



Abingdon Primary School

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Newsletter Friday 15th December 2023



Dates for your diary:

Monday 18th December – KS1 dance group performance to parents at 4pm (new)

Monday 18th December - Year 5 Air Raid Shelters

Tuesday 19th December – Reception Christmas Performance 9.15am

Tuesday 19th December – Christmas Dinner

Tuesday 19th December – Yr 6 Christmas party

Wednesday 20th December – KS1 Christmas performance 9.15am – ‘Born in a Barn’

Thursday 21st December Year 6 Air Raid Shelters

Thursday 21st December Christmas parties

Friday 22nd December – Finish for Christmas

- Christmas jumper day/outfit/accessories

- **NO AFTERSCHOOL CLUB**

Monday 8th January – INSET DAY – Children NOT in school

Tuesday 9th January – Children return to school

Well, here we are with one more week to go before our winter break. We have had another busy week here in school, preparing for next weeks celebrations and still engaging in exciting learning across our year groups. This week, saw the first influx of performances with the children being treated to a pantomime in school on Wednesday morning (Oh yes they did!!). Thursday saw performances from the school choir to the rest of the school, and from our Rock Steady bands to parents. Our EYFS and KS1 children have been practising all week for

their performances next week; parents of our younger children, you are in for a real treat next week! We have ended our week, with an amazing performance from Isabelle C (Y6 Ospreys) on her clarinet.

We were overjoyed and so proud to hear this morning that Abigail L (Y6 Hawks) has been accepted to attend Moorland Ballet Academy from the next academic year. This is a huge achievement Abigail – well done!! We look forward to following your journey of dance and seeing you achieve wonderful things!!

Amara and Kirana have had an exciting week! Their group, the DYT Kids + Youth Choir, are taking part in the BBC Radio Manchester and BBC Philharmonic's Christmas Concert. The event will be recorded to be broadcasted on BBC Radio Manchester at 9am and 5pm on Christmas Eve, and at midday on Christmas Day. BBC Radio Manchester is on 95.1FM, 104.6FM, DAB, or online at BBC Sounds. They finished their last rehearsal yesterday with the orchestra, ready for the public concert on Friday at Dukinfield Town Hall.



And finally, a huge well done to Eddie in Year 3 who has been working hard with his swimming and has moved up into the new group! We are very proud of you.



Weekly Wellbeing Challenge:

Continuing on from my message last week, it has saddened me to receive a number of messages from parents regarding the conduct of other adults on school premises. We have had a number of parents witness other parents/carers using inappropriate language and threatening language towards children whilst either dropping off in the morning, or collecting on an evening. Whilst I appreciate that this is a stressful time of year, may I remind you of the expectations of behaviour from everyone, in school. We should be modelling the behaviour that we want our children to show. I know this may be a 'cheesy' quote, but I truly believe that in a world where you can be anything, please be kind!!

Reception and KS1 tickets

Our Reception and KS1 performances are next week. The tickets are ready to be collected from the office. Unfortunately, we can only allow 2 people per child into each performance as we are at capacity. Please collect your tickets from the office or speak to your class teacher if you cannot.



Pantomime

The children enjoyed a pantomime on Wednesday. They were a fantastic audience and thoroughly enjoyed having the experience of live theatre in school! It was a well know favourite – Cinderella.



Choir Performances

Our fantastic choir have continued their performances this week with an assembly to all the children. They sang beautifully and got all the children and staff involved in a Christmas singalong. They are also visiting Spey House residential home next week so have a busy season! Well done to all the children and to Miss Hall and Alex for giving up their time to run choir. If your child is in KS2 and is interested in joining choir, – please email Miss Hall charlotte.hall@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk

Rocksteady Assembly

Our rock band members also performed this week. They were fantastic and have progressed so far in their musical skills! We do say goodbye to Mike -our Rocksteady leader this term. He brought in the new band leader to meet the children yesterday. His name is Alfie. If anyone is interested in joining Rocksteady. Please contact the school office for more information.



Mrs Murray's Christmas Stall

Mrs Murray will be continuing her Christmas gift stall at breaktime on Monday only next week. All items will be £1.00. Children will be able to bring in their money, choose an item and pay for it, then Mrs Murray will take the product away and wrap it ready to give back to the children ready for Christmas! She will hand out the wrapped and labelled gifts to the children to take home on Wednesday.



There are two brilliant apps, which school purchase each year. – Numbots and TTRS. Both can be used at home and we would love them to be used more! Numbots is for our KS1 children (Reception will get a log in in the Spring term) and is a great way to practise fluency of numbers. Times Table Rockstars is a great way for Y2 onwards to practise their times tables. All the children should have logins – the login is the same for both apps. Even just 10 minutes a day on an app like this can really boost children’s confidence, number recognition and fluency with numbers – and although it is screen time, you know they are doing something worthwhile and educational.

