



Arnside National Primary School

'Aspire – Believe – Achieve'

Headteacher: Mr Nick Sharp BA Hons (QTS)

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1st March 2022

Dear parent / carer,

We have had a settled start back from the half term and activities / routines have returned to some form of normality. After a meeting last week, I am pleased to inform you that Ian Service has been appointed as the new Chair of the Governing Body. More updates include:

Fairtrade Fortnight

We are currently in the second week of Fairtrade Fortnight and all the classes have been learning about the issues faced by producers across the world. The chocolate stall was a huge success and the School Council did a wonderful job organizing and selling a range of tasty treats to help promote Fairtrade produce.

Playground development

Mrs Shipperd is organising fundraising for a 'sporty' playground development initiative. Plans are in place to install a range of sports stations in the yard to promote health and fitness at breaktimes and lunch. After sending messages out to parents / carers and local businesses, we have had a super response and some generous offers of support. In particular, I would like to take the opportunity to thank Mr & Mrs Lazell for their extremely kind donation. The PTA have also kindly agreed to support the project and by working together, we can achieve so much more.

Book Week

The fun of Book Week is here and the pupils are looking forward to a range of activities and events which promote the joy and love of reading. Bunting, bookmarks, token competitions, author visits, are just a few treats in store. Class 1 kicked off the week by taking part in a shared reading session with Year 6. The younger children love to share a book and it's a great way for the older pupils to excite and inspire their peers. Reminder: Thursday is World Book day and non-uniform.

Staff cover

Unfortunately, Sam Reynolds continues to be off and I'm sure you'll all join me in wishing her a safe and speedy recovery. Her smiles, energy and enthusiasm are an infectious asset to the school and the pupils can't wait to get her back! In the meantime, we have a range of staff covering Breakfast Club and Arnie's and their help and support during Sam's absence has been outstanding. Members of the Governing Body have also volunteered to help, including Mrs Bratt and Mr Service. Ann Dudley, previously our Playgroup leader, is also helping out at Arnie's on Wednesdays and Thursdays. We are also pleased to welcome Della Langman who will be helping cover Sam's TA role in Class 2.



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We endeavor to ensure there is minimum disruption to school routines and I would like to thank you for your patience and understanding. It's a tricky time when staff members are off but the cover and support received is a heartwarming reflection of a very caring and dedicated staff.

Tree Planting

On Thursday, the Eco Club have the opportunity to help plant trees with members of the AONB. Mrs Minkema, a parent in Class 4, secured a fantastic donation of trees and it'll be a super opportunity for pupils to help take care of our local area. Thank you to officers from the AONB for allowing us to help; the pupils are certainly looking forward to 'swinging a spade' and getting thoroughly dirty!

National Trust days

During the Spring term, pupils will have the opportunity to work alongside local National Trust rangers on Arnside Knott. Each class will receive a half-day session and classes will be walking to the sites. Pupil will require non-uniform, waterproofs and suitable footwear. Class teachers will contact parents / carers with more information. Thank you to all the rangers and especially Nancy Burditt for arranging the opportunity.

Reminders:

- Please can parents / carers check hot school lunches are ordered on time. It is very difficult to organise food at the last minute as the kitchen staff try to minimize waste by cooking to order.
- All Arnie's and Breakfast Club sessions must be pre-booked by the parent / carer. It is not the responsibility of the office staff to back-date bookings and charge accordingly. The online system is designed to make things easier for parents / carers and more efficient for admin. Thank you for your co-operation.

It looks set to be an exciting and enjoyable half term, and we're certainly looking forward to spring bursting into life. Take care and look after yourselves.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Sharp



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