



Alsager Highfields Primary School

Mighty oaks from small acorns grow

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Newsletter Friday 13th September 2023



Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope you and your families have had a lovely summer and managed to catch some sunshine somewhere!

A huge welcome to the new families that have joined Highfields with children in years 1 to 6 as well as to the new families who have joined us with pupils starting in reception. All pupils have settled in remarkably well, especially the reception pupils who have done brilliantly in adjusting to full time 'big school' from day one! I look forward to watching our newest members grow and flourish as they progress through the school as well as getting to know new families better.

Over the summer we were lucky enough to have our Daily Mile track installed, thanks to the generosity of ex-parent Mr Donaldson. The pupils are already enjoying clocking up the laps in the afternoon, when all classes complete their 'daily mile.' We have also completed some work at the annex building, knocking through Mrs Lindblad's old classroom, in order to create another large classroom. This will be plastered and decorated in the forthcoming weeks so that as the reception groups become more established, they have the space needed to work in discrete groups when needed.

The outdoor area at the annex continues to be improved and our new starters are already enjoying exploring the maths shed, construction area as well as playing on the new trikes and balance bikes.

Already new parents have commented on 'loving' the updates on our learning platform 'Seesaw' and as a school we do use this platform to share all information for classes as well as gain permission for trips and activities. In order to get notices and posts from class teachers, it is important that all parents are signed up for this. If anyone is having difficulty with Seesaw or would like more information about this platform, please do speak to your child's class teacher.

What ever your plans this weekend, I hope you enjoy the sunshine, if and when it comes!

Rachel Woollam

SATURDAY 14th SEPTEMBER

Hassall Green Nature Reserve,

CW11 4XX

10 - 4 pm



If you're stuck for ideas of things to do this weekend, Bid-dulph Grange Garden is holding an open day with free entry this Saturday and Hassall Green Nature Reserve is also running a Family Open Day on Saturday from 10-4pm.

Back to School Reminders



School start time at the main school is 8.45 and 8.50 for reception. We expect pupils to be in school at this time and not just arriving. The main school gates are open at 8.40 and 8.45 at the annex so please help us to get the best out of your child by ensuring they arrive to school on time.

I politely ask that parents and carers don't expose our pupils to smoking, vaping or bad language on the playground or areas in the immediate vicinity as I have had a couple of reports about a lapse in standards in this area.

A reminder that dogs are not allowed on school grounds. Dogs can often be unpredictable, especially when surrounded by lots of activity and noise and I have known dogs at other schools bite children when approached.

Thank you for your understanding and anticipated support with all of the above.

Attendance

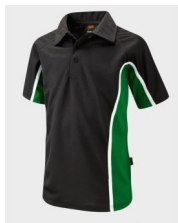
We have virtually had a 'full house' this first week back and this has made establishing new routines so much easier for staff. Please continue to ensure your child attends school daily—every day really does count. Thank you



Uniform

It has been wonderful to see the children return to school looking so smart, especially when wearing the new PE tops. Please remember if you are entitled to pupil premium funding then school will help with the cost of uniform. In order to maintain this high standard of presentation, please adhere to our policy of:

- No jewellery should be worn (stud earrings only exception)
- No nail polish
- Hair accessories in green please
- Black shoes (not trainers) on non PE days



PLEASE ENSURE ALL CLOTHING IS LABELLED as we already have a number of items that have been left out and are unnamed.

Free School Meals

Even though all infant children (reception, year 1 and year 2) are entitled to universal free school meals, we strongly advise parents to still apply and claim for free school meals if entitled. As a school we can claim additional funding for pupils entitled to pupil premium. This funding is used to support the purchasing of school uniform, subsidising school trips as well as paying for music lessons.

If you think you may be entitled to claim for free school meals please visit the Cheshire East website:

https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/school-meals/free_school_meals.aspx

And apply online

Claim for free school meals

Apply for free school meals >

Cheshire East will then use the Government eligibility checker to confirm your entitlement. Successful claims can begin the same day.

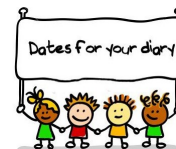
Reading

Well done to all those pupils who completed the Summer Reading Challenge as well as those who read and quizzed over the summer break. Any child who completed the challenge is invited to bring their certificate and medal in for the celebration assembly where they will be given a star for their bookmark.



Mrs Harrison (English lead) and I have been delighted with the amount of pupils who have read at home every night this week. Please keep it up!

Dates for the diary



Tuesday 8th October—Tempest in for individual photos

Thursday 24th October—PFA Halloween disco

Friday 25th October—Halloween Tombola (lunchtime)
- break up

Monday 4th November—school closed to pupils INSET

Tuesday 5th November—school reopens/ Y2 trip to Manchester airport

Tuesday 12th November—Parents' Evening

Thursday 14th November—Parents' Evening

Friday 22nd November—non uniform day for chocolate donation

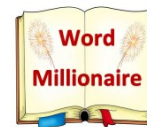
Tuesday 3rd December—KS2 New Vic theatre/ KS1 Panto

Friday 6th December—Christmas Fayre

Friday 20th December—Carol Concert 9.30 Wesley Place/ break up

Word Millionaires

Huge congratulations to Sophie W and Clara L in years 5 and 4 respectively, who both achieved word millionaire status over the summer. Both will receive their book tokens and certificates in assembly next week.



Accelerated Reader



Some parents have asked about word totals carrying on in to this academic year from last academic year, and for clarification, book totals reset every year on the 1st of September. Books that have been quizzed on by pupils, can also only be tested on once.