



Newsletter - Monday 20th May 2019

Aycliffe Village Primary School



Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you to everyone who has sent congratulations for our recent Ofsted outcome and report—these are much appreciated. It is wonderful to have this outcome for our school! We can continue moving forwards confidently, knowing that improvements made have been recognised and are having a positive impact on what we provide for your children.

I have to mention our wonderful Year 6 pupils as their attitude towards their SATs last week was simply outstanding! It is an intense and tiring week for them and they coped admirably and with great maturity. We might all have our own personal view of SATs (myself included) however I always feel, if handled the right way, there are some positives. They certainly give children experience of being focused and committed towards an end goal and the experiences and challenges associated with this will hopefully help prepare them for similar journeys later in their lives.

A reminder that we break up for the May half term holiday at the end of the day this Friday. School re-opens on Monday 3rd June. I hope you all enjoy some family time over the bank holiday weekend.

Best wishes
Mrs H Sutherland
Head Teacher

Horse Chestnut Class Assembly—Thursday 23rd May

A reminder that Horse Chestnut Class will be leading their class assembly at 9.00am this Thursday. Parents/carers and family members are invited to join us for this—we hope to see many of you there!

Year 6 trip to Beamish

Whilst attending a conference about the development of the wider curriculum recently, I won a free trip to Beamish for our school (transport costs included too!) We have decided to give this trip to Year 6, as a post SATs treat. More details to follow once they are all confirmed!



Celebration Assembly Awards



Outstanding Learner	Jack S, Ruby
Outstanding Attitude	Hannah C, Keira S
Outstanding Manners	Susie M, Lily P
Homework	Alex C
Wow Writer	Heath D, Myles F
Maths Wizard	Annabel D, Oliver Y
Values	Mia M
Independence and Perseverance	Amy L
Sports Award	Ava P
Head Teacher Award	Harry P, Oscar C, All of Year 6!
Golden Broom	Sycamore Class!

Earrings and reminder about school uniform

We have noticed that more children seem to be wearing earrings to school so felt a reminder about our policy on this would be helpful ***It is preferable for children not to wear earrings to school. If they do, earrings must be small and plain. Children must be able to remove earrings for PE lessons independently. If they can't remove them for PE themselves then they must bring plasters into school to cover them.*** If you are thinking of getting your children's ears pierced, we ask you to please consider doing this at the start of the summer holidays. We haven't gone down the route of banning earrings from our uniform policy (as many schools have) however we might need to if we find large numbers of children and families not being mindful of the above. It currently causes issues for PE lessons and time wasted at the start of these.

Also a reminder that children should not be wearing nail varnish or false nails to school. Shoes should be plain and dark please (no coloured trainers) Thank you for your support with this.

Years 5 and 6—meet an Astronaut!

We are thrilled that we can offer our Year 5 and 6 children an opportunity to meet the astronaut, Michael Foale! Mrs Brown has arranged tickets for them to attend his talk at the Xcel Centre. Children will go on either **Monday 10th or Tuesday 11th June** (we have had to arrange this in three different groups, due to ticket availability) We will walk the children there so there won't be a cost. I am sure you will agree this is a wonderful opportunity and it also links neatly with the Space topic the children are covering in Science.

Year 6 Swimming

Year 6 children will start swimming lessons after the May half term holiday. These will be every Wednesday afternoon so please make sure they have their swimming kits.



Feedback on Parent/Carer Curriculum Questionnaires

Thank you to all parents/carers who shared their views on these. We are starting to review our Curriculum (and will focus on this over next half term) and your ideas have been really helpful. We will keep you updated in the future as to ways your ideas have been taken into account, when reviewing and redesigning the Curriculum we offer at our school.

Attendance for last week

Willow Class	97.1%
Horse Chestnut Class	96.4%
Sycamore Class	97.0%
Lime Class	96.8%
Silver Birch Class	97.7%
Rowan Class	96.8%
Hawthorn Class	97.8%

Well done to Years Reception, 2, 4 & 6 who have all achieved attendance above our minimum target level. Special "Well done" to Hawthorn Class for 97.8% attendance that was the best out of the whole school!

Alternative date for Year 6 Sports Day—Monday 15th July

As explained on a recent newsletter, transition days for Year 6 children going to Woodham and Greenfield Schools, clash with the date for our Sports Day. We don't want to change the date for our main Sports Day as it was shared with parents/carers back in September and we know many will have arranged time off work so they can be there. Therefore we are arranging a separate Sports Afternoon for Year 6 on **Monday 17th July. Parents/carers/family members of Year 6 children are invited to come and watch some races at 2.30 that day.** We know this isn't ideal but is the best compromise we can come up with.

Wow word of the week

