

Friday 20 May 2022

## Headteacher Letter



Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope my letter finds you all safe and well.

I am pleased to say that our covid cases have remained extremely low. As the current situation seems to be much more stable, I will now move to fortnightly letters rather than weekly.

### **Mental health Awareness**

Last week we worked on raising awareness around the very important topic of mental health. The last two years have been incredibly challenging for us all and many pupils and staff have struggled with their mental health. At Astley Park we are working hard to build a culture of openness and support for any pupil or member of staff who is experiencing mental health challenges. Our motto of "It's okay to not be okay" is something that staff and pupils have been embracing. We spent the week taking part in activities to help build our Mental Wealth an idea we are promoting across the school. Our aim is for every week to be mental health awareness week. If you are struggling, please reach out, we are here to help.

### **Wesak**

On Monday we celebrated Wesak, a Buddhist festival marking the birth of Buddha. Pupils have been learning about the Buddhist faith and took part in a school art competition designing their own mandala, a traditional Buddhist piece of art representing the universe and often used as a meditation aid. There were some fantastic entries and Mrs Taylor, and Mrs Karaj had the tricky job of choosing the winners.

### **Queens Jubilee Celebrations**

On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May we are having our Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations. Alongside the Jubilee celebrations we are having a traditional fairground theme day to launch the topic for the primary and Key Stage 3 classes over the remaining summer term. All the fun at fair – bringing the fairground to our school. Staff and Pupils will be invited to wear their own clothes, especially anything red, white or blue to mark the occasion. We will be having a special lunch that day, fingers crossed the weather will be nice and we can enjoy spending the day outdoors.

### **Summer Fair – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June 10am – 2pm**

Hopefully you will already have the date in your diaries and will have spread the word far and wide to friends and family. The Business Support Team are busy planning the event and are currently reaching out to local businesses to ask if they can help. If you know of any businesses that would be willing to help or friends and families who would like to host a stall, then please contact the BST. On the run up to the event there will be a series of three non-uniform days starting next Friday asking for donations of specific items, next week we are asking for donations of bottles.



**Headteacher:** Mr Kieran Welsh Harrington Road, Chorley, PR7 1JZ. **Tel:** 01257 262227

**Email:** head@astleypark.lancs.sch.uk **Website:** www.astleypark.lancs.sch.uk



### **Annual Parent/Carer Survey**

Each June we issue our annual parent/carers survey, which is an opportunity for you to give us your feedback on what you think is working well at school and what you think could be even better. We really appreciate your feedback and last year we had the highest response rate ever with 86 parents and carers responding with their views. We are hoping for an even higher response rate this year. Your feedback is important to us and is included in the school's 3-year strategic plan and our annual school improvement plans too. As a result of your feedback last year, we were able to make several improvements. Please see our [We asked\\_You said\\_We did\\_Report\\_May 2022.docx](#) for further details. Our annual parent/carers survey will be issued after the half-term break with two weeks given to complete.

### **Annual Reports**

Teachers are busy writing the pupil's end of year reports, some of the teachers are trialling a new report style this year. We are hoping with introduction of more photographs they will be more accessible and enable the pupils to be able to access them too. Reports will go live on Evidence for Learning Family App at the end of the day on Friday 17 June, if you need any help logging on to the app, please contact your child's class teacher or a member of the business support team and they will be happy to help.

### **Holiday Heroes & Before & After School Club**

We had a great deal of interest in our May Half-Term Holiday Heroes Club which is now fully booked. Mrs Mahood has planned some great activities over the 2 days including a visit to Space sensory rooms for our youngest pupils, a pottery / clay workshop for our older pupils and lots of inflatable fun with a bouncy castle and assault course which all the pupils will enjoy.

Now that the weather has improved, the pupils who attend our After School Clubs have been enjoying lots of fun and games outside making use of our fantastic facilities including the new playground, climbing frame, bike track and field. There are a couple of spaces available in our Secondary Club which takes place on Tuesdays from 3.30pm to 5.30pm and our Primary Club which takes place on Thursdays from 3.30pm to 5.30pm. If you would like more information, please contact Mrs Mahood via email [mahoodd@astleypark.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:mahoodd@astleypark.lancs.sch.uk)

We will be running Holiday Heroes for 4 weeks in the Summer Holidays. The club will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays for the first 4 weeks of the holidays. Mrs Mahood will send out the usual booking forms after half-term. To be eligible for a fully or partially funded place in the club, your child must be registered with Lancashire County Council's Breaktime scheme as we are now a registered Breaktime provider. If you need help to apply to join the Breaktime scheme, please contact Mrs Mahood who will be happy to help.

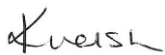




### Family support and signposting

As a school we recognise that the huge increase in the cost of living, in particular energy prices could be having a negative effect on our pupils and their families. If you are struggling, please feel free to reach out to us and we can signpost you to a range of settings or services that may be able to help. These are challenging times we find ourselves in and we are here to help in whatever way we can.

Take care & keep safe 



Kieran Welsh  
Headteacher



Headteacher: Mr Kieran Welsh Harrington Road, Chorley, PR7 1JZ. Tel: 01257 262227

Email: [head@astleypark.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@astleypark.lancs.sch.uk) Website: [www.astleypark.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.astleypark.lancs.sch.uk)