



Abbey Lane Primary School

Autumn 1 2023-24 Newsletter (2)

Phew!

Wow, that first half term of the year seemed to go by in a flash! It has been brilliant having the children back and meeting all of our new children for this year. As a staff team, we are incredibly lucky to be working every day with so many amazing little characters. Although it seems to have flown by, there have been so many changes this half term. The building work is progressing well and we are told by the site manager that they still expect to be finished prior to the Christmas holidays – the children have been so good at getting on with their day despite all this going on around them. PALS have been busy organising their events for the year and the HalloweenFest (October 30th) seems to be very popular with the amount of tickets that have been taken. PALS also now have a page on our school website (within the 'Parents' section). Our new Breakfast Club has also been a popular addition to the school with some great, positive feedback from children who have attended the club so far.

I also want to say a huge thank you to all of the amazing staff at Abbey Lane – they work tirelessly to ensure that your children have the best school experience possible. As I mentioned earlier though, their job is made easier because your children are all awesome! Have a great half term everyone and we look forward to seeing you all when we return on October 30th.

Mr Calcutt

Celebration Assemblies

We have made some alterations to Friday's 'Good Work Assemblies' this term (there are two of these each week – one for Y1, Y3 and Y5 and another for Y2, Y4 and Y6. Reception classes have a separate assembly at the end of the day each Friday). These are now called 'Celebration Assemblies' and the awards given out in these assemblies are as follows:

- One child from each class receives a certificate for outstanding learning or for demonstrating the school's core values in other ways.
- 'The Mr Calcutt Award' for one child from each Celebration Assembly who has demonstrated the core values and has been noticed throughout the week during Mr Calcutt's learning walks around school.
- One child from each year group will act as 'Attendance Champions' for the week. These are children who are selected randomly from the list of children who have had 100% attendance during the previous week. The Attendance Champions will get to have a biscuit and a chat with Mr Calcutt and will then help him to deliver the certificates for the classes with the best attendance (the first recipients of this were: **Dougie, Reggie, Nancy, Jacob, Isley and Eloise** a big well done for always being in school)
- Celebration Assemblies are also an opportunity to announce the team points running totals (all children in school are placed into 5 teams – *Don, Loxley, Porter, Sheaf and Rivelin*).

A list of all of the children who receive one of the above awards during the Celebration Assemblies are sent home to all parents via ParentPay on a 'Weekly Awards' document so we can celebrate these children more widely.

Tag Rugby Tournament

A big congratulations to the Y6 Abbey Lane Tag Rugby team, who played in a festival at Mosborough Rugby Club on Wednesday 11th October. Despite the challenging conditions (heavy rain and mud!), all the children showed great resilience and played amazingly well. Great teamwork led to great results with both teams winning matches, however the B team won the most matches and were declared joint winners overall. Well done to everyone who took part and apologies to parents for the wet and muddy kit!

Attendance

We are having a bit of a push on attendance this year and, in particular, punctuality. I know, as parents, you do all you can with this, but I just wanted to reiterate how important it is that your child gets to school on time so that they can start the day with the rest of their class and keep their missed learning to a minimum. This is one of the reasons why we have introduced the Attendance Champions that I mentioned above. On the plus side, so many of our children have 100% attendance and I just wanted to say a huge thank you to all those children and families for this.

Harvest Donations

Thank you so much to everyone for their amazing Harvest donations this year. You can see just how much we have managed to collect from the photos below! The Grace Food Bank has collected this and wanted to pass on their thanks and gratitude for the amazing donations. Thank you!



Cross Country

Y4, Y5 and Y6 children have had a fantastic start to the Cross Country season this year. We had a great turn out at Concord Park and Bolehills Park, where all children represented school fantastically. The next race is on Saturday 11th November at Bradfield Secondary School. Please get in touch with school if you would like more information.

Core Values

We launched the Abbey Lane Core Values towards the end of last academic year. In case you weren't aware of what these are:

Independence
Teamwork
Creativity
Respect
Wellbeing

Test your children – see if they've remembered them all!

Y5 Trip to Yorkshire Sculpture Park



On Wednesday the 11th of October, Y5 went the Yorkshire Sculpture Park (YSP). We looked at some of Henry Moore's sculptures and Barbara Hepworth's sculptures, for example the Family of Man (made by Barbara Hepworth). Even though it was a damp day, we strolled around the park and found some extravagant pieces of 3D artwork that are colossal, abstract and extraordinary. We sketched some of the breath-taking, historical sculptures (e.g. The Barnsley Lump). Although moss started to grow on it and pieces of the coal began to chip off, it was still a beautiful and picturesque piece of artwork.

WRITTEN BY NEVAEH & ELISE Y5BF

Diary Dates

Please find below a list of provisional dates for the remainder of Autumn term. We have tried to include as many **provisional** dates as possible. We will send more dates out once they have been finalised.

Monday 23 rd October – Friday 27 th October 2023	School closed for October Half Term
Monday 30 th October 2023	First day back for children and staff after Half Term
Monday 30 th October 2023	HalloweenFest (5pm-6pm) – ticket needed to attend
Tuesday 31 st October 2023	Halloween Dinner Menu
Wednesday 1 st November 2023 – Friday 3 rd November 2023	Y6 Thornbridge Residential – Y6R
Monday 6 th November 2023 – Wednesday 8 th November 2023	Y6 Thornbridge Residential – Y6S
Wednesday 8 th November 2023 – Friday 10 th November 2023	Y6 Thornbridge Residential – Y6BG
Thursday 9 th November 2023	Weekly Y5 badminton sessions begin – more information to follow
Tuesday 21 st November 2023	School Disco – details from PALS to follow
Friday 24 th November 2023	Flu vaccines
Monday 4 th and Tuesday 5 th December 2023	Reception Nativity performances
Tuesday 12 th and Wednesday 13 th December 2023	Y2 Nativity performances
Wednesday 20 th December 2023	Christmas Dinner Day
Thursday 21 st December 2023	Christmas Party Day
Friday 22 nd December 2023	INSET (children not in school)
Monday 25 th December 2023 – Friday 5 th January 2024	School closed for Christmas holidays