Dogs on School Property

We would like to remind all parents and carers that dogs are not allowed on school premises. This includes dogs on leads, dogs being carried, or even in a buggy. Thank you for your support in this matter

Breakfast Club Timings

Just a reminder that breakfast club does not open until 07.45am. We are beginning to see children arriving earlier than this. The staff are not responsible for the children until 07.45am, therefore the children are not supervised before this time and are still the responsibility of parents.

Parking!

Reddish Vale Start Well Nursery next door have politely asked us to remind parents about not parking in their car park. The car park attached to the nursery is for their employees and visitors, and on occasions, there are no parking spaces for them at critical times. They will be closing and locking their gates between 8.30 and 9.00 am and 2.30 and 3.20 pm.

Jumpers

We are seeing a bit of an increase in hoodies and other non-uniform jumpers, particularly on PE days. Please refer to the uniform list below. Teachers will offer spare uniform jumpers to children who come wearing different jumpers. Please also put your child’s name on their jumper, we have another big pile of unnamed jumpers forming- which will be disposed of at the end of the term.

Snacks

After Christmas, we will be rolling out a healthy snack initiative in school. We wanted to give you plenty of warning as we have seen an increase in unhealthy snacks at playtime. Our local authority advisors tell us that there is a huge increase in dental decay and obesity in children and as a community we should all work together to tackle it. This is what we want it to look like:

In the morning, the children will continue to have bagels – these are from the National Schools breakfast programme and are nutritionally balanced. They are served with a small amount of margarine.

At snack time, the children will be able to bring a *normal sized* snack, but please ensure that it is fruit, or low sugar snack. Examples might be food like – cheddars, sreen, raisins, crackers etc (crisps, sweets, chocolate will not be allowed)

At lunch time Taylor Shaw provide us with nutritionally balanced low sugar hot meals, if you are bringing a packed lunch please look at the sugar content and the amount of food within the lunchbox.

Afternoons – KS1/Rec children have free fruit (national scheme)

Water should be in all bottles.

We will sometimes have rewards that are food/sweets – however, these are very occasional, which models the idea of everything in moderation.

Some children bring in sweets for their birthday and we will be asking parents to only do this on a Friday after Christmas. Their birthday will still be celebrated in the class on the day of the birthday of course - as all children's birthdays are.

Please also remember that we are a nut free school – no nuts or nut products should be brought in as snacks/lunch including snacks like peanut butter.



As a school, many of us are parents ourselves and understand the frustrations around snacks. However, we want the best for the children in the school and if everyone works towards following this after Christmas, the children will take to it very quickly and smoothly.

Free School Meals

A reminder that families can apply for Free School Meals via this link: <https://www.stockport.gov.uk/free-school-meals/apply-school-grants-free-school-meals> - all you need is your NATIONAL INSURANCE NUMBER. If your child has just gone into year 3 they will no longer be on Universal Free School Meals, so if you think you might qualify please apply as soon as possible.

Even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, it is beneficial to apply for Free School Meals as your child can also access a range of other benefits and school help supplement some additional provision for you and your child(ren).

If you would prefer to apply using a school computer/internet, that is no problem and we can arrange a private area with a computer for you to apply. Just ask at the office, call 0161 480 4531 or email admin@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk.

School Uniform

Thank you all for your support with uniforms, looking smart and being ready with all the right things make such a difference to learning.

Please make sure **names are in all items of clothes** – especially cardigans/jumpers and coats! It is impossible to find lost items without this.

White polo shirt
Red cardigan/jumper – with or without logo (**NO other jumpers**)
Black/dark grey trousers/shorts/skirts/pinafores
Black shoes or all black trainers (no colour variations accepted)

PE Kits for PE days

White t-shirt and black shorts/joggers with school jumper. (**NO other jumpers/PE kits!**)

School Lottery

For those families new to school, we have a school lottery that is run by the website below. Every ticket sold provides much needed funding for our school.

If you would like to take part please do sign up using the link below. Thank you.

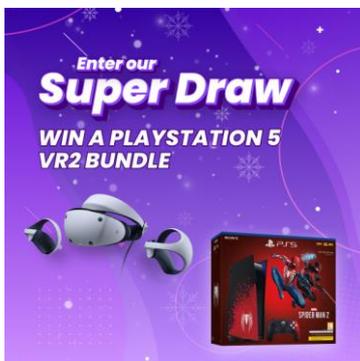
<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/>

Last week, one of our parents won £7.50!

Win a PS5/VR2 prize bundle!

We are thrilled to introduce our biggest EVER Super Draw prize: A HUGE PlayStation bundle, consisting of not only a Limited Edition Spider-Man 2 PS5 console (disc edition, of course) – undeniably the hottest console of the year – but also the BRAND NEW PlayStation VR2 Virtual Reality headset, which ALSO comes bundled with Horizon: Call of the Mountain, for an unforgettable Virtual Reality gaming experience! With our new Super Draw, there are exciting new flexible way to play – so get your tickets now ready for the big draw on November 25th!

