

Attleborough Primary School



Friday 9th September

Newsletter no 1

Wet weather clothing

Please make sure your child has a waterproof coat each day and a spare pair of shoes/wellies that stay at school as we approach a period of wetter weather. We will always try to get the children outside whenever we can. Thank you for your support with this.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly I'd like to express how sad we were to hear that her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II passed away on Thursday evening this week. After careful consideration, we decided that it was appropriate for us to have a short assembly this morning as a school where we shared some photographs from The Queen's life and let the children know that any emotional reaction to the news is okay. We have also made sure that all of the children understand that, as always, we are all here if they wish to speak to us. The following links may be useful for you to support your children at home should they need it:

<https://www.winstonswish.org/>

<https://www.childbereavementuk.org/>

<https://nelsonsjourney.org.uk/>

During the next week and this period of mourning, the children will learn more about the significance of this moment in history at an age-appropriate level. I hope you and your families are coping as well as you can with the sad news.

Despite this being a difficult time, I'd like to wish you all a warm welcome back to school and hope that you have had a restful summer.

We have been busy over the holidays, preparing for September, updating and developing curriculum planning, developing the school site (for example we have updated our ICT Suite) and continuing to review the ways we work to ensure that APS is a thriving, successful primary school.

This week we have held our Parent/Carer Welcome Meetings which I hope you found informative and useful. If you weren't able to attend, please let us know so that we can make sure the information is passed on to you.

Looking ahead, I'm excited to begin our second year as the Attleborough and Rosecroft Primary Federation and building upon the huge amount of progress made last year. Both schools continue to work together for the benefit of the children and the wider community and I'm looking forward to another successful year. One example of us developing as a federation this year will focus on responding to your feedback from our Parent/Carer Survey in May 2022; a common area that was identified to improve was communication between families and schools so this will be something that we be working on going forwards.

Thank you, as ever, for your ongoing support.

Gayle Long
Executive Headteacher

Holidays and other absences in term time

Please note that we are unable to authorise any holidays in term time, unless in exceptional circumstances, which would need to be discussed in advance with either Mr Copland or Mrs Long. Unauthorised absences, including unauthorised holidays that exceed 9 sessions (2 session equates to one day) in a six week period, will trigger a fixed penalty notice.

All families will shortly be receiving up to date attendance information regarding their child. Attendance is now being monitored as it was pre-covid and all pupils whose attendance is under 90% are classed as persistently absent. Again, as pre-covid, we will require evidence of any medical appointments in school time. Whilst we understand that children suffer with the usual childhood illnesses, if your child's attendance already sits below 90%, we would require medical evidence to support their absence.

Good attendance is so important as these figures show the impact of time missed:

Attendance during one school year	Equivalent Days	Equivalent Sessions	Equivalent Weeks	Equivalent Lessons Missed
95%	9 Days	18 Sessions	2 Weeks	54 Lessons
90%	19 Days	38 Sessions	4 Weeks	114 Lessons
85%	29 Days	58 Sessions	6 Weeks	174 Lessons
80%	38 Days	72 Sessions	8 Weeks	228 Lessons
75%	48 Days	96 Sessions	10 Weeks	288 Lessons
70%	57 Days	114 Sessions	11.5 Weeks	342 Lessons
65%	67 Days	134 Sessions	13.5 Weeks	402 Lessons

Readers still required! 😊

We are working hard on ensuring our pupils have as many opportunities to read aloud to an adult as possible. This is incredibly beneficial for their reading development to be able to spend some quality time, on a 1:1 basis reading the text and discussing what they are reading.

We already have some regular volunteers who come in for a few hours every week to hear readers in different parts of the school and this has proved to be really enjoyable for all involved.

We would like to increase this offer to as many of our pupils as possible and need your help! If you, or any other family members or grandparents would be interested in coming into school for an hour or two a week to hear readers, we would love to hear from you!

Obviously, this would need to be subject to a successful DBS check which we would organise.

If you feel you would like to help, please get in touch via the school office.

Thank you!

Twitter reminder

Please remember to follow our Twitter page [@AttleboroughPri](https://twitter.com/AttleboroughPri) to keep track of what we are learning about in school. We are trying really hard to ensure there are regular updates here and it is a great way to see what life is like on any given school day at APS.



Attleborough Primary
@AttleboroughPri

Free School Meals

If you think your child may be entitled to means tested Free school meals, please click the following link. This also applies even if your child is in receipt of Universal Free schools' meals in Reception – Year 2.

[Free school meals, school meals and milk - Norfolk County Council](#)

Parents' Evenings this year

These will continue to run online through School Cloud. We will, however, be building in lots of opportunities for parents and carers to come into school to look at your children's work/books.

