

Allenbourn Middle School Newsletter

February 2023

Spring Term - Issue Number 4



Headteacher: Mr M. Legge BEd (Hons) NPQH
Deputy Headteacher: Mr L. Smith BA (Hons)

Headteacher Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

I very much hope that you have enjoyed the half term break with your families. It has certainly been fantastic to be able to get out and about as the weather shows signs of improvement as we head towards the Spring.

Since I last wrote, we have **welcomed the launch of Intitio Learning Trust**. This is an exciting time for Allenbourn Middle, a founding member of Wimborne Academy Trust, as it provides a real opportunity to shape our new organisation, working collaboratively to ensure that our strong partnership secures the best outcomes and opportunities for our children.

Staffing Update

I am delighted to be able to share the news that **we have appointed Mr Magor as our new Music Lead**. He will join us in the Summer Term as we say **goodbye to Mrs Faulkner-Davies** who has secured a new post. We will also be **saying goodbye to Mrs Gray and Mrs Cunningham** as this term ends and they begin new adventures. I would like to take this opportunity to thank these colleagues for their contributions to our school and wish them all the best for the future. We will share a further staffing update before the end of term to outline our plans for the Summer term.

New Behaviour Guidance

Children and staff have been working very hard **since September to embed our new school values** whilst ensuring that **we all benefit from high expectations of each other**. As part of our journey, we have **produced new Behaviour Guidance** and shared the key messages from this with children through assemblies and tutor group

sessions. **You can view our new Behaviour Guidance** on our school website and by following the link below. We have also shared a copy of this guidance as part of the ParentMail accompanying this Newsletter.

[Behaviour Guidance](#)

Later in this newsletter, you will be able to view the behaviour expectations poster that we have produced to use alongside our children.

Rights Respecting Schools Awards

I am delighted to share the news that we have **embarked on our journey to regain RRS status**. We have taken many of the steps required to secure bronze status and aim to be assessed as a silver status school in the new academic year.

This award has been underpinning much of our work as a school community. Most recently we have been **raising funds and learning about Toilet Twinning**. You can still donate and support our efforts to twin all of our school toilets by using the following Just Giving link.

[Just Giving - Toilet Twinning Page](#)

Parent/Carer Questionnaire

Thank you to the **176 families who took the time to provide us with valuable feedback** in our recent survey. Later in this newsletter you can find a summary of the results and some initial next steps.

School Parent Association - Disco

I am delighted to announce that, following an AGM, we have **relaunched our School Parent Association**. Plans are underway to hold a **school disco on Thursday 30th March** as our first event. Further details will follow shortly. If you are able to join our association, please contact the school office.

Kind regards

Mr M. Legge - Headteacher

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Special Recognition Award Winners

In our whole school assembly, we celebrate a special recognition award winner. This award recognises the efforts of an individual or group of children who have made a special contribution, either in school or within the wider community. Below are the winners of this award since the start of this academic year.

Abi Strange - Under 12 European Individual Champion at the International Mounted Games European Championships 2022.

Irene Berko, Georgina Chevis, Nicole Stylianou - Our Senior Pupils 2022 - 2023.

Noah Banks, Albert Osei-Akoto, Eva Rourke, Sophia Compiani, Ernesto Nobis-Perren, Jaya Morgan, Darcey Bowerman-Ellis, Alexander Johnson, Joy Namock, Alfred Morley, Jared Scout - Our first Millionaire Readers.

Jaya Morgan, Jared Scout, Jacob Gardner, Zach Hartin - For an amazing start using Tassomai.

Tyrese Dunesby - Our first Tassomai Titan.

Grace Perkins - For reciting the full periodic table unaided.

Our Year 7 and 8 pupils - HegartyMaths - January 2023

Hours per student - top 4% in the country.

Skills done well - top 5.8% in the country

Elliot Downing - Beach clearing.

Chloe Crew, Lila Hickman, Timmy Hosking-Ellis, Isobel Millis, Sofia Perez, Isla Eaton, Charlotte Gibbard, Albert Osei-Akoto, Anabelle Osei-Akoto, Lucy Watson, Florence Van Der Feltz, Sophie Lindenberg, Megan Charlwood, Millie Barnett, Lola Fletcher, Madison Fry, Emily Jennings, Isis Stickley - For taking part in Shrek the Musical at Queen Elizabeth's School.

Elliott Trickey and Jasmine Davidson - For reading at the Holocaust Memorial Service at Wimborne Minster.

