

September



Newsletter

It has been lovely to welcome everyone back to school this week! The start of a new school year is always a mixture of anticipation and butterflies in the stomach for children and staff alike but, after just a few hours back in the building, it's as though we've never been away. We have been really impressed with how well the children have been settling in to their new classes and, across the school, the children have been showing superb learning behaviours making for a really positive start to the term. We couldn't be more pleased with everyone!

Communication from school

We use email, text messages and Dojo throughout every week to get important messages out to parents.

The school office and headteacher use email and texts whilst class teachers will use the Dojo app to keep you up to date with what you need to know. The

Dojo app also enables teachers to quickly share photos with you of activities and learning that has taken place in your child's class.

Communicating with the class teacher via Class Dojo

With staff wellbeing in mind, we have agreed a set time of day that Dojo messages will be checked and responded to. Teachers will not be expected to check or respond to Dojo messages before 8am and after 5:30pm on school days or during the weekend.

However, parents can still use the app to send messages at any time but please just keep in mind that teachers need to be able to switch off outside of school hours.

Please do not use Dojo for urgent messages during the school day. If you have an urgent message for a teacher during the school day please telephone the school office and we will pass the message to the teacher for you.



Reporting pupil absence

If your child is ever ill and unable to come to school please can you telephone or visit the school office to let us know? If there is no answer on the telephone just leave a message on the answerphone and we will pick up the messages.

Thank you to everyone who did this last year – it made Mrs Firth's job a lot easier!

For anyone new to the school or didn't see previous messages, if a child is absent from school (and we haven't been contacted) the school office will make contact with you. This is part of our safeguarding procedures to ensure that everyone is okay. If we are unable to reach a family by telephone, we may then do a home visit to check that everyone is okay.

Ruth Porter – Chair of Governors

It is with great sadness that we must share the news that our wonderful Chair of Governors, Ruth Porter, passed away over the summer holidays. Ruth has been a part of the governing body at Ambleside since 2014; she was a parent governor before being elected as Chair in 2018. All of our governors work on a voluntary basis within the school and Ruth volunteered so much of her time and expertise to the school during her time with us. We could not possibly put a number on the hours and days that she spent in school supporting the children and the staff team. Ruth believed passionately in this primary school. She also rightly believed that the children and families of Ambleside deserved to have a primary school within their town that, quite simply, is the very best. It was no surprise to those that knew her that, even though she knew she was unlikely to be with us this September, she was still in school during the last week of term in July making sure that she had completed every part of what the role expected of her. We are tremendously thankful for our time with her.

Bike Sheds

It's great to see that so many of the children are cycling to school. We are planning to provide better bike and scooter storage in the next few weeks as the current shed is rather small. We will be replacing the current shed so that more bikes can be stored in the current area and we will also be putting additional bike storage near the school office for children in EYFS and Key Stage 1.

Parent Information Sheets

You will have received an information sheet from us to complete with all of your contact details. Please could all sections of the form be completed and returned to the school office so that we can update our contact information for you?

The form also includes questions about allergies, health conditions and a space to write the name of your GP. If you do not know your named GP, please just write the name of the surgery that you are registered with.

Thank you for your time in helping us to gather this information.



McMillan Coffee Morning

We will be hosting another McMillan Coffee Morning this year which will take place on Friday 27th September at 10am. This cause is particularly close to our hearts this year after losing Ruth and we want to make this an extra special coffee morning and raise as much money as possible for this very worthy cause.

We will send further details nearer the time, which will include the usual request for donations of cake!

**WORLD'S BIGGEST
COFFEE
MORNING**
**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**



PE Kits



Please can parents ensure that children bring a PE kit to school, preferably in a drawstring bag? This should be kept in school on their pegs during the week. Details of the school PE kit can be found on the school website.

Essentially, the kit is a plain white t-shirt with black shorts. (Leggings or track suit bottoms can be worn instead of shorts in the cooler months.) Trainers can be any colour for PE lessons. If your child wears black trainers as part of their school uniform teachers wanted to pass on that it would be beneficial to have a separate pair for PE as the field can sometimes get the children's footwear muddy. This is just advice and not essential.

Black plimsols can be worn for PE but, again, are not essential kit. If you haven't bought any, and your child only has trainers, that's fine.



Asthma Register

The NHS is working in collaboration with schools across the region to monitor children's asthma and schools are encouraged to keep an asthma register. If your child has a diagnosis of asthma please could you add it to the information sheet that has been sent home?

After-School Clubs

We will send out details of our after-school club offer next week. A letter about the Young Voices Club for the second half-term has already gone out to children in Key Stage 2 as we needed to book the tickets this week.

If you require after school childcare for your child, please contact K2 at Kiddiwinks Nursery next door as they provide our after-school childcare.

Diary Dates for the Autumn Term

Wednesday 18th September – Accelerated Reader Workshop for Year 3 parents (all other KS2 parents welcome), 2:45pm

Monday 23rd to Thursday 26th September - Year 6 Bikeability

Tuesday 24th September - Individual school photographs

Tuesday 24th September – EY and KS1 Phonics and Reading Workshop for parents

Friday 27th September - Macmillan Coffee Morning in school hall 10 am, everyone welcome!

Monday 14th October - Parents Evenings 3.30 to 6:00 pm

Tuesday 15th October - Parents Evenings 3:30 to 6:00 pm

Monday 21st October - Nasal flu vaccinations

Thursday 24th October - Harvest service in church, 2.30pm

Week beginning 28th October - HALF TERM

Friday 15th November - Children in Need

December - Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper day – Date TBC

Friday 13th December - Christmas Fair

Tuesday 17th December - Early Years and KS1 Nativity in school 2:00 pm

Thursday 19th December - Carol service in church for all year groups, 2:30pm

Friday 20th December - Christmas parties for all classes

Friday 20th END OF TERM

