

APLEY NEWS

Headteacher Message

We have reached the end of the first half term working within the new guidelines with some significant constraints and I am delighted to say what a success it has been. Our risk assessments, combined with maintaining tight bubbles, have proven robust. Our staff team, along with our Governors, have worked relentlessly to ensure a positive social and learning environment and the children have continued to make us proud with their commitment to learning, increased independence and resilience. I am particularly proud of our overall attendance of 95.9% over the half term which is above T&W overall figure of 92.2% and the National figure of 90.1% in Primary schools. Thank you for all your support in helping us to achieve this.

We do have to say goodbye to **Miss Barnes** today, and I would like to thank her for her commitment to school over the years she has worked with us. We all wish her the very best in her new role and with her continued studies.

Over the last couple of weeks, I have been exploring ways to begin some additional extra-curricular activities, whilst maintaining our close bubbles and keeping within the risk assessment guidelines. Miss Cassidy will be starting a cross country club in order for children to participate in the T&W Virtual cross country that starts in November, and we will be also be starting a small number of other after school KS2 activities during next half term using the Activ8 provider. If this is successful then we will look at extending these for Reception/KS1 children in the Spring term.

Thank you for your continued help this half term in supporting us with the changing routines and helping your children to adapt to school again. It has been a very enjoyable half term with the whole school community back together again and I look forward to seeing you all on 2nd November. If you do need to contact school before then, please use the main school email A2190@taw.org.uk.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy half term break.

Mrs Ellen Smith - Headteacher

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Black History Month

Throughout October, children across the country have been involved in learning about Black History. To develop our children's understanding, each year group have focused their learning on a different person or theme:

Reception - Rosa Parks

Year 1 - Mary Seacole

Year 2 - Nelson Mandela

Year 3 - Windrush

Year 4 - Sports people

Year 5 - Martin Luther King

Year 6 - The Slave Trade

Well done to all children and staff for producing such fantastic work across a range of subjects.

Miss Smith - PSHE Subject Coordinator.



Huge congratulations to **Ethan**, year 6, who has passed his Grade 2 Electric Guitar exam. Achieving a Merit classification, after submitting his exam on-line, is a fabulous result. Ethan continued his lessons via 'Zoom' throughout lockdown and his perseverance and dedication has paid off. You must be incredibly proud. **Well done Ethan!**



Safe Cycling

The year 6 children really enjoyed their Bikability and it was a great success. They worked very hard in their sessions last week and Monday of this week. Well done to all of our fabulous cyclists. Well done everyone and stay safe with your new found skills.



What's on the Curriculum?

Our website has a lot of information on it about what your children will be learning each term. Search:



www.apleywoodprimaryschool.org.uk

Go to **Learning**, **Curriculum**, and then scroll down to **Curriculum Overview**. If you would like a paper copy of these, please contact the school office.

The staff are also still updating the class pages with lots of useful curriculum information.

If you have any worries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact the school



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DATE	EVENT
Monday 2nd November	Pupils Return To School
Friday 6th November	Be Bright Be Seen Workshop
Tuesday 10th November	Base 11 Arthog Activities Day
Tuesday 10th November to Tuesday 15th December	Year 3 Cross Country Club
Wed 11th November to Wed 16th December	Year 4 Cross Country Club
Wednesday 11th November	Base 13 Arthog Activities Day
Thursday 12th November to Thursday 17th December	Year 5 Cross Country Club
Friday 13th November to Friday 18th December	Year 6 Cross Country Club
Friday 13th November	Mufti for Children In Need
Tuesday 24th November	Whole School Flu Vaccinations
Friday 11th December	Christmas Jumper Day for Save The Children
Friday 18th December	Last Day Of Term

Marvellous George

Our school council for 2020 - 2021 has now been elected. A big well done to those children who were chosen by their classes to represent them for the year.

George, in year 3, has set to work straight away and has made an amazing suggestion box for his class - we look forward to finding out what ideas they have.



Mrs Thