



Alsager Highfields Primary School

Mighty oaks from small acorns grow

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Headteacher: Mrs Rachel Woollam



Friday 2nd February

Dear Parents & Carers,

As you know, this academic year we are focusing on improving the outdoor space of both the main school and the annexe. We are busy raising funds for a daily mile track, are looking into Opal play to further improve break and lunch times for all pupils and have a schedule of work to totally overhaul the outdoor area for reception pupils. We have also launched an eco-club who I am enlisting the help of to plan some raised beds and planters to enhance our environment further. As you can imagine, all these plans cost dearly so many thanks to all who have donated to our Just-Giving page, raising funds towards these projects. We have surpassed our target of £500 and this would not have been possible had it not been for our amazing staff who have challenged themselves to run the 'Alsager 5' on Sunday. Please do support them if you are spectating. I hope to cheer from the side lines! We have also been successful in securing funds from the Alsager Round Table and this will enable us to start on these projects much sooner than anticipated. Watch this space for updates!

Rachel Woollam



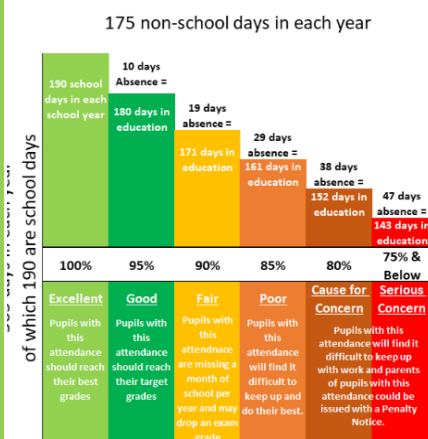
Attendance

Attendance this academic year has generally been above the national average. However, we still have a number of pupils who are classed as persistently absent with attendance at 90% or below.

Whilst 90% sounds like a reasonable figure, 10% equates to 19 days of learning lost; almost a month, over a school year.

Helping children to 'catch up' once they have been off after periods of absence is also increasingly challenging when not all classes have a teaching assistant.

Illness cannot be avoided, but please ensure your child returns to school as soon as possible. We can support you getting your child back to school by administering medicines throughout the school day. If your child is 'under the weather', school can administer Calpol at your request.



Please don't let your child miss out on the education they deserve.

As a school, we will contact you if we deem a pupil is not well enough to be in school.

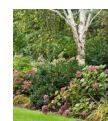
Please do look at the table on attendance. Our goal is to have all pupils (apart from those with a pre-arranged agreement), to have attendance of 97% or more.

Items Wanted

As Design and Technology lead, I am currently looking to improve both the range and quality of DT tools and equipment in school. Currently when we complete woodwork projects, children are sawing pieces of wood on table tops with vices, but the accuracy and quality of work would be much improved if we had a couple of workbenches. If you have, or know of someone who has a bench they no longer use and would be willing to donate, please could you get in touch with the office.



Also we are looking to 'spruce up' the front of the school with some shrubs, so if you are a keen gardener and could help with cuttings, please get in touch.



Cheshire East Car parking Charges



As you are now probably aware, Cheshire East Councillors voted in favour of the proposed car parking charges across the county, including charges for the Fairview car park. However, there were a few wins:

- ✓ School pick up and drop off at Highfields Primary will be protected—charging will only start at 9am for Fairview Car Park.
- ✓ Fairview Car Park will be a 'free after 3pm' car park.

PE Uniform

The poll for voting on which PE top we proceed with closes tonight at 5pm. Currently, the Falcon shirt (pictured) is in the lead at 72%.



Badged currently have a large stock pile of joggers aged 3-4, which they are now selling for £6 a pair. As already stated, we will gradually phase out the PE bottoms from green to black, so both can be worn for the immediate future.

Measles

I have received some guidance on measles from the DfE which the local authority has asked me to share.

‘Cases of measles are on the rise across England, including among children. It’s an infection that spreads very easily and can cause serious problems for some people. There is no specific treatment for measles, so it’s important to get vaccinated as it’s the best protection against becoming unwell. The best protection against measles for children and adults is to get both doses of the MMR vaccine.’

For further Government advice on measles, please follow the link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-measles-guidelines>

PFA

Once again, this amazing group of volunteers are ensuring our pupils have experiences to remember whilst raising vital funds. Please see below for a list of events planned.



Dates for the Diary

14th of February—non uniform

15th of February—school disco

w/c 4th of March—World Book Day Event

8th March—Mothers’ Day shop

8th March evening—Quiz Night (adults only)

27th March—Easter Bingo

22nd June—PFA Circus (fingers crossed)

We have a number of pupils who have earned enough stars to receive their bronze, silver or even gold award this week. Well done to all pupils on the list!



Bronze Awards

R—Kasey T, Grace R, Leo G, Florence D, Armanilee

Y1—Eliza G, Neve D, William D

Y3—Jacob S

Y4—Albert R



Silver Awards

R—Arthur H

Y1—Skyler B, Leo R, Bobby M, Emilia C

Y2—Mia BI, Nora O, Freya BI, Zachary F, Jessica L, Amelia H

Y3—Ben V, George N, Riley H, George S, Cleo A,

Y4—Shaylee P-J, Emily T, Ivy-Jo C, Nancy P and Grace B

Y5—Willow D,

Y6 - Leo S, Marcello H, Marlee P, Rory H

Gold Awards (30 stars)

Y3—Lola H-H, Jack B

Y4—Oliver G, Rosie C and Sophie W

Word Millionaire



Making sure we are on track to achieve our school target of 30 Word Millionaires this academic year is:

Lachan F in Y5. He received his £10 book voucher in today’s assembly. Well done.

Charity

As a school our school councillors decide which charities we should support over the year. The level of support for our Elf Run shows that St Luke’s was a popular choice. The final figure raised by Highfields was £1,548.45 and collectively schools in Cheshire raised in excess of £64,000. Thank you.

