

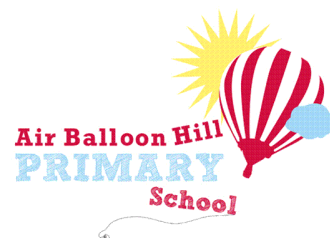
Everyone can achieve
Everyone can learn
Everyone belongs

Air Balloon Hill Primary School

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Newsletter 3

22nd September 2023

In this week's newsletter:

Part 1

Key messages this week

Part 2

Messages from classes
and year groups this week

Part 3

Relevant information
shared in previous
newsletters

Part 1 - Key messages this week

Parking

We have received a number of complaints this week about parents parking inconsiderately during the school drop-off and pick-up times – some people who have parked across other people's driveways and others who have parked dangerously blocking junctions or even on the yellow zig-zags outside of the school gates. We understand that parking is difficult around the school, but if you do have to drive, please park responsibly and not in a manner that will endanger the lives of others. Many of you may have seen our local PCSO and his colleague on Wednesday morning helping to educate drivers who were not parking responsibly. Please be aware that they will be out and about more often and may issue on-the-spot fines for drivers parking on the zig-zags.



Arbor – Pre-ordering lunch

You may have noticed that you can pre-order lunches in the Arbor App. We don't routinely use this feature, but may direct you to pre-order lunches using this facility when we have special menus – for example for World Book Day, Halloween or Christmas. For every-day meal booking, you don't need to pre-book; your child just needs to tell their teacher in the morning what they would like for lunch. Please be aware that if you do choose to pre-order your child's lunch but subsequently change your mind about what they want to eat (for example, swapping from packed lunch to hot meal), you will need to let the school office know so that we can change their choice on the register as the teacher won't be aware of any pre-orders.

If you know your child will be late in on any day (for example following a medical appointment), please let the school office know what your child would like to order for lunch as the kitchen need to know the meal numbers by 10am each day.



ICT Policies

Next week, the governors will be reviewing our ICT policies. Over the next few weeks, once the policies have been approved, we will be sending every child home with a new ICT Acceptable Use Policy (KS1 or KS2 appropriate) and a Parent/Carer agreement. In addition, children in Year 5 and 6 who bring a mobile phone to school will also be asked to sign a personal electronic device agreement. More information will be sent in the accompanying letter and we would be grateful if you can take some time to discuss the agreements with your child/ren before signing and returning them to the school office. Copies of the full policies will be available on our website but if you would like a paper copy or a copy translated into another language, please ask at the school office.



Year 6

We will be welcoming staff from BBA into school on Wednesday morning to talk to the Year 6 pupils about their school ahead of their open evening on Thursday.

We also have an information meeting at 3.30pm on Tuesday 26th September in the Stratos Hall to talk to Year 6 parents and carers about completing secondary school applications. Please try to attend if you can as the information we need to provide is important. If you are unable to attend but have any questions, please speak to Mrs King in the school office.

Remember that information about all of the local secondary school open events can be found on our website - <https://www.abhps.com/year-6/>

YEAR 6

Coats

Please remember to send your child into school with a coat every day now that the weather is getting colder and wetter.



Pre-Loved Uniform Sale

Next Thursday (28th September) we will be holding a pre-loved uniform sale from 3pm in the front yard (outside the school office) – weather permitting. If it is raining, we will hold it in the Sombrero Hall (Year 2 Hall) from 3.20pm.



You will be able to buy a selection of pre-loved uniform items – including jumpers, cardigans, dresses, trousers and Polo shirts. We will also have a selection of winter coats on sale.

Reception Parents' Presentation

On Monday (25th) we have our Reception Parent's presentation at 5.30pm. We would encourage you to attend, to find out more about what the children will be learning this year. If you are unable to attend, we will share a copy of the presentation on our website afterwards.

Sarah's Top Tips

I get a lot of questions about how to help children be more confident and also sometimes about how to play together other than with electronic games. This is a nice site with lots of lovely ideas and mini courses you can take in your own time. Why not check it out for inspiration. [Online parenting classes](#) | [Family Lives](#)



The Wellspring Settlement is starting a course called Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities which is aimed at parenting all ages of children up to the age of 18 years. It is described as 'A free, inclusive course to help parents and carers raise happy, confident children, from babies to teens.

Unfortunately, it started on 20th September, but you can still enrol up to the third week. For more information please call 0117 9556971 extension 161. Or speak with me, Sarah Webb. You can also speak with our Child Support Worker Emma James if you have any questions or would like any further information on this topic.

School Milk Services

School Milk Services have asked that when you enquire about ordering milk for your children, you do so by using their website: www.schoolmilksservices.co.uk/parents



They have had an influx of parents registering over the phone, however, registering online reduces time and ensures children's details are entered correctly (including their class).

They can take over the phone registrations when parents are unable to register online due to personal circumstances (such as no access to the internet), but best practice is for this to be done online.