Our new Super Draw gives people new and exciting ways to play – instead of committing to weekly tickets, supporters can choose to just buy tickets for the Super Draw week, meaning more flexibility and less commitment, whilst still supporting ABINGDON PRIMARY SCHOOL. Existing supporters can even choose to TOP-UP their tickets just for this weekend's draw!



How the lottery works

£1 per ticket



That's right, unlike many other lotteries, our lottery tickets are only £1 per week.

Help us do more

For every ticket you play, 76% goes to our school and prizes.



£25,000 grand prize



Match all 6 numbers and you win the JACKPOT!



Attendance:



- ★ The class with the highest overall attendance each week will have the opportunity to 'spin the wheel'! The wheel has lots of different choices on – some of these have been updated this year by the children.
 - ★ Each class who achieves 97% or higher each week, or who show great improvement, will have an extra playtime the following week.
 - ★ **ALL children who have over 95% attendance for the year, or who show good improvement of attendance, will receive an end of term certificate and treat.**
- Attendance monitoring includes broken weeks and lateness. You **MUST** contact school if your child is late or absent.

The class with the highest attendance this week was: **Y3/4 Kites with 95.7%** They have won 'Own Clothes Day' in class. Miss Hammond will let you know which day it will be next week.

Unfortunately, no classes got over 97% this week. I know we have had lots of illness and seasonal bugs over the last few weeks. Hopefully this will settle down next week

Hot chocolate

Each week we invite a child from each class (who is chosen for being a role model for behaviour) to come and have hot chocolate and marshmallows with the headteacher. It is definitely my favourite time of the week! It was lovely to hear today why the children were chosen.





Gold Table

Children are chosen by their midday supervisors for their lunchtime behaviour. Each Friday we have a 'Gold table' in the hall where the children have their lunch, they also receive a prize from the 'Gold Box'.

Otters – Owen, Badgers – Alysia, Hedgehogs – Bradley, Squirrels – Oscar, Foxes – Ollie, Falcons – Scarlett-Mae, Kites – Cooper, Owls – Maliha, Kestrels - Danica, Merlins – Olly, Hawks – Isabelle G, Ospreys – Alannah

Class Stars of the Week

Each week children are chosen for showing our core values. We award certificates in Celebration Time each Friday. Well done to all our stars:



Reception Badgers: Ben

Reception Otters: Owen

Year 1 Hedgehogs: Millen

Year 1/2 Squirrels: Belle

Year 2 Foxes: Leah

Year 3 Falcons: Alfie

Year 3/4 Kites: Cooper

Year 4 Owls: Jessica

Year 5 Kestrels: Isaac

Year 5 Merlins: Jack

Year 6 Ospreys: Peter

Year 6 Hawks: Charlie

Golden Broom

Year 2 Foxes won the Golden Broom this week for having the tidiest classroom. Well done for setting a fantastic example to others.

The Golden Broom is awarded by Mr Bosson (Site supervisor) .



Finally, I would like to wish you all a lovely weekend, and thank you for all your support.

Ms Spendlow

Headteacher

Holiday Dates 2023-2024

Autumn term

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Monday 4 th September | INSET |
| Tuesday 5 th September | INSET |
| Wednesday 6 th September | Back to School |
| Friday 20 th October | Finish for half term holiday |
| Monday 30 th October | School returns |
| Friday 22 nd December | Finish for Christmas |

Spring term

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Monday 8 th January 2024 | INSET |
| Tuesday 9 th January | School returns |
| Friday 9 th February | Finish for half term holiday |
| Monday 19 th February | School returns |
| Thursday 28 th March | Finish for Easter |

Summer term

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|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Monday 15 th April | School returns |
| Monday 6 th May | May Day Holiday |
| Friday 24 th May | Finish for Whit holiday |
| Monday 10 th June | School returns |
| Friday 26 th July | Finish for summer holidays |
| Monday 29 th July | INSET |

Covid-19 advice

- Children with mild symptoms of a respiratory infection include covid-19 but are otherwise well should continue to attend school. They should stay home if they have a high temperature and are unwell, and can return to school when they no longer have a high temperature/feel well enough.
- It is not recommended that children should have a covid-19 test unless directed to by a health professional, but if a child under 18 does test positive, **they should stay off school for 3 days after the day they took the test. They can return to school after the 3 days if they are well enough.**

The isolation period for COVID-19 is 6 days with a negative LFD test (24 hours apart on day 5 and day 6). See the link below for more information

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>

School advice is still:

If your child is displaying any of these COVID related symptoms

-a high temperature

-a new, continuous cough

-a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

or

if your child receives a positive lateral flow test, **they should remain at home until they are feeling well again.**

Please inform school if anyone in your child's household tests positive for Covid-19.