some of these stores are a good distance from school so please feel free to share our news with friends and family who may live nearer to them.

## **Christmas Fair**

A huge thank you for making our Christmas Fair such a success. We are delighted to let you know that we raised £2,634.69. The funds will be used for the benefit of all the children in school, starting with subsidising visits in the early part of next term. We are also going to make a donation to the the Sheffield Children's Hospital and PACT (Parents Association of Children with Tumours and Leukaemia) in memory of Jude. All of the toys, games, books and bric-a-brac left over at the end of the evening were donated to a local primary school, Paws Animal Charity, and a Rotherham Hospice Charity – nothing went to waste.

A special thank you to Mrs Taylor who co-ordinates the whole event. Without her, the evening would not be the success that it is!

## **Better Readers/Volunteers**



Many thanks once again to all those who have volunteered their time to share books and help in classrooms on a regular basis - Miss Colley, Miss Bradish and Mrs Bragg. The children involved really enjoy reading to an adult and your support really does make a difference.

## **Christmas Concerts**

It was wonderful to welcome families in to school to watch our Christmas performances. The children put their heart and soul in to the productions and they were a pleasure to watch. Thank you to those of you who joined us and for being fantastic audiences!



## **Snow/Bad Weather**

The staff at Aston Fence work hard to ensure the school is open every day. However, we do have to prepare for the possibility of snow and ice disruption during the winter months.

Our key objective during the worst weather conditions is to open school on a site that is safe and adequately staffed. When we experience ice or snow, our first priority is to assess whether we can make the site safe enough for adults and children.

Although we keep up-to-date with forecasts and weather warnings, some snow and ice conditions can be quite localised. What appears to be 'slushy' snow at school, can be compacted very quickly on frozen ground when children are walking on it, or there may be severe snow around school but little where you live.

When there is a possibility that school may not be able to open we will assess the following criteria:

- Can the site be made safe?
- Will we have sufficient staff to meet appropriate adult:child ratios?

- Can we provide meals at lunchtime?

If you wish to find out whether the school is open or not on a day when the weather is bad, please check your emails, text messages and our Twitter feed or tune in to **Hallam FM** where information will be broadcast. Alternatively, you can visit **our website** for closure information.

**PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT CLOSING A SCHOOL IS NEVER A DECISION THAT IS TAKEN LIGHTLY; WE WILL DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO STAY OPEN.**



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from us all.





## Dates for Your Diary

### DECEMBER

Wed 20	Y3&Y4 Christmas Party – am
“	Y1&Y2 Christmas Party – pm
Thu 21	FS2 Christmas Party – am
“	Y5&Y6 Christmas Party – pm
“	Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day
Thu 21	<b>Last day of term</b>
Fri 22	<b>Inset Day - School closes for Christmas</b>

### JANUARY 2024

Mon 8	<b>School open</b>
Wed 17-Fri 19	Y6 Residential – Sheringham Youth Hostel
Mon 29	Y3 & Y4 Visit Creswell Craggs
Tue 30	Y5 Visit Murton Park (details to follow)

### FEBRUARY

Fri 9	Young Voices and <b>Last day of half term</b>
Mon 19	<b>Inset Day</b>
Tue 20	<b>School Open</b>
Tues 27	Y2 Visit Twycross Zoo (details to follow)

### MARCH

Wed 20	Y2 Family Learning (details to follow)
Thu 28	<b>Last day of term – school closes for Easter</b>

### APRIL

Mon 15	<b>School open</b>
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### MAY

Mon 6	<b>School closed - May Day</b>
w/c Mon 13	Y6 SATs week (and possibly the week after)
Tue 21	Class Photographs
Thu 23	Y5 Family Learning (details to follow)
Fri 24	<b>Last day of half term</b>

### JUNE

Mon 3	<b>Inset Day</b>
Tue 4	<b>School open</b>
Fri 7	Y4 Family Learning (details to follow)
Fri 28	<b>Inset Day</b>

### JULY

Thu 11	Y6 Family Learning (details to follow)
Tue 23	<b>Last day of term</b>