FAB News - Climbing Frame

We are delighted to say we have now reached our target, thanks to the generous donation of £1,640.00 from one of our parents this week. Absolutely amazing!! The climbing frame will shortly be ordered and we'll keep you updated on its progress.



Some dates for your diary...

Bag2school - 18th October

Autumn Disco -19th October (How to order tickets will be in next week's newsletter.)

Non uniform day -20th October

Christmas Fayre -2nd December






All money raised at these events go towards supporting the school. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Safeguarding update

The safeguarding team

Mrs Knight is our school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). She is supported by the school's Safeguarding Team. Please see the table below for further details about the team. If you have a safeguarding concern that you wish to discuss with Mrs Knight or the Safeguarding Team, please contact them via the office or through our safeguarding team email address: safeguarding@abhps.com.

Please note, this email address should only be used to contact school if you have a safeguarding concern regarding your own family or others in our school community. If you have any queries regarding your child's wellbeing or learning, please continue to contact their class teacher by speaking to them in the playground or emailing via the school office.

Mrs Knight	Mr Browse	Mrs Hennessy	Mrs Webb	Miss James
Assistant Headteacher (Pastoral & Safe-guarding)	Headteacher	Assistant Headteacher (Inclusion)	Family Support Worker	Children's Support Worker
				
Designated Safe-guarding Lead Mental Health Lead	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	SENDCo Designated Teacher for Children in Care	Parenting support / advice and family welfare	Support for pupils' emotional wellbeing and mental health

Future communications and guidance

The Safeguarding Team are interested to find out what our families would find helpful in terms of safeguarding advice and guidance either through the newsletter or at face-to-face events. This could be about any area of safeguarding, such as online safety, domestic abuse, cybercrime, mental health or bullying. We have created an online form which you can access [here](#):

Online Safety

Last week, we shared a summary of our KS2 pupils' online use and experiences during the year group parent presentations. If you weren't able to attend, links to the presentations can be found in Part 2 of the newsletter. We recommend that you view these to help you make decisions about how to keep your child safe online.

SKR Week

This week was the school's first 'Safe, Kind & Respectful Week' and the subject was 'Being Safe'. Please see the letter sent out on Monday for further information. <https://www.abhps.com/safeguarding/>

Part 2 - Key messages from classes and year groups this week

All Year Groups

Mrs Knight wrote to parents this week with information about our first **Safe, Kind and Respectful** week of the year. This week, we have been talking to the children about being safe. You can find a copy of the letter and the PANTS guide from the NSPCC on the Safeguarding page of our website: <https://www.abhps.com/safeguarding/>

Year 4

Aquila Class PE days have changed to Monday (indoor) and Thursdays (outdoor)

Part 3 - Key messages that you might have missed

Year 6 - Important Information about Year 7 Applications

Although children are only a week into Year 6, we need to inform you that the deadline to apply for a secondary school place for September 2024 is **midnight on Tuesday 31st October 2023**. Online applications are open from the 12th September 2023 via the Council's website. A link can be found on the Year 6 page of our website.

Apply now for
your child's
secondary
school place



We have confirmed the key open event information for local school websites and have added this on to the Year 6 page of our school website: <https://www.abhps.com/year-6/>

Please take some time to look at the open event information for the schools - many of them are happening very soon, including John Cabot next week. We would recommend that you look around as many schools as possible in order to help you and your child make an informed decision about where they would like to go after Air Balloon.

We will be holding a Parents' Information Session on **Tuesday 26th September** at **3.30pm** to outline the admissions process and answer any questions you may have on applying for secondary school places. If you have any questions, please speak to Mrs King in the school office.

Flu Vaccines

The annual flu vaccination programme is scheduled to be carried out in school for all children on the **17th November** for children who have consent for the vaccination. To book your child's flu vaccination please click [here](#).



Parent Presentations

If you were unable to attend the parent presentations this week, you can download a copy of the information slides from the year group pages of the school website by clicking on the individual links below:

[Year 1](#)

[Year 2](#)

[Year 3](#)

[Year 4](#)

[Year 5](#)

[Year 6](#)

Harvest

We will be holding our annual harvest assemblies on Monday 9th October and will be collecting donations of food and toiletries for the Kingswood Foodbank. We understand that the current situation of increasing energy and food costs is impacting everyone, but if you are able to add an extra tin or packet of food to your shopping in the next few weeks to donate to the Foodbank, we would be very grateful. We know that the Foodbanks will see an increase in visitors over the coming months, so anything we can do to help others in our community will be appreciated.

This year, the Foodbank are asking specifically for donations of **Jam** and **Tinned Rice Pudding** from Air Balloon. They are asking different schools to donate specific items each, so that they can build their stocks of their essential items. Any items you can donate would be appreciated but if you can include Jam and Rice Pudding as well, that would be a huge help.



