



Arnside National Primary School

'Aspire – Believe – Achieve'

Headteacher: Mr Nick Sharp BA Hons (QTS)

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6th September 2023

Dear parent / carer,

Welcome back and I hope you have had an enjoyable summer. The children have certainly had lots of interesting and exciting stories to share. It's been a pleasure to welcome our new starters into school and I have no doubt the existing pupils will do a wonderful job helping them settle. The classes are smiley, happy and eager to learn; long may this continue! School has had various building and maintenance work completed over the summer holidays including a new fire alarm system, carpeting, ongoing roof repairs, and new printers / IT equipment.

Staffing

We are thrilled to welcome Miss Denney to the teaching staff and she will be job sharing alongside Mrs Topping in Swift Class. Miss Fleming continues to provide maternity cover for Mrs Henneberry and will be teaching full time in Butterfly Class.

Hedgehog & Hoglet class
Otter class
Butterfly class
Swift class
Osprey class

EYFS (Nursery & Reception) Mrs Pearce & Mrs Sharp
Year 1 & 2 / Mrs Hartropp
Year 3 & 4 / Miss Fleming / Mrs Shipperd
Year 4 & 5 / Miss Denney & Mrs Topping
Year 6 / Miss Morris & Mr Sharp

Uniform

The pupils look extremely smart in their uniforms and we would like to maintain this high standard throughout the year. We have been kindly donated a range of used uniform and this is available to all parents / carers if required. PE kits can still be worn on designated days and parents / carers can either order new 'house colour' items or continue with the white T-shirt and dark shorts (no large logos or branded items).

Holiday dates

I know many families may be planning ahead and thinking about future holidays. We follow the Cumbria County Council holiday dates and these are available from the school website. Holidays in term time should only be taken under exceptional circumstances and we appreciate your help and support on this matter.

Celebration awards

Every Friday, selected pupils are nominated for a Headteacher's award and presented with a certificate, sticker or badge. This year, we will continue to hold a regular special award presentation on the last Friday of each half term at 2.30pm in St James' church. Parents / carers are welcome to attend and help us celebrate the achievements of pupils.



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Harvest

Our annual Harvest Festival is due to take place on Friday 6th October at 9.30 am in St James' church, and parents / carers are invited to attend. As usual, we will welcome any food donations, large or small, and these will be distributed to a range of local charities. More details to follow.

Absences

All absences should be reported through the school office and not through Class Dojo. We regularly monitor attendance to ensure pupils access as much curriculum time as possible and our historical data shows we have a high level of attendance compared to other schools. However, if an individual pupil's attendance falls below 90%, the Government classifies this as persistent absence and we are required to inform you of our concerns. We understand that there may be circumstances where a child is required to have time off and we take this into consideration when reviewing attendance. We are proud of our high levels of attendance and we thank you for your support.

Wheelchair basketball

On Friday 8th September, we are extremely excited to welcome back the Wheelchair basketball team of Nat and Jack. All the pupils will have the opportunity to have a 30 mins session and experience the thrills and spills of basketball on wheels. ***The pupils do not require PE kit for the day.***

Bikeability – Monday 25th to Thursday 28th September

In a few weeks time, Year 6 will soon be completing the Bikeability programme and Year 4 will have the opportunity to do a one day 'experience' session. Please could you ensure your child's bike is in good working order before the sessions start. More details to follow.

Volunteers and additional support

Over the last year, we have welcomed a number of parents, carers and members of the community into school to assist and support across a range of subjects including reading, trips / activities, computing and art. Please contact your child's class teacher if you are interested in helping out or passing on a skill or interest.

The diary is already filling up with a range of interesting and exciting learning opportunities and we will publish key dates in due course. In the meantime, thank you for making the start of the new school year so welcoming and enjoyable.

Mr Sharp



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