



Acton CE Primary Academy

For nothing is impossible with God: Luke 1:37

Christian Value: Friendship

September Newsletter

Tuesday 14th September 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back to the start of the new academic year. I am very excited to be writing the first newsletter of the academic year as the new Head Teacher for Acton. Seeing so many happy and smiling faces in school once again certainly makes me very proud. Welcome to all our new Reception children and parents and our new families who have joined us this year.

North West Academy Trust

Following a smooth handover from Real Life Learning Academy Trust, we are now officially part of the North West Academy Trust. I have already had lots of very productive and positive meetings with members of the Trust to discuss how we can improve our school over the next few years. I will keep you all updated with regular updates and information as to how we will be making positive changes over the upcoming weeks.

New Roof Grant Awarded

One of the big projects that we will be carrying out this year is the new school roof. As you are aware from last year, we have been successful in a government grant to repair and replace parts of the school roof. Although this is going to be a rather large project this year, it is essential work due to the problems we have with leaks and damage in the school. I will keep you updated once I know when the work will start and what it will entail as soon as I can. Following this large project, we will be developing and improving the building with lots of further projects. This is a very exciting time for Acton school.

Governing Body

Due to the change in the Trust our Academy Committee have now become the school Governing body. Governing bodies support decision making in the school. Their aim is to work with the staff to support and drive standards forward, as well as regularly reviewing progress. If you would like any further information about the role of the Governing body or you would like to contact Megan Nurse, Chair of Governors, please contact the school.

Staggered drop off/collection

Thank you so much for supporting us in the drop off and collection times. This has really helped to reduce congestion in the school grounds and keep our children, staff and parents safe. I will be working with parent council to review the times to ensure that they are running as smooth as they can.

Healthy Snacks.

If your child would like to bring a snack for break times, please can we request that this is a healthy option. **Chocolate, sweets and crisps will not be permitted.** We also offer snack which can be purchased from the school kitchen at break. Can we ask that your child pop their money in a named purse or wallet so we can return any money that has been misplaced.

As a healthy school, we ask for only **water** in water bottles please! We have plenty of filling stations in the school, so children can keep hydrated.

Parent Surveys

A huge thank you for all those who took the time to complete the parent survey in the summer term. This information helps us to review and improve our current practice and ensure we are offering the very best for the children.

Weekly Highlights

We have started our weekly highlights again in the new couple of weeks. This is to remind you of any class information or events coming up in school. All weekly highlights will be uploaded to the website and a text will be sent out to you.

Communication

Communication will continue to be through email, text, phone calls, social media and the school website. There may be occasions where we send home paper letters, but we will keep this to a minimum. If you need to speak to your class teacher, we request that this is done via phone or email. Class teachers will keep the class pages up to date with class news and information.

Meet and Greet for Reception and 'Create and Engage' afternoons.

We will be hosting a meet and greet for our new Reception parents on Wednesday 29th September at 5.30-6.30pm. A separate letter has gone out to explain this event in more detail.

Each year group will also be hosting a **Create and Engage afternoon**. This is a chance for parents to visit the school and take part in an exciting lesson with your child. A further letter will be sent with details. Dates are at the bottom of the newsletter. Please be aware that these events are all covid dependent.

Parent/Teacher meetings

Parent/Teacher meetings will be taking place on 11th -13th October. We are pleased to be able to offer both face to face or virtual meetings on this occasion. We will send out a booking form with dates and times for you to complete and return to school in due course.

Home learning and Isolation.

In the unfortunate event that your child is having to isolate due to Covid-19 symptoms or testing positive, the class teachers will be in contact to discuss how you would like your remote learning. We can offer paper packs or google classroom dependant on what is best for your circumstances. We will also offer live sessions via the google classroom so your child will not miss out on education. If you need any support with technology in the event of remote learning, then please do let me know.

Residentials

Finally, we are able to take part in residentials once again. We have booked Whitemoor lakes for Yr5/6 for 30th March – 1st of April and Frank Chapman centre for Year 3 and 4 on 27th-29th April. Booking details will be sent out soon.

I will be speaking to Parent Council about Year 1 and 2 residentials and will share the outcome once finalised.

Swimming

Swimming will be returning in the Spring term for Year 6 and the Summer term for Year 2.

Bikeability

Year 6 Bikeability will commence Nov 11-12th and Yr5 Bikeability will take place on 8th Dec. Mrs Curry will send over additional information on how to book.

School Fluenz Vaccinations

Whole school flu vaccinations will take place on Thursday 18th November. Paper work will be sent out from the School nurses.

Sports

Some more good news! We can finally resume sports events as a school (Covid dependant) Mr Hollinrake has signed the school up to lots of events over the year. As we currently do not have a school mini bus, we ask that parents support us in getting the children to the events for the time being. Thank you for your support in advance.

Church Events

Our wonderful Harvest service will take place at St Mary's Church, Acton on Wednesday 29th October at 2pm. All are welcome to join us.

Also, our Remembrance service will also take place at church on Monday 15th November at 2pm.

Again, please come and join us if you can.

FOAS

We are very lucky to have such a wonderful and supportive team of parents who have worked so hard over the years to raise vital funds for the school. Due to Covid-19 FOAS are in need of as much support from parents than ever. If you could spare some of your time to help the team raise funds for the school then please contact Mrs Vicki McGowan. (Details on the school website)

Dinner Monies:

The cost for this half term is £88.20. Please can all monies for the half term be paid by Friday 2nd October. Please note if payment is not made, your entitlement to dinners will be stopped. If it is necessary for you to pay weekly, please arrange this with Mrs Curry. All weekly monies must be paid for in advance of the meals being taken. Please make payments for dinner money using the 'School Money' online system. The link for the website is provided below and your passwords will be sent by text message, if you have not received your password please contact the school office.

https://sm1.schoolmoney.co.uk/public/school_money/login.html.nc

If your child is in Key Stage 1, they are entitled to Universal Free School Meals.

