



Punctuality

In order to ensure that we have an accurate record of attendance, the school registers are taken as soon as possible after the start of the day (**8:45am**). If your child arrives after this time then an adult needs to accompany them through the main entrance and sign them in, so that they will still get their attendance mark and dinner choice.

Since September there have been **232 children** who have arrived at school after the bell has gone – this is over 40% of the school. A lot of these children have arrived late on multiple occasions. **77 children** have arrived after 9am and **11 children** have arrived after 9:15am. This does not include children who are late due to medical reasons. For many children, these occasions are rare and due to unforeseen circumstances, however, the number of children arriving late on a more consistent basis does appear to be increasing, and is a concern for school.

Being late means that these children are missing learning time. More often than not, the children will miss the introduction to lessons, resulting in them not being prepared for the subsequent learning. We do also have a small number of children who are experiencing some difficulties in coming into school. These children come through the main entrance rather than the playground gate. When the main entrance has a large number of people in it, due to lateness, this causes their anxiety to increase and makes it even more difficult for them.

Moving forward we will be monitoring persistent lateness and asking parents to a meeting with the Headteacher and members of SLT, in order to secure the best learning outcomes for your children. If your child arrives after 9:15am this is recorded as an unauthorised absence, unless agreed otherwise by the Headteacher.

Charity Support

We are very proud of the fact that the children at Abbey Lane are involved in a number of events to raise money for local and national charities. Their participation and your generosity in supporting them is amazing and quite overwhelming.

Last term, the children raised £888 for the Poppy Appeal and then just a week later they raised over £928 for Children in Need.

Just before Christmas the children then donated over 100 presents for Radio Hallam's Mission Christmas at the end of term.

Parents Evening

Parents' Evening will be held on Tuesday 21st February and Thursday 23rd February, which is the first week back after half term. These meetings will be held face to face, and we very much hope that all parents will attend. Further details of appointment times will be provided nearer the date.



Adverse Weather

This information is just to help us all to be prepared in the event of excessive rain, snow or heating problems. If the school had to close, for any reason, parents/carers would be informed by text or email via ParentPay. It is essential therefore, that you have registered for this service and that you keep your contact details up to date.

If we know in the morning that the school will not be opening, this information will also be posted on the school website by 7am, the following radio websites and the LA website so please check if you have any concerns:

School website www.abbeylanepriamaryschool.com
LA website www.sheffield.gov.uk/schoolclosures
Radio Hallam's website www.planetradio.co.uk/hallam
Radio Sheffield's website <http://news.bbc.co.uk/radiosheffield>

We will also endeavour to communicate this information to you via Twitter if you are following us.

As you can appreciate with 600 children in school, the office can become inundated with unnecessary phone calls. In order to avoid this, the best method of keeping informed would be for you to register to receive a text or email via ParentPay to inform you early in the morning as to whether the school would be open or closed in the event of adverse weather.

Staff News

This term we welcome some new support staff to school. Mrs. Alexander will be working in Y2 across all 3 classes. Mrs. Ahmed will be working in Y3 across all 3 classes, Miss Melville is also working in Y3 but with one specific child.

We have also appointed a new KS1 Leader, Miss Craig. Miss Craig will be starting with us in April, after the Easter holidays. She is a KS1 teacher, with 9 years of experience, who currently teaches in a school in Rotherham.

Jewellery and Smart watches

Just a reminder that children should not be wearing jewellery to school, other than a watch and/or stud earrings. Jewellery can not be worn for PE and staff are not allowed to help remove them. If your child does have their ears pierced, then they need to be able to remove the earrings themselves. Given this, it would be helpful if your child does not have his/her ears pierced during term time.

It has also been brought to our attention that some children are coming to school wearing smart watches that include a camera/phone function. We would appreciate it if this did not happen. For safeguarding reasons, if your child does come to school wearing one, they will be asked to hand it in to the teacher until the end of the day.

School website

We have been working with a new company to overhaul and update the school website. The new website should be live in the next couple of weeks. It will still contain the same information, but the format has changed significantly. There are more photos of the children, and the information should be a lot easier to find.

The website address will remain unchanged at www.abbeylanepriamaryschool.com