Reward Postcards

We have **introduced reward postcards that will be sent home each** week by members of our teaching staff. Each week **teachers select two pupils to acknowledge**. Members of the Senior Leadership Team and Heads of Year will post their cards each week with all other staff handing these out on a Friday. Please take the time to discuss these with your child if they receive a postcard as they will have enjoyed real success in school if they are recognised for this award.



Did you know?

Changes to lunch and break time arrangements

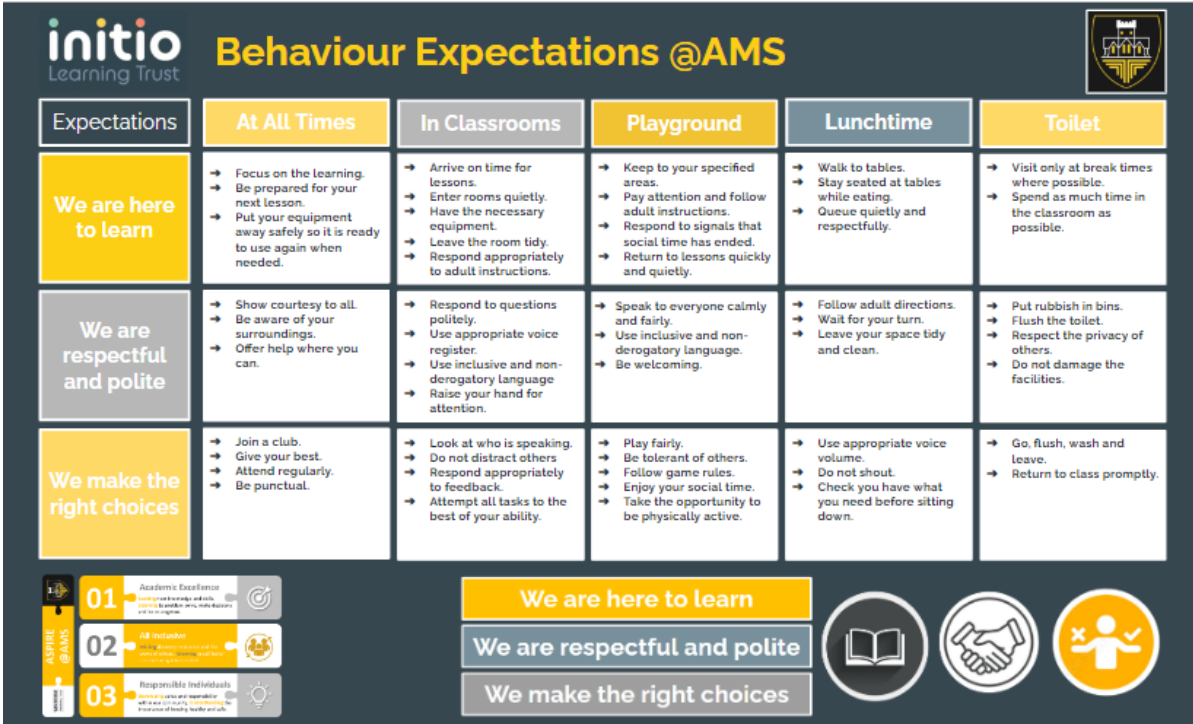
Following feedback from our pupils, we are **trialling changes to our break and lunchtime arrangements this half term** as we aim to improve access to, and use of, our school kitchen and playground areas.

Article 3: All organisations concerned with children should work towards what is best for each child.

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Our new Behaviour Expectations@AMS

We have been using the Google Slide/poster below to support our children as they strive for the highest standards of behaviour and conduct. You can view this poster as part of our Behaviour Guidance that can be found earlier in this newsletter.



The poster is titled 'Behaviour Expectations @AMS' and features the 'initio Learning Trust' logo. It is organized into a table with columns for different school settings and rows for three core expectations. At the bottom, there are three icons representing the core expectations: a book for 'We are here to learn', a handshake for 'We are respectful and polite', and a person with a checkmark for 'We make the right choices'.