Friends of Attleborough Primary School

Friends of Attleborough Primary school are looking for new members. We require a new treasurer and a chairperson who would be willing to organise events such as Disco's, Bingo, Quiz Night, and other fundraising ideas.

We also require people to help out with events, this does not have to be every event but just when you can spare an evening perhaps for a Disco or similar.

We will not be able to hold Disco's or any other events if we do not have any new members.

If you are interested in becoming the Treasurer or Chairperson, please contact the school office.

Term Dates – 2022/2023

Friday 21st October -last day in school before half term

Monday 24th October – Friday 28th October- half term

Monday 31st October- first day back after half term

Friday 16th December- last day of Autumn term

Wednesday 4th January- first day of Spring Term

Friday 10th February- last day before half term

Monday 13th February – Friday 17th February – half term

Monday 20th February – back in school

Friday 31st March – last day of Spring term

Monday 3rd April – Monday 17th April -Easter Holiday

Tuesday 18th April – First day of summer term

Monday 1st May – Bank holiday- not in school

Friday 26th May-last day before half term

Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June – Half term holiday

Monday 5th June- back in school

Friday 21st July – last day in school before the summer holiday

Monday 24th July – first day of summer holidays



"When a flower doesn't bloom, you fix the environment in which it grows, not the flower." Alexander Den Heijer

Plan Bee – Understanding and supporting your child or young person with additional needs

'Plan Bee' is a FREE 3 week course (2hrs per week) written by two Clinical Psychologists working in Norfolk and is aimed at parents or carers of children or young people with additional needs including suspected or diagnosed ASD or ADHD.

During the three week course, we will explore:

- Behaviour as communication.
- Understanding the full range of needs your child may have.
- Developing a plan to support behaviour in difficult situations which can then be shared with grandparents, schools and others.
- Strategies for creating an environment in which your child or young person can thrive.
- Sharing experiences, challenges and successes with other parents experiencing similar issues and learning from these.



Courses in 2022 – Available to book now:

ATTLEBOROUGH – Tuesdays 13th, 20th and 27th **September** 2022 10am to 12pm
Attleborough Community Centre, Church Street, Attleborough, NR17 2AH

SWAFFHAM – Mondays 3rd, 10th and 17th **October** 2022 10am to 12pm
Swaffham Community Centre, Campingland, Swaffham, PE37 7RB

GREAT YARMOUTH – Thursdays 10th, 17th, 24th **November** 2022
Great Yarmouth Library

ONLINE ON ZOOM – Monday evenings, 5th, 12th and 19th December
6:30 to 8:30pm Book your place to receive joining details.

To book call 01760 725801 or email Swaffham@family-action.org.uk



Dropping off/Collecting Children

Please be aware that the registers are taken shortly after 8:50am so your child should be arriving at school before then. There is always an independent learning activity taking place from 8:40am.

When dropping children off at the staff car park end of the school site, please avoid coming through the internal gate as teachers are often using this time to catch up with children and setup for the day. Any urgent messages can be left with the staff on gate duty or with the office staff.

Please **do not park near to or opposite the bus stop directly outside of school at the end of the school day**. This space is reserved for our school taxis. Thank you for your cooperation.

Birthday treats

We are now, once again, allowing children to bring in sweet treats to share with their class if they wish to when it is their birthday. There is no obligation or expectation to do this, but if you wish to please make sure any sweets, cakes, etc. are shop bought as this allows to see possible allergens. A polite reminder that **we are a nut free school**.

Excellence Assemblies

Continuing from last year, we are delighted to share that our Excellence Assemblies are back. These will be weekly with children's work displayed in the hall following the assembly.

The first is on Thursday 15th September at 10:40am in the hall and will be for EYFS, Y1 and Y2 children. The chosen children's parents will receive an invitation to attend each week.



FREE OF CHARGE

JUKES (Junior Ukulele Orchestra - online)

Tuesdays 4.45pm - 5.15pm, once a fortnight

An online opportunity for budding ukulele players to work on songs together. We have both a beginners and an advances session. Suitable for ages 7-13.

For more information: bit.ly/Jukes2022-23



FREE OF CHARGE

Song-weavers

An online singing group without barriers

Thursdays, 5pm - 5.40pm

A singing group for young people of all abilities that would like to meet with other like-minded young people through singing and signing. Suitable for students age 9 and upwards.

For more information: bit.ly/songweavers



FREE OF CHARGE

VoxSea Music

A rock and pop choir for young people in East Norfolk

Mondays commencing 12th September, 4.20pm-5.10pm at East Norfolk Sixth Form College Gorleston

VoxSea Music is a vocal group for young people in year 6 - year 13 focusing on rock and pop music. Anyone who enjoys singing is welcome!

For more information: bit.ly/VoxSea

