

Newsletter Friday 30th June 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

The weather has been unbelievably kind to us this term, both for whole school events such as Sports' Day, but also on our residential visits. I hope our run of 'good luck' continues into the final weeks as we host Town Sports on Monday and for the upcoming field trips to New Brighton, Peake Wildlife Park and Prestatyn.

It was lovely to see so many parents and carers on Thursday for Sports' Day and I felt so incredibly proud of the entire school community who cheered on each and every pupil. Sports' Day is for many, their chance to shine and it was a privilege to be able to stand back and view what our school does so incredibly well—nurture pupils so they have the belief to go on to achieve.

The residential visit to the Quinta centre was a wonderful trip and it is always lovely to see pupils outside of the classroom environment. A huge thank you to Miss Baggaley, Miss Fisher, Mrs Salt and Mr Bundy who agreed to cater for the children for three days in order to reduce costs. The amount of work involved in organising and running residential visits cannot be underestimated and without staff giving freely of their own time, these trips could not go ahead.

Rachel Woollam



Music Lessons for September

Music forms a huge part of life at Alsager Highfields and as well as being taught music through the curriculum, children can access private music lessons in school also.

From September there will be vacancies for both piano and drum lessons at school due to year 6 pupils moving on. If your child wishes to sign up for either please email:

admin@alsagerhighfields.cheshire.sch.uk

Attendance

Since September 2022 all schools have been following the government guidance issued on 'Working together to improve school attendance.'

Cheshire East Council have now provided every school a named point of contact in the Attendance and Children out of school team and part of this service includes termly targeted support meetings where individual cases of pupils with attendance below the threshold of 90% are looked at in detail.

As we have had a number of families taking holidays in term-time this year, the attendance supervisor reiterated that parents and carers:

'do not have the right to take children on holiday in term time.' and that 'holidays that are unauthorised may result in a school absence penalty notice.'

We also looked at other cases of unauthorised absences and parents of children who have been absent for 10 or more unauthorised sessions (a session is half a day), within a term or two consecutive half terms will receive a school absence penalty notice warning letter.

Our school attendance has once again fallen below that of the national average. Please do help your child to get the most out of school by ensuring that they attend daily. Thank you



School Dinners

From September, all schools in the Cornovii Trust are aligning their catering provision, which for Alsager Highfields means a change in provider from Cheshire East to Aramark. This company provides catering services to hospitals, universities, stadiums and schools around the world.

The cost of a school dinner from September will rise to £2.40. This increase is not due to the change in provider but due to the continuing rise in price of basic ingredients.

On the last day of term (20th July), we will be having a 'Leavers' Lunch', with the menu picked by our year six pupils.



Sports



Over the past two years, we have increased the opportunity for all children to take part in a greater variety of sports and are now working closely with Alsager tennis club as well as the School Games Organisation. Our hope is that all pupils can find a sport they enjoy and participate in as part of an active healthy lifestyle both now and when they are older.

Children are representing Highfields at events in Crewe, Congleton as well as Alsager and I would like to introduce a polo shirt, similar to the one we have purchased for staff, for pupils. This will make us easily identifiable and much smarter when competing. I am therefore going to 'phase out' the coloured T-shirts next year and the school will buy all pupils a polo shirt which should wear better and dry quicker after washing. Therefore, if your child can 'make do' with this year's T-shirt for PE, please do not buy new for September.

Library



Please support Mrs Johnson (Noah and Clara's mum) and the entire community as we try to stop the further reduction of opening hours to Alsager library.

As a school we use the library to promote a love of books but we also point families in their direction instead of buying books. If you can support on Tuesday 4th of July, straight after school, please do. If you are unable to attend or would prefer to write and express your views, please follow the link https://surveys.cheshireeast.gov.uk/s/Library_Service_Consultation_2023/

Read-In Protest at Alsager Library

**Tuesday 4th July
3-4pm**

We need your support to show Cheshire East Council how much the people of Alsager love their library!

Cheshire East plan to close Alsager Library for a further 1.5 days a week from September. We believe libraries are an essential service that should be available to everyone, every day, and want to fight this.

Thank you

Silver Awards

Congratulations to the following pupils who have earned their silver award in the past fortnight:



Y2—Irene L

Y3— Elodie W

Y6— Joshua L, Kaiden W



Gold Award

We have a few more gold certificate recipients who have clearly been working their socks off!

Y1— Sam N, Vincent C-H, Freya Bo, Martha R, Mikolaj W, Freya BI, Willow D, Rafe G, Lowen R and Amelia H

Y2—Ben V,

Y3—Amber W, Dexter D

Y4—Alexander A, Mollie C, Ben M

Y6— Stephen M

Diamond Award

Children who have earned 40 stars this academic year for their amazing work and super attitude are as follows:



Y1—Riley H

Y4—Abe W, Thomas W, Zafar A

Y5—Arthur M

Y6—Matilda G



Word Millionaire

Huge congratulations to our latest word millionaires.

Zachary G and Mason W in year 5 who are our latest word millionaires, taking our annual total to.....18!



Congratulations to our wonderful award winners who this week have shone with their determination and great attitudes - well done!

Don't forget.....

Monday is 'own clothes' day in exchange for cuddly toys or a bottle of any description (shampoo, ketchup, lemonade, wine etc).

Friday is our summer fair from 5—7pm