



Newsletter

October 2023

A great half term

It has been a full half term as always and I hope that you can see by our curriculum newsletter that the amount of learning that has taken place is phenomenal.

As always our attendance is a focus and we have made the updated policy available for you on our website. [attendance-punctuality-policy-2023-2024.pdf \(aqueductprimary.co.uk\)](https://www.aqueductprimary.co.uk/attendance-punctuality-policy-2023-2024.pdf) We have also created an easily accessible 'Attendance Leaflet' which can be found in the 'Parents & Carers' section of the website.

We continue to track the number of pupils who have lower attendance and these are conversations that your child's class teacher will be having with you at parental consultations. Whilst we understand that this time of year there are a few bugs going round, it is our statutory duty to have these conversations with you as any child with an attendance percentage lower than 90% is classed as a persistent absentee. I am sure that you will all work with us to help improve this over the coming half term.

Attendance

Our attendance target remains at 96% with children very keen to be the best class each week.

- Week 1 - Class 5JP with 100%
- Week 2 - Class 6MA with 98.85%
- Week 3 - Class 6MA with 99.17%
- Week 4 - Class 3MP with 95.38%
- Week 5 - Class 3MP with 96.15%
- Week 6 - Class 8PRB with 96.96%
- Week 7 - Class 6MA with 98.75%
- Week 8 - Class 8PRB with 98.7%



Parental consultations begin the first week back.

- Monday 6th November - Class 3 and 4 (in the afternoon)
- Tuesday 7th November - Class 5, 6 and 7 (in the afternoon)
- Wednesday 8th November - Whole School (after school)
- Thursday 9th November - Class 8, 9 and 10 (in the afternoon)
- Friday 10th November - Class 1 and 2 (in the afternoon)

If you have not yet booked an appointment, please contact the office or speak to your child's class teacher at the end of the day to see what slots they may have left.

Tuesday 10th October was World Mental Health Day. The children were invited in to wear yellow to remind us that we are not alone with mental health. They then thought about mental health and what they could do to try and keep their minds nice and healthy. Here are some of the ideas that were generated:



Further information and support about mental health is available on our school website with external links for further information and support on the topics of well-being and mental health. If you are concerned about your child's mental health or your own mental health please make an appointment to visit your GP. There are people who can help, please ask.

Parent Partnership Meeting

Thank you to the parents that attended the Parent in Partnership meeting on 4th October 2023. It was so lovely to see so many there and it was so nice to meet new parents. During the meeting we shared information about the following

- Keeping children safe online and on their mobiles
- Friendships and fallouts
- Homework support
- Attendance guidance
- Rewards and consequences

Don't forget the Parent Working Party 14th November- information and support for safety.
You will always be very welcome.



We are delighted to share the news of the safe arrival of Isabella Palin! Mr Palin and his wife welcomed Isabella into the world on September 28th at 2:09am, weighing 7lb 13oz.

welcome baby girl

Her big brother Oscar is taking his duties very seriously and is already protective of his little sister!



This flyer went out to all pupils this week after the Wellbeing Committee met and agreed to start a lunch club.

What a wonderful idea for how to continue to support the wellbeing of our pupils. I am sure that this will be a popular one and we hope that Mrs Batchelor is ready for them all.

We continue to have a 'Mindfulness' session every day after lunch. The children return from a bustling playground to their classrooms to be met by calming music or visual imagery. They then spend 10-15 minutes participating in guided breathing methods, guided imagery, and other practices to relax the body and mind. This helps them to be ready for an afternoon of learning.

Wellbeing Wednesday is a focus for us as a school for pupils and staff. The children have practical mindfulness activities including mindfulness colouring on a Wednesday. The staff even have their own mindful activities and a weekly e-mail with hints and tips for how to look after their wellbeing.



* The children's wellbeing committee will be holding a weekly wellbeing lunchtime club.

Every Wednesday, 12-1 at the Pitstop.

There will be a selection of mood boosting activities, calm down crafts and mindful music.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Halloween Disco

What a great event!

We were so pleased to be able to offer a disco once again and a massive thank you needs to go out to Mrs Thomas and Mrs Rose, our dedicated office team who were the ones to plan, organise, resource and prepare everything needed for your children to attend the disco. A lot of preparation and sorting goes into events such as these and without the help of parents that we have had in the past it was a huge ask for the office team on top of their normal day job! We would also like to thank the parents who did volunteer and helped out, this was a great help.

Although we no longer have a FOAPS group, we still welcome any parents who would be interested in helping out at future events. If you think that you may be able to volunteer in the future, please speak to the office staff or Mrs Lockley.

We welcome any feedback on the event. We know that some of you were disappointed to have missed the deadline to purchase tickets and we understand the disappointment you may have felt. However, as there is so much to consider, there does need to be a cut off point so that we can plan and assess what is needed for a smoothly run event. We will make sure these deadlines are communicated to you more than the once that it was communicated this time. We do ask that you as parents make sure that you have the correct e-mail address for you linked to your ParentPay account so that you can guarantee that all communication gets to you.

We have already received some great feedback from one of our Parent Governors who said they were impressed with "how successful it was and as a parent governor it was a welcome return. If you have any feedback on this event, please let me know".





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Monday 30th October - Friday 3rd November - HALF TERM**
Monday 6th November - Children return to school SAFETY VALUES DAY
Monday 6th November - Year 1&2 Parental Consultations 1pm - 4pm
Tuesday 7th November - Year 3&4 Parental Consultations 1pm - 4pm
Wednesday 8th November - Reception pedestrian training
Wednesday 8th November - Whole School Parental Consultations 3:45pm - 6:15pm
Thursday 9th November - Year 5&6 Parental Consultations 1pm - 4pm
Friday 10th November - Reception Parental Consultations 1pm - 4pm
Monday 13th - Friday 17th November - Anti Bullying Week
Monday 13th November - Arthog Meeting for Year 6 Parents @5:30pm
Tuesday 14th November - E-Safety Parent Workshop @ 5pm
Wednesday 15th November - Reception Open Evening for September 2024 pupils
Wednesday 6th December - Pantomime in school (Funded by Dawley Hamlets Parish Council)
Tuesday 12th December - KS1 Christmas performance
Wednesday 13th December - Christmas Dinner Day
Thursday 14th December - Reception to Wonderland
Thursday 14th December - KS1 Christmas performance
Monday 18th December - Reception nativity (pm)
Tuesday 19th December - Reception nativity (am)
Tuesday 19th December - Christmas music performances
Thursday 21st December - Last day of term
Friday 22nd December - PD Day
Monday 25th December - Friday 5th January - Christmas Holidays
Monday 8th January - Children return to school RESPECT VALUES DAY