Expectations	At All Times	In Classrooms	Playground	Lunchtime	Toilet
We are here to learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on the learning. Be prepared for your next lesson. Put your equipment away safely so it is ready to use again when needed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrive on time for lessons. Enter rooms quietly. Have the necessary equipment. Leave the room tidy. Respond appropriately to adult instructions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep to your specified areas. Pay attention and follow adult instructions. Respond to signals that social time has ended. Return to lessons quickly and quietly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk to tables. Stay seated at tables while eating. Queue quietly and respectfully. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit only at break times where possible. Spend as much time in the classroom as possible.
We are respectful and polite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Show courtesy to all. Be aware of your surroundings. Offer help where you can. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respond to questions politely. Use appropriate voice register. Use inclusive and non-detracting language. Raise your hand for attention. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speak to everyone calmly and fairly. Use inclusive and non-detracting language. Be welcoming. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow adult directions. Wait for your turn. Leave your space tidy and clean. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put rubbish in bins. Flush the toilet. Respect the privacy of others. Do not damage the facilities.
We make the right choices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Join a club. Give your best. Attend regularly. Be punctual. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look at who is speaking. Do not distract others. Respond appropriately to feedback. Attempt all tasks to the best of your ability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Play fairly. Be tolerant of others. Follow game rules. Enjoy your social time. Take the opportunity to be physically active. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use appropriate voice volume. Do not shout. Check you have what you need before sitting down. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Go, flush, wash and leave. Return to class promptly.

01 Academic Excellence
Work hard, achieve well, be proud of your achievements and be a role model.

02 Inclusion
Be kind, be helpful, be a team player and be a good friend.

03 Responsible Individuals
Be honest, be brave, be a leader and be a role model.

We are here to learn
We are respectful and polite
We make the right choices

Please remember to follow our school on Facebook using the link below

[Allenbourn Middle School Facebook Page](#)

Did you know?

Year 5 September 2023

We are expecting to return to five forms of entry for Year 5 for September 2023 as a result of a high demand for places in this cohort.

Child Protection

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead with responsibility for Child Protection is: **Mr L. Smith.**

The Academy Committee member with responsibility for Child Protection is: **Mr R. Dent.**

Our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads with responsibility for Child Protection are:

Mr M. Legge, Mrs P. Skipp, Mr R. Wright, Mr C. Daw, Mr J. Fisk and Mr Hickson.

Our Designated Teacher with responsibility for Looked after Children is: **Mrs P. Wheeler.**

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IMPORTANT: Please ensure that **children do not bring nut based products into school.**
Please also ensure that **children have a healthy snack for break time each day.**

Parent Questionnaire Feedback

The ParentMail that you received with this newsletter included a PDF summary of parent/carer responses from our recent survey. Key headlines are:

- **176 families** completed our survey
- **88%** of families **would recommend our school**
- **86%** of families report that **their child is happy at our school**
- **93%** of families report that **their child feels safe at our school**
- **89%** of families report that **their child does well at our school**
- **94%** of families report that our school offers a **wide range of subjects**
- **93%** of families report that their child can **take part in clubs and activities**

Our next steps are to continue to ensure that our families are aware of what their child will be learning during the year whilst also letting families know how their child is doing at school.

Curriculum Maps

A reminder that **families can view our Curriculum Map that explains what children are learning** about during the academic year by visiting **our school website and the 'Teaching and Learning' 'Curriculum Overview' section.** A link to these overviews can be found below. You can also view more **detailed subject progression maps by selecting a subject in the 'Curriculum Subject' section.**

[AMS Curriculum Maps](#)

Our Visions and Values



We have continued to embed the use of our new **school values since September.**

A reminder that our aim is to focus upon the three key areas:

**Academic Excellence,
All Inclusive
Responsible Individuals**

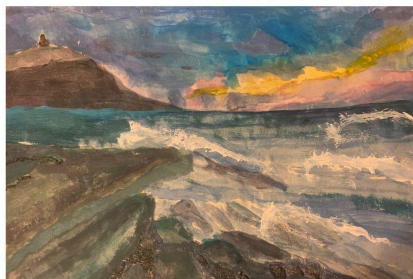
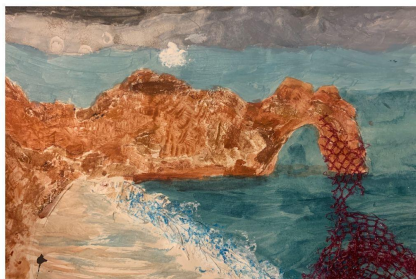
as we **aspire together @ AMS.**

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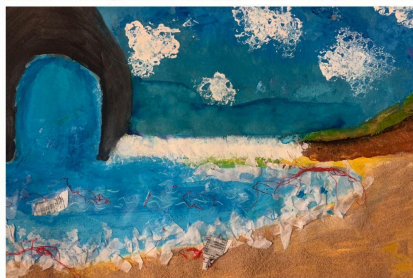
Residential Visits Year 5 and 8

We have been overwhelmed by the interest in our **Year 5 residential visit to Bristol** and our **Year 8 residential visit to London**. **Over 200 pupils will take part in these trips** in June. Year 5 will visit the S.S. Great Britain and Clifton Suspension Bridge. Year 8 will visit parliament, the Globe theatre, complete a tour and lesson at the Harry Potter Studios and experience a flight on the London Eye. We have also **arranged a visit to Parliament in July for those children in Year 8 who are not on the London residential visit** and we are exploring another day visit for this group. Further details will follow shortly.

