

Acresfield News

October 2018
01244981020



Message from the Headteacher

The new term has started well and it has been great to see the children settling back into life at Acresfield. In particular our new children, especially our Tiger Cubs, have made a super start. It was great to see so many of our new families at our welcome barbeque last month. Thank you all for coming, both new and familiar faces. Thank you also to the Friends of Acresfield for organising the event.

The children are immersing themselves in their learning and their new topics. We refer to the topics as the context for learning. Each class has its own context for learning each term, where we try and link different aspects of the children's learning in a range of subjects to a theme. [context] Our **Otters** have begun their Forest school work and this links to their work on the Stone Age. The children have had the chance to make a drink from foraged fruits, dye materials using natural resources, make bread and create their own Stone Age tools.



Our **Jaguars** organised and ran an extremely successful coffee afternoon last week to raise funds for MacMillan Cancer Care. The afternoon was really well attended: thank you all for supporting it. It included a great bake off, two raffles and a cake splatface off between Mrs Wynne and Miss Hutchinson. The highlight of the afternoon though had to be the

great shave off, when Mr Harris had his beard shaved off! Not only was it a fun afternoon, but it was also a serious fundraiser, with a total of £635 being raised for MacMillan. Thank you all!



This year, our **Pupil Parliament** will be populated by a full working Cabinet. Last week, speeches were made by some of the children in Jaguar class, who were campaigning to be elected as the new Prime Minister and the two Deputy Prime Ministers. There were some very creative and engaging speeches, that captured the imagination of the children watching. All of the children then voted for who they felt would best represent them and after a very democratic process, the following children were elected.

Prime Minister: Daniel Wearing. Deputy Prime Ministers: Lucy Doerr and Olivia Lewis. Congratulations! Especially well done to all the Jaguars who prepared their speeches and presented them so well. Further minister

appointments were made, so that we now have a complete Cabinet. For details of all the appointments, please see the Pupil Parliament board in the corridor. The first Cabinet meeting will be taking place this week. We look forward to seeing all the good work of the new Cabinet in the coming months.



Friends of Acresfield

The Friends AGM will be held on October 9th at 6.30pm. This year, as I mentioned in the flier, Helen Counce will be stepping down as the Chair of Friends. Helen took on the role in October 2013 and has spent five years working tirelessly to raise funds for the children. During her time, the Friends have raised over £50000. All of this money has been spent on the children including the purchase of the following: sensory gazebo, adventure trail, log path, canopy for the stage, laptops, ipads, playground markings, Christmas treats for the children's parties, outdoor play equipment and improvements in the Tiger Cubs outdoor area including the extended canopy. Without Helen's relentless hard work these extras would not be in place for the children. Helen has, of course, had a team of helpers to support her with organising and running these events. I know she would be the first to acknowledge and thank her hard working team, but I would like to use this occasion to thank Helen for all her hard work and support for the school. I would also like to thank her family, for their support, both behind the scenes, but also on the front line, at many of our events.

So, the time has come for someone new to take over the reins. Could it be you? We hope to see lots of you at our AGM. Please come along and support us, as we appoint our new chair.

Thank you Helen!

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Diary Dates



October

2nd—3.15pm First cabinet meeting for the Pupil Parliament
3rd—Orangutans at Chester Racecourse 'Walk my Journey'
3rd—Penguins' mini-kickers tournament Delamere
4th—Otters and Komodo Dragons tag rugby tournament
4th—9.00am Parent class representatives meeting
5th—Komodo Dragons Dahlicious Day
9th—Friends AGM 6.30pm
10th—World Mental Health Day—wear a splash of yellow
11th—Orangutans and Jaguars tag rugby tournament
12th—Open Morning for prospective parents September 2019 10am-12.30pm
15th—Football match at Blacon High v Dee Point
19th—9am Harvest Thanksgiving Celebration. Everyone welcome
20th—Cross Country Winter Series Race 1
22nd—No clubs this week
23rd and 25th—Parents' evenings
26th—9am Penguins' class assembly followed by coffee for parents
26th—End of half term

November

3rd—Cross Country Winter Series Race 2 [please note this is in the half term holiday]
5th—INSET day—School closed
6th—Children return
6th—Jaguars' trip to Tatton Park
8th—Meerkats' trip to Jodrell Bank
8th—Tiger Cub parents invited to lunch
9th—Tiger Cubs' trip to Delamere Forest
12th—School run clubs finish this week
15th—Orangutans' trip to Tatton Park
16th—Choir performing at Children in Need
26th—2.45pm Parents welcome into school to 'Share the Learning' except Tiger Cub parents.
29th—Orangutans' 'Walk my Journey' evening performance

December

4th—Catch up and Cake! Tiger Cub parents 2.45pm
5th—Swimming Gala—Otters and Komodo Dragons
6th—Penguins multi-skills festival
11th—3.15pm Cabinet meeting
13th—Tiger Cubs, Meerkats and Penguins Christmas performance 2.15pm and 5.30pm
14th—2pm Aladdin performance in school
17th—Children's Christmas Dinner
18th—KS2 Christmas performance at The Church of the Holy Ascension in Upton 2pm and 6.30pm
20th—Children's party lunch
20th—9.00am End of term celebration assembly—everyone welcome
20th—End of term.

January

7th—INSET day—school closed
8th—Children return

February

9th—Cross Country Winter Series Race 3

Attendance Matters

Thank you for your positive response to our drive to improving our attendance rate. I will provide a monthly update, so you are aware of how close we are to our target rate of 97%. Figures will be displayed in the playground and at the end of each half term, the attendance rate for each class will be displayed too.

Currently our attendance figure stands at 98.3%. This is a positive start to the year. Thank you everyone.

P.E. Kit

A number of children have started the year without their P.E. kit. A combination of forgetting to bring it in or not having one. Please can you ensure P.E. kits are brought into school at the start of the week and left in school through the week, so they always have access to it. A lot of time can be lost in lessons with children trying to borrow kit. Many thanks for your help with this.

Library Support

Are you available for half an hour any day between 12.30-1pm? We are looking for volunteers, who would be able to support the children at lunchtime when they change their free reading book. If you have any days you are available and would be willing to commit to that day or days on a regular basis, please let the office know.

Parent Governor Election

Please look out for information relating to our parent governor vacancy. The governors play an important role in supporting the strategic direction of the school and providing both support and challenge. Please consider whether you feel you could commit to such a role and enhance our dedicated group of governors.

And Finally

Thank you for your support to ensure a smooth start to the school year. I am particularly pleased with everyone's efforts to improve our attendance figures. This is so important for individual children in order to ensure they build a firm foundation for their learning. Don't forget our parent reps meeting on Thursday. Please let your rep know of anything you would like discussed.

Best wishes
M.Dixon
[Headteacher]