



# Alexandra Park Primary School

*Care, Aspire, Achieve*

## Friday 8th September 2023

It has been a fantastic first week back! The children have all come back with positive attitudes and ready to learn. The feedback I have had from our team about your children could not be more positive. I equally hope that your children have come home happy and excited about their new class and their learning.

Thank you to all the reception and nursery parents who have come in to the various events to help prepare your child - and you - to start at our school. It has been a pleasure to meet both you and your children and we are delighted that you are joining our Alexandra Park Community.

### Nursery

We are very much looking forward to welcoming our 40 new nursery children into school on Monday. After many years of working towards our goal of providing the best possible early years education for our children, it is very exciting that our nursery provision is finally here! The staff have worked incredibly hard to make this happen, particularly the site team, admin team and the new nursery team. Thank you also for the amazing support we have received from our Governing Board; they have been an excellent source of support throughout the project. You can see from the photos what an exciting and rich learning experience we have created for the children and we can not wait to meet the children and families on Monday.



### School uniform and lost property

Thank you to all parents for sending your children in looking smart. We know how expensive the start of the year can be so we all need to everything so you do not have buy replacement uniform. First thing, if you label everything, it is much easier for us to get things back when they are misplaced. We will do this daily. If there is any lost property we can not return, we will put it out on the playgrounds at the end of the day every Friday.

## **KS2 Playground Leaders**



This year, we are continuing to improve our lunchtime provision so all children have a positive and enjoyable experience. Part of this includes the introduction of KS2 Playground Leaders, who have been busy today preparing for their new roles starting on Monday. They will have the opportunity to organise and lead games in the playground for different aged children, help build positive relationships and demonstrate our school values through games and various activities. We are really excited to support the children with this new opportunity in school and feel it will have a significant impact on the wellbeing of all children at lunchtimes.

## **Stockport Reading Challenge**



Well done to all the children who participated in the Reading Challenge over the holiday. Please could you send your child in with their certificate and medal next Wednesday. We will be launching our own school Reading Challenge for the Junior children very soon. For now, here is a picture of some of the children enjoying the changes to our library.

## **Nut Free School**

We have both children and staff in school who are allergic to nuts. It is extremely important that we do not bring nuts into school. Thank you

## **Community Laptops for Low-Income Families**

There is a great scheme currently operating for Stockport residents on low incomes. All the details can be found here:

<https://shop.communitycomputers.co.uk/>

We are always available should any families need any additional support with the costs associated with school. Please pop in and ask to speak to Mrs Millward or email

[charlotte.millward@alexandraparkprimary.uk](mailto:charlotte.millward@alexandraparkprimary.uk)

## **Free School Meals**

As you will be aware, all Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children benefit from the government Universal Free School Meal scheme which enables all children in those year groups to have a free school meal. This eligibility is also extended to those families currently on low incomes or who receive certain benefits. If your circumstances have changed and you think you may be eligible, please look at the information here:

<https://www.stockport.gov.uk/free-school-meals>

We would urge all new Reception parents and anyone eligible for the following benefits to apply if you haven't already. Even if your child currently receives Universal Free School Meals in Reception, Year 1 or 2 you should still apply. This is because the school then receives additional funding from the government to support the learning of your children.

You can get free school meals if you are responsible for a child (for example, you receive Child Benefit for them) who is at school - including nursery children who attend full days at a school nursery and sixth form students - as long as you get one of these qualifying incomes:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Universal Credit (provided your household income is less than £7,400 a year after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they'll remain eligible until they finish the phase of schooling (primary or secondary) they're in on 31 March 2025.

If you have a query about free school meals you can email [benefitsfm@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:benefitsfm@stockport.gov.uk).

## **Star of the Week**



It was an absolute pleasure to talk to this week's 'stars' about the changes we have made to the school building. They also understood our 3Cs behaviour system and could talk clearly and confidently about choices and consequences. They were proud that they had made good choices which had resulted in them being Star of the Week.

## Year 2



This week Year 2 started our first art unit 'Explore and Draw' in which we will be exploring different areas of the school and collecting things that we can turn into art. We started by looking at two artists, Andy Goldsworthy and Nicola White, who both create art from things they find when exploring! We loved investigating what materials they had used to make their sculptures, and some of us even tried making our own in the sandpit during playtime!

## Year 3



What an amazing start to the new school year from Year 3. We have been learning to sing a ballad and understanding what one is in our music lessons. We took inspiration from David Bowie's Space Oddity and sang a verse.

We even put actions with it too! We have also been learning to do mountain pose and downward dog in yoga. On such a hot day, it was the perfect opportunity to practise mindfulness and take a few minutes of calm.

## Year 5



We are delighted with how positively our Year 5 children have started the year. They have been interested to learn about their new class icons and have been busy writing acrostic poems for the corridor displays. In history, the children showed great collaboration and curiosity in piecing together and comparing pictures of Roman and Anglo-Saxon settlements.

## **Important Dates**

<b><u>Event</u></b>	<b><u>Details</u></b>
Information for Year 6 parents	Thursday 21st September
Last day of Autumn 1 term	Friday 20th October
First day of Autumn 2 term	Tuesday 31st October
Parents Evening	Wednesday 22nd. 6pm finish
Parents Evening	Thursday 23rd. 7.45 finish

Over the next few weeks, we will provide further details of opportunities to come in for Stay and Read and workshops to help you support your child.