



Athersley South Primary School

www.athersleysouth-primary.co.uk

First Friday

Edition 4
March 2021

Dear Parents,

As per my communication earlier this week, we are really looking forward to everyone returning to school on Monday 8th March and all the necessary preparations have been made.

Covid-19 Safety Measures

As we all look to the whole school return on Monday, please can I ask that you adhere to all the signage and safety measures we have in place when on our school site. We continue to have a responsibility to help protect one another and our school community. I would therefore ask that face coverings are worn (except where exempt) and the one way system is observed.

Thank You!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for all their continued support. As a Parent and a Headteacher I fully appreciate the challenges that remote learning has posed, but we are very grateful for all your efforts. I would also like to thank all our school staff for their efforts since Christmas, managing both children in school and those being taught virtually.

World Book Day 2021

It was fantastic to see our children in school celebrating World Book Day 2021 yesterday and to also see children at home enthusiastically participating too 😊. A particular success this year, with both staff and children, was the 'Masked Reader' competition. It was very tricky, but enjoyed by all. On Monday 8th March, all children in school will receive a £1 book token that can be redeemed against this year's special edition £1 books, or towards the cost of a book of their choice. Photos of the children and staff in their costumes can also be found on the website.

Red Nose Day 2021

To support the comic relief appeal we are intending to hold a fundraising day on Friday 19th March. For 50p, children will be able to attend school in non-uniform and if possible add a little bit of red to their outfit in keeping with the charity's theme. Unfortunately, this year we are unable to sell red noses in school, but we are still looking forward to supporting this very worthwhile cause.

Spring Parents Evening

As you will be aware, we were unable to hold a face to face Parents Evening in the Autumn Term due to the ongoing pandemic. We are now preparing the final details of a Parents Evening that will be held immediately after the Easter holidays. Unfortunately, we will still be unable to invite Parents/Carers into school, but we are intending to have virtual meetings so you can still see, and talk to, your child's class teacher. Further information will follow in the coming weeks.

Parent Support Advisor

Miss Crossland, our new PSA, has now been with us for two weeks and is settling into our school and routines. She has really enjoyed meeting some of you already and is looking forward to seeing our whole school community back together. Miss Crossland has responsibility for attendance, so if your child is not in school, she will contact you by telephone to check in on your child. A large part of her role, alongside attendance, is supporting Parents however she can with any difficulties you and/or your child are experiencing. Both Miss Crossland and Mrs Walch can be contacted via the school office.

Y5/6 Residential 2022

We know that it is very early to be talking about this but we wanted to give everyone enough notice that this trip is planned to be going ahead in February 2022. Further information regarding the residential including dates, times and payment details will be going out to families after the Easter holidays. As is our usual practice, deposits will be required to secure your child/children's place on the trip and the first payment will be due in April.

Paperless Communication and Contacting School

As you are aware, we continue to operate a paperless communication system via text and email. If you do update your mobile phone number, or your email address, please inform the school office so you can be kept up-to-date. Please can we also remind you that if you are unable to contact us on the school telephone number you can email athersleysouthadmin@ecmtrust.co.uk The inbox is checked daily, Monday to Friday and someone will respond to you. All letters are put on the school website and can be found there for reference too.

School Attendance

At Athersley South we have high expectations of all children in relation to punctuality and attendance, even during the Coronavirus pandemic! Please be aware, that absence that is Covid-19 related does not impact on your child's attendance percentage. From 8th March the Government have been very clear that they expect all children to return to school. We do appreciate that for some of you there are high levels of anxiety around school attendance and we are happy to talk with you and support you with any worries, as is our Education Welfare Officer (EWO) who is Mrs Fowler. Miss Crossland, our new PSA, is also available to support you and your child.

Dates for Your Diary

Monday 8th March – All children return to school
Friday 19th March – Comic Relief Non-Uniform Day
Friday 26th March – INSET Day – school closed to pupils
Monday 29th March to Friday 9th April – Easter Holidays
Monday 12th April – School re-opens to all pupils