Term Dates

Term 1: Friday 1 September 2023 to Friday 20 October 2023

Term 2: Monday 30 October 2023 to Friday 15 December 2023

Term 3: Tuesday 2 January 2024 to Friday 9 February 2024

Term 4: Monday 19 February 2024 to Thursday 28 March 2024

Term 5: Monday 15 April 2024 to Friday 24 May 2024

Term 6: Monday 3 June 2024 to Tuesday 23 July 2024

In-Set Dates

Wednesday 4th October 2023

Tuesday 2nd January 2024

Thursday 28th March 2024



Job Vacancies at Air Balloon Hill Primary School

Please visit the vacancies section of the school website for our latest job opportunities, or visit

<https://www.eteach.com/schools/air-balloon-hill-primary-school-24934>

Air Balloon Hill Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

An enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service Check are required for these positions.

We particularly welcome applications from underrepresented groups including, ethnicity, gender, transgender, age, disability, sexual orientation or religion.

Parent governor vacancy

Dear parents,

Following a recent resignation, we currently have a vacancy for a parent governor and are seeking nominations for an enthusiastic and committed parent or carer to join the governing board.

The core functions of the governing board are:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.
- Holding senior leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation, its pupils, and the performance management of staff.
- Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent.

The term of office for all governors is four years.

There are no particular qualifications or experience required for the role, but we are keen to ensure the board membership is representative of the school community. We would particularly welcome nominations from parents / carers in our under-represented or minority groups. Additionally, we would be keen to receive nominations from people with experience in human resources, communications, finance or property management.

At Air Balloon Hill Primary School we always aim for positive and purposeful partnerships with parents, which undoubtedly brings important benefits to the pupils. One of the most significant ways you can help in promoting this aim is to volunteer to be a parent governor. The governing board's main tasks are to support the school, ensure that all pupils receive a high quality education and plan for future development and improvement. Parent governors are welcomed as valued members of the team and play a vital role in ensuring the governing board is aware of the views of parents and the local community. We are confident that there are parents prepared to volunteer to take on this key role and give their time and commitment to help us continue to develop and improve the school's performance.

Governors currently meet as a board up to six times a year and meetings, which are held in school, start at 6.00pm and finish around 8.00pm. If needed, additional meetings are planned with seven days notice. We also have a finance committee and quality of education committee, meetings for these are also held outside of school hours. All governors are invited to join the committee that their skills and experience match with or they have a particular interest in.

Governors are occasionally required to visit the school during the day for monitoring visits and are encouraged to support school events, where possible.

More information about being a governor can be found on the governor pages of the school web site - www.abhps.com/governors/. Should you have any questions about the role please do not hesitate to contact myself through the school office, Mr Browse or any member of the Governing board listed on the school website.

We offer new governors a comprehensive and supportive induction, and each new governor is assigned a buddy. Full training for the role is also available via the local authority Governor Development service.

If you are interested in this important role you can be nominated or self-nominate on the attached form, which should be submitted to the school office by **12.00 noon on Friday 29th September 2023**

When nominating yourself or someone else for the role of parent governor, you are nominating the person you believe has the skills and commitment to undertake the role, someone you trust to represent the views of parents when working with other governors and the headteacher, and to promote high standards and strategically develop the school. A parent governor's role is not to represent individual parents' views or to report back directly to parents, but to be representative of the parent body.

If there is more than one nomination, an election will be held on Friday 13th October 2023 and all parents will be sent information on how to vote.

Yours sincerely,

Nikki Jackson

Chair of Governors ABHPS

Parent governor nomination form

Please complete section one for self-nomination and refer to the information on the reverse of this form to make yourself aware of the circumstances that a person may not be permitted to stand for the role of school governor. If you are nominating someone other than yourself, please complete section two of this form, reviewing the reverse of this page to ensure that the individual in mind is suitable for the position

Section one – self nomination

I wish to nominate myself for the role of parent governor at Air Balloon Hill Primary School. I have read the information on disqualification and confirm that I am eligible to stand for election.	
Name:	
Email address:	
Child's name:	
Child's class:	
Signature:	

Section two – nominating someone else

I wish to nominate another parent for the role of parent governor at Air Balloon Hill Primary School. I confirm that I have informed the parent of my intention to nominate them and they are willing to be nominated for election.	
Nominee's details	
Name:	
Email address:	
Child's name:	
Child's class:	
Signature:	
Person being nominated	
Name:	
Email address:	
Name of child:	
Child's class:	
Signature:	I have read the information on disqualification and confirm I am eligible to stand for election.

Please attach a short statement (no more than 100 words) which will be included on the ballot paper if an election is required

Please return your nomination form to the **school office** no later than **12.00 noon** on **Friday 29th September 2023**. The returning officer for this election is Sally King, Data Manager

If there are more nominations than vacancies, an election will be held on Friday 13th October 2023 and all parents / carers will be sent a voting paper.