Art Lessons @ AMS

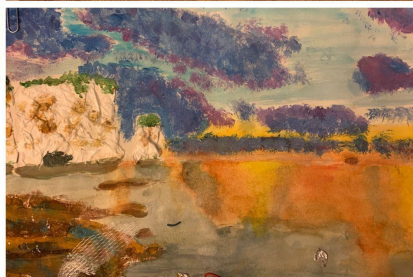


It has been **fantastic to visit art lessons to see the children enjoying their art lessons** and they have produced some excellent art work since Christmas.



This **excellent work has been produced by our Year 7 children**.

Mrs Henstridge will be displaying some of our children's work at Wimborne Library as well as around school.



Over the Half term break, **we have replaced the lighting in our art room** as we improve this facility.

Did you know? French Pen Pal Link

Thanks to Mrs Diment, our Year 8 pupils have successfully **established pen pal links with a school in France**. They were delighted to receive their letters recently and have written some fantastic letters back to their new friends.

Parent Evenings - Spring Term

It has been wonderful to welcome more than 410 families to school for our subject parent evenings since half term.

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IMPORTANT - Reminders

- **Chewing gum and any other sweets are not permitted in school.** Pupils chewing gum will be given an after-school detention.
- **The use of mobile phones is not permitted at any time.** We will be taking steps this half term to collect mobile phones at the start of each day before returning them as the day ends.

Attendance Matters

As we begin the second half of the school year **please take time to review your child's current attendance figure using ClassCharts.** As a school **we expect children to maintain good attendance at school** and will work with families to bring about improvement where this is required. Please talk with your child about the importance of good attendance at school ensuring that they strive to have a **minimum attendance figure of 96% for this academic year.** It is important that families are aware that **any child** reported as absent with **an attendance percentage under 90% will require medical evidence or this absence will be coded as unauthorised.**



Relationships Education

Before the end of this academic year **children in all year groups will be learning about RSE as part of their Personal Social Health Education lessons.**

We would **encourage our families to familiarise themselves with our Trust Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education Policy.** A **link to this policy can be found below**, it is also attached to the ParentMail that accompanied this newsletter and is available on our website.

Prior to completing any unit of RSE you will receive a letter explaining the RSE teaching unit that your child will take part in.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this topic with a member of staff, please do not hesitate to contact the school office who will direct your question to the appropriate member of staff.

[Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education \(RSE\) and Health Education Policy](#)

Remember: *If you do not currently have a ParentMail account, please email the school office who will be happy to help you set one up.*

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Did you Know? We are working to reintroduce cards for use in the school kitchen to speed up purchasing at break and lunchtime. We hope to introduce these this term.

Can you spare 30 minutes of your time?
Could you explain your job in an
interesting way to children?



If so then Allenbourn Middle School needs you!

We are looking to share information about 10 different jobs before the end of the Summer term and would love to hear from you if you think our pupils would benefit from learning about your working experience.

For more information and to register your interest, please contact the school on 01202 886738 or email mpressling@allenbournmiddle.org and leave a message Mr Pressling, our Careers Lead.

Key Dates 2022 - 2023

Spring Term 2023

Parent Evenings	Tuesday 21st February Thursday 23rd February Wednesday 1st March
Report Card 2 sent home	Friday 24th March
School Disco	Thursday 30th March
Last Day of Term for Pupils	Thursday 30th March
Staff Training Day	Friday 31st March

Summer Term 2023

First Day of Term for Pupils	Monday 17th April
May Day Holiday	Monday 1st May
Bank Holiday	Monday 8th May
Year 6 SATs Week	Tuesday 9th to Friday 12th May
Half Term Holiday	Monday 29th May - Friday 2nd June
Staff Training Day	Monday 5th June
Pupils return	Tuesday 6th June
Year 8 London Residential	w/b 12th June
Year 5 Bristol Residential	w/b 19th June
Sports Days	5th and 6th July
Transfer Day	7th July
Year 8 Parliament Visit	12th July
Year 8 Leavers event	Tuesday 18th July
Last Day of Term	Friday 21st July