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**Newsletter No.32**

Dear Parents/Carers Friday 26th May 2017

**Arts Week**

* The children and staff have really enjoyed Arts week and our outside areas now look very colourful and creative. Many thanks to Mrs Frampton for organising the week.
* Ashton Vale’s Got Talent had 57 acts this year and for the first time we had to have a rest break in the middle. The children voted for their favourites and the winners this year are:

Infants 3rd place- Bailey Year 1

2nd place- Lottie and Halle Year 2

**1st place- Jaylen, Arnie, Finley and Roman Year 1**

Years 3 and 4 3rd place- Emily Year 3

2nd place- Freyja, Amelie, Mine, Natalie and Aimee-Rose Years 3/4

**1st place- Lacey Year 4**

Years 5 and 6 3rd place- Ruben, Harry and Henry Year 5

2nd place- Ethan, Louie, Ben, Lucas, Joyo and Cairan Year 5

**1st place- Casey Year 5**

**Casey deserves a special mention as she had the highest ever amount of votes at an Ashton Vale’s Got Talent contest – over 90. A magician in the making, she had us all spell bound and completely foxed.**

**Music Concert**

WOW what an incredible evening. The children who sang and played instruments were of a very high standard and everyone had a wonderful time. Many thanks to our music teachers who teach a range of instruments, especially to Mrs Sheard for her work in teaching recorder and clarinet, and to Miss Green for once again organising the event. Over £200 has been raised for the music department.

**Odd Uniform Day**

Thank you for supporting Downs Syndrome and Autism on Wednesday. So far we have raised £54, if anyone wishes to contribute the collection is in the office.

**Tag Rugby, Girls Football, Netball, Year 6 Football**

* Our Year 3/4 tag rugby team had a fantastic morning at Ashton Gate Stadium learning so much more about the game. The matches were all friendlies and the children had a mixture of wins, losses and draws.
* Ten Year 5 girls had the absolute privilege to be coached by Super League Team Bath netball players, two of whom play for Jamaica and one who plays for England. This coaching session finished with a mini tournament in which they all played really well.
* Our Girls Football Team played at Ashton Gate Stadium as one of 8 finalists across Bristol. They all played really well and came joint 5th in the whole of Bristol, a brilliant result.
* The Year 6 Footballers had a friendly tournament on Thursday after school with Luckwell, Ashton Gate and Southville. They all enjoyed the atmosphere and had a good time.

**Mobile Phones**

Some of our older pupils bring mobile phones to school and are very good at handing them to their teacher as they enter school at 8.50am. This is a reminder that all phones must be handed in straight away and will not be returned to pupils until 3.15pm. We do not take any responsibility for loss or damage. If a phone appears in a lesson it will be taken away, I am sure you agree that we do not want them disrupting learning.

**Security**

We take security and the safety of our children very seriously at Ashton Vale and all visitors have to buzz the office for access. Please could you support us by not releasing locked doors for visitors, even if you know them, as we need to know who is in school. Thank you.

**Poo Patrol**

Some Year 6 children went out today to highlight dog poo on the pavements of Ashton Vale. This should now be cleared up over the next week and hopefully the culprits will notice and not reoffend.

**Chess Tournament**

Four boys from Year 4 (Sam, Arthur, Oakley and Leo) took part in the Delancey Chess Championship on Saturday at Bristol Grammar – they narrowly missed getting through to the next round (Arthur missed out by half a point). They all played really well.

Next year our current Year 3 children will all have the opportunity to learn how to play chess.

**Movie Night**

The PTA will be showing ‘Trolls’ at their movie night on Thursday 8th June, 3.15pm to 5pm.  Tickets cost £3 per child which includes refreshments.  Children are welcome to bring along a pillow or cuddly toy to snuggle up with.  Please pay online using the School Gateway **no later than 9am on Tuesday 6th June**.  Please do not leave booking a place any later than this as it makes catering difficult for the PTA. Please indicate online whether you are able to help on the night.

**PTA Textile Collection**

There will be a textile collection on Monday 12th June so if you are having a clear out over the half-term, please collect up any clothing, textiles, odd socks, shoes (tied together).  Bags can be left in the school foyer the week before collection.  Thank you for donating - this is an easy way of fundraising for the PTA as we get paid per kg.

**PTA Raffle**

Your children have bought home raffle tickets today for the draw at the PTA BBQ on Friday 14th July. The class that sells the most tickets receives £20 to spend as they wish. All money raised will be spent on our children so please take the time to sell them to friends, relatives and work colleagues, the first prize is an i-Pad mini.

**Staffing**

We are saying congratulations and farewell to Mr Inskip at the end of this school year as he has been successful in gaining a promotional post at Headley Park. I am sure you will want to join me in thanking him for his commitment to Ashton Vale whilst teaching Year 1.

We have appointed two excellent teachers for September:

Miss Hutton will teach Year 3 and Miss Mitchell will teach in Year 1. Both are experienced teachers who had excellent interviews with us. We look forward to welcoming them in September and on their visits to us next term.

**Family Assemblies**

We welcome all parents /carers and younger siblings to our family assemblies and I know you enjoy hearing about what the children done in school. We appreciate that at times younger siblings may make a loud noise, if so, please feel free to take them into the corridor until they have calmed down.

**Break Up**

We break up today for the end of Term 5 and the children return to school on Tuesday 6th June. **Monday 5th June is a training day for staff**.

**Attendance**

Many children have taken home a 100% Attendance Certificate for this term, well done to you all. It has been a very close competition between Crow Class and Blue Jay Class for the climbing prize this term and it was right down to today’s attendance. **Crow Class have just won by 0.24%.**

This week’s figures are:

Penguin 95.2% Robin 89.3% Flamingo 92.8% Crow 93.9%

Falcon 95.7% Kingfisher 92.8% Blue Jay 91.2%

Yours sincerely

Ms V Champeney, Headteacher