



Newsletter - Tuesday 7th May 2019

Aycliffe Village Primary School



Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you enjoyed the Bank Holiday weekend—not quite as sunny as the last one but still lovely to have a three day weekend!

Our Year 6 children have an important week for their primary school education next week when they take their Key Stage 2 SATs tests. I know they have all been working extremely hard towards these and Miss Peel, Mrs Wellstood and I are very proud of their efforts and determination. I am sure you will all join me in wishing them lots of luck for next week. The support from their parents/carers has also not gone unnoticed—thank you for this, it is much appreciated.

Best wishes
Mrs H Sutherland
Head Teacher

Class Curriculum Newsletters for parents/carers

These will be added to our school website by Wednesday this week. They give a summary of topics/learning your child will be covering in their class this term. To find these on the website, please go to the home page and find the 'Our Classes' tab at the top. Then locate your child's class. I hope you find these a useful source of information.

Year 5 children in Hawthorn Class

Year 5 children in Hawthorn Class will join Mrs Brown and the rest of Year 5 during SATs week next week. They will continue work on their Make a Difference Challenge and are taking the lead in our school on a Road Safety programme local police are running next week. We will share more detail about this in future newsletters.

Silver Birch Class Assembly

A reminder that children in Silver Birch Class will be leading their class assembly on Thursday this week (9th May) Parents/carers and family members are invited to join us for this at 9.00am. We hope to see you there!

Celebration Assembly Awards



| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Outstanding Learner | Macie T, Harvey W, Sam T |
| Outstanding Attitude | Emily O'N, Jacob J |
| Outstanding Manners | Ellie W |
| Wow Writer | Joseph W, Alfie J, Hannah W |
| Maths Wizard | Sophie F, Joseph B |
| Values | George H |
| Independence and Perseverance | Clara McW, Jack P |
| Sports Award | Neve B |
| Head Teacher Award | Robyn E, Scarlet D, James B |
| Golden Broom | Hawthorn Class! |

PTA reminders

- A reminder that the PTA Annual General Meeting will take place this **Wednesday at 5.00pm**. This will then be followed by the next PTA meeting at 6.00pm. It would be lovely to see some of you there please, if you can make it.
- 'Bags2 School' were handed out last Friday and should be returned by **9.00am on Tuesday 14th May**. This helps raise money for our school so we will be very grateful for your support please.

Requests for holidays during term time

We have had a large number of leave of absence requests recently for holidays during term time. Please be aware it is very rare for these to be authorised and that taking your child out of school for a holiday can lead to a fine (when criteria has been met for this) Our school policy (based on Local Authority and national guidance) is that holidays should not be taken during term times. This is only authorised in a very small number of exceptional circumstances.

Obviously it is your decision as parents/carers if you choose to take a holiday in term time. As Head Teacher and as a governing body we have a duty to ensure attendance is as high as possible and have to follow guidelines and apply the policy equally to everyone.

I am aware that the main driver for taking holidays during term time is as they are much cheaper. I really do sympathise with this and agree it is unfair however I am unable to control this. I also want to confirm that, as a school, we do not provide work for children to do whilst they are on holiday. This would add to teacher workload and isn't fair when there may be multiple requests for this throughout the year. Also, much of the learning that takes place in school can't be covered through sheets of paper, as verbal lesson introductions and discussions are key parts of learning. If you wish to continue some academic work with your children whilst they are away from school then I would suggest they read as much as possible, keep a diary of their time away and complete some key maths work, eg times tables, work with money, recall of key number facts, etc.

Attendance for last week

| | |
|-----------------------------|------|
| Willow Class | 96.7 |
| Horse Chestnut Class | 91.4 |
| Sycamore Class | 100 |
| Lime Class | 96.9 |
| Silver Birch Class | 100 |
| Rowan Class | 95.2 |
| Hawthorn Class | 97.0 |

Well done to classes Willow, Sycamore, Lime, Silver Birch and Hawthorn and who have all achieved attendance above our minimum target level. Special "Well done" to Sycamore and Silver Birch for 100% attendance that was the best out of the entire school.

Wow word of the week