Class highlights:

Reception

Our first week in Reception has been fantastic! The children have settled into school life brilliantly, exploring our environment and having lots of fun. We have been learning our way around the school and enjoying delicious school lunches. We have begun to practice our number formation and counting to ten... we are loving learning to write our letters. A huge well done to all the reception children for being such superstars!

Year 1

Year 1 have been settling in this last week and getting used to their new classroom environment. We have been getting used to working in bigger groups and as a full class. Year 1 have been looked at the story Paper Planes in English and the children have been looking at full stops, capital letters and finger spaces to improve the accuracy of their work. We have also been enjoying learning about our new topic where is Acton where the children have been identifying old and new buildings around the village. We have also been doing lots of work on routines and expectations the children have coped remarkably well with all the new changes, and I am very proud of them all.

Year 2

In Year 2 we have been exploring the Christian value of friendship and enjoying celebrating what makes us good friends as part of our RE lessons. We have begun exploring our new text The Night Gardener and have been very excited by the magical creations in the story. We are looking forward to exploring the story and characters more this half term. This last week we have also been introduced to our class author Kes Gray and created our own oi frog frogs for a display. The children really enjoyed this lesson. In science we have begun our new Living Things and their habitats topic and been introduced to the famous scientist Jane Goodall. This term we are going to try to be like Jane in how we observe the living things around us and gather data

Mrs Rogers and Mrs Torrie

Year 3

Year 3 have settled in great so far. We have been looking at our topic for this half term, A Passport To Europe, and have explored different capital cities throughout Europe. In design and technology, we have been looking at bridges from around Europe and have been studying the work of I.K. Brunel. We really enjoyed being able to draw some of these bridges. In English we have been studying the Iron Man, and have really enjoyed hearing this story and trying to figure out what will happen next.

Mr Hollinrake

Year 4

What a fantastic start

Year 4 have got off to a flying start to the term. We have had a fantastic time this week and have particularly loved researching Philip Treacy in DT and choosing which hats we particular liked. On Thursday we had great fun playing Bingo in French to consolidate our numbers to 10. Friday was incredibly exciting as we all got to choose which instrument we will be learning this year, we had a choice of baritone, trumpets and trombones.

Miss Cross

Year 5

Year 5 have settled into the class extremely well, even with a little upheaval last week. We are so proud of them for showing maturity and resilience through such a tricky time. Already Year 5 have been very busy starting our new topic on Queen Elizabeth I. We found out how she became Queen and some of the unpleasant things her father (Henry VIII) did.

In Science, we started out topic on Earth and Space. We drew the solar system and made up a mnemonic to remember the order of the planets.

My	Mercury
Very	Venus
Excited	Earth
Monkey	Mars
Jumps	Jupiter
Sideways	Saturn
Until	Uranus
Noon	Neptune

In art we have started to research Tudor portraits with a view to painting our own. We are looking forward to developing our knowledge of Tudor music over the next half term and hopefully we may even get to make our own!

Mrs Bramwell and Mrs McKinlay

Year 6

Y6 have enjoyed their first week back at school, particularly because they met their buddies for the first time! We have been refreshing our skills in tag rugby and football and even leading our own team games. We have been coming up with ideas for our new science topic of classification and how we might group different types of living things and we have had very sensible discussions about the kingdom of God and what it might mean for Christians. A fantastic first week for Y6!

Looking forward to:

We are very much looking forward to the Head boy and Girl interviews and putting forward our applications. We are also excited for the other roles and responsibilities! We will be finding out about a trip taking place in October for Y6 very soon where we will learn all about different real-life skills. We are also going to be learning about Banksy and creating our own graffiti art! Also, we will be doing lots of independent and fun research in our topic of Law and Disorder (the vikings!).

Miss Stevinson

Dates are as follows For September and October

<u>20/09/21</u>	<u>Quad Kids athletics- Malbank</u>
<u>27/09/21</u>	<u>Parent council 6.30-7.30pm: School hall</u>
<u>29/09/21</u>	<u>Reception meet and Greet- 5.30pm</u>
<u>30/09/21</u>	<u>Tag Rugby-Vagrants</u>
<u>01/10/21</u>	<u>Football festival- Shavington Soccer Centre</u>
<u>07/10/21</u>	<u>Y6 Crucial crew event</u>
<u>07/10/21</u>	<u>Girls football festival- Shavington Soccer Centre</u>
<u>08/10/21</u>	<u>Y1/2 Football festival- Crewe Alex</u>
<u>11/10/21</u>	<u>Parents evening</u>
<u>12/10/21</u>	<u>Parents Evening</u>
<u>13/10/21</u>	<u>Parents evening</u>
<u>13/10/21</u>	<u>Harvest service</u>
<u>14/10/21</u>	<u>Fire service talk</u>

Create and Engage pupil/parent sessions:

<u>08/11/21</u>	<u>Reception 1.45-2.45</u>
<u>09/11/21</u>	<u>Year 1 1.45-2.45</u>
<u>10/11/21</u>	<u>Year 2 1.45-2.45</u>
<u>11/11/21</u>	<u>Year 3 1.45-2.45</u>
<u>12/11/21</u>	<u>Year 4 1.45-2.45</u>
<u>16/11/21</u>	<u>Year 5 1.45-2.45</u>
<u>17/11/21</u>	<u>Year 6 1.45-2.45</u>

As always, if you have any concerns or queries regarding your child's education, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Rachael McKinlay
Head of School