



Dear Parents



During worship and in pupil council meetings, we have been thinking about and praying for Australia, especially for Clifton Creek School in Victoria. One of our responses is our fundraising map - already getting filled with coins.

If any families would like to donate any coins, please send them in to school. We hope to soon have the map filled with coins showing our love and support.

Many thanks

Pip Blythe

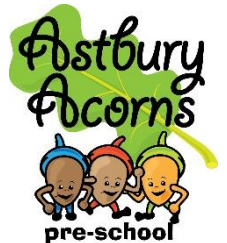
Astbury Acorns

We have been delighted to welcome new children into our Pre-School as Astbury Acorns opened its doors to three and four year olds.

The children have been busy exploring their new learning environment. Astbury Acorns have had a super pre-historic start to the New Year. As part of our child led learning we have followed the children's interest in dinosaurs. Along with our continuous provision, we have developed a dinosaur tuff tray scene using natural resources, salt dough dino footprints, dino ice eggs and after the children expressed their excitement about volcanoes we promptly made one with super fizzy, red lava.

We have already formed great friendships whilst exploring our exciting areas of learning.

Very soon we will be offering a weekend open day to welcome visitors to come and find out more about us.



Parents and Friends' Association (PFA)

Many thanks to everyone who organised and supported the PFA fund raising activities last term. The children enjoyed taking part and £1229.51 was raised. This subsidised school trips and paid for the pantomime in school. We are extremely grateful to the PFA for all their hard work.

As a parent at Astbury, you are a member of the PFA - the next meeting is Tuesday 3rd March 7:30pm at the Egerton Arms. Please put the date in your diary and come along to support. Meetings are usually around an hour.

Village Hall Car Parking

Please can consideration for our environment be given when dropping off and collecting children at the Village Hall. The average car engine emits 250 balloons worth of chemical gases per minute when the engine is left running and diesel cars are 10 times more polluting than petrol cars.

As a school we want to encourage clean air. Please can we make a conscious effort to switch off car engines as soon as possible when waiting to drop off or collect children from school.

Support for your child in reading – Bug Club

Each child at Astbury has a log in to active learn for their Bug Club reading books and activities. In late January, Bug Club (Active Learn) is changing. If you have saved details on your devices, then

these will be lost and your child will have to enter their username and password when they go on the site. Children's log in details are in their reading diaries. Please see your child's teacher if your child does not have theirs.

Improving your child's writing - spelling support and ideas

Mrs Wade has put together a document to support you and your child in learning their spelling. Many children are telling their teacher each week that they have not practised their spelling. The children have a lesson in school each day, but for most children, this is not enough for them to remember and apply the spelling rules in the test on Friday or more importantly, in their written work each week. The document can be found here:

<https://www.astburyschool.org.uk/page/curriculum/53350>

Girlguiding – written by Sue Taylor

Astbury School has provided a great place for Brownies and Rainbows to meet over many years and provide the opportunities that being a member of Girlguiding gives to girls - a space where they can be themselves, have fun, build brilliant friendships, gain valuable life skills and make a positive contribution to their community.



Our volunteers are our great strength and we're lucky that the adult volunteers involved with Brownies and Rainbows at Astbury are experienced and have been involved for a good number of years. Being involved in guiding as a volunteer is a fantastic opportunity. You can make new friends, have fun, do things you'd never dreamt of doing, add to your CV and make a real difference to the lives of today's girls.

We're looking for a few more adult volunteers to join Justine, Doreen, Val and Ann and the young women who also help with the units. A warm welcome awaits. You'll have a personal mentor and practical training to provide the knowledge and skills you'll need.

A recent new volunteer, Lisa, said "As well as giving the girls amazing opportunities, I've also personally benefitted from volunteering. After every meeting I feel I've achieved something great."

To find out more contact Sue Taylor on 07970 416371 or register your interest at www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/. We want to hear from you!

Merekats Holiday Club



February Holiday Club 2020



Monday 17th February
Making slime
Long rope skipping and jump rope challenges



Tuesday 18th February
Pottery painting
Outdoor team games

Wednesday 19th February
Making model boats
Boat race at the brook

Thursday 20th February
*Trip to Macclesfield Superbowl
Art and craft afternoon

Friday 21st February
"The Great Merekat Bake Off"



Children aged 3-11 years
For a booking form visit www.astburymerekats.co.uk or contact us via email on astburymerekats@btinternet.com or call 07748 699352
Prices:
Full Day (8am-6pm) £25.00 / Half Day (8am-1pm) or (1pm-6pm) £15.00
Additional Breakfast Club (7.30am-8.00am) £2.00.
We offer a 10% second child discount. * Extra cost for outings / activities

Diary Dates

Monday 20 th January	KS2 members of the choir attend Singfest Rehearsal at Eaton Bank School 12.45pm-2.45pm
Friday 31 st January	May Queen draw 2.50pm
Tuesday 4 th February	School Health in to do vision/hearing – rec children
Friday 7 th February	Rotary Club Swimathon. Astbury team swimming 5-6pm
Tuesday 11 th February	Safer Internet Day
Friday 14 th February	Last day before Half Term
Monday 24 th February	School Opens
Tuesday 3 rd March	PFA meeting 7:30pm at the Egerton Arms
Wednesday 4 th March	Archdeacon of Chester to lead assembly/meet children
Friday 20 th March	Celebrating World Down Syndrome Day (21 st March)
Monday 23 rd March	Last swim for group 2
Wednesday 25 th March	Singfest Concert at Congleton Town Hall 1.30-2.45pm

Strategic Planning Meeting – Wednesday 22nd January

In June 2017, the staff and Governors had a strategic planning day. The action plan for 2017 – 2020 that was formulated following this day has played a key part in the vision and direction of Astbury School.

As part of our work to continue to drive school improvement, the governing board and staff will be taking part in further strategic planning to develop the vision and direction and plan for the next three – five years. This will be shared with you later this term.

We would like the help and input of all the school's stakeholders and we will also be asking our staff and pupils to take part.

We would be grateful if you could complete this short form. Please send us any other information that you think might be useful for us to use.

Three words that you think of when you think of the school.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

One thing you'd like us to do more of.

One thing you'd like us to change.

Any extra information.

Please either email the form to Mrs Kath Moore at kmoore@astbury.cheshire.sch.uk or send it into the school office marked 'School Vision' by Wednesday 22nd January.

After School Clubs**Clubs start at 3.20pm and finish at 4.15pm.**

Day	Lunch Time Clubs	After School Clubs	Start Date
Monday		Yr 6 SATs booster Book craft YR – Y5 Limited to 15(Y6 siblings have preference)	20/01/2020
Tuesday	Ministry 4 Sport fitness club YR – Y6	Football Club Yr 2-6 Junior church choir with Sally Drage – starts after Feb half term	21/01/2020 21/01/2020
Wednesday		Coding Club with Mr Bibby Yr 4-6 Fitness Club with Ministry 4 Sport YR – Y6	22/01/2020 22/01/2020
Thursday		Homework Club YR – Y6	23/01/2020
Friday	Choir YR – Y6	Outdoor Explorer Club YR – Y6 - Limited to 12	24/01/2020

Please note - Forms must be signed and returned before your child stays for an after school club.**After school clubs and permission form (please complete)**

	Clubs	Name of child/ren
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday		

I give permission for my child to attend lunchtime/after school clubs as outlined above. I will make arrangements to collect my child after the later school clubs have finished. If your child is unable to stay for an after school club that they are signed up to then please inform school so an absent mark can be added beside their name on the register.

Name of child:Signature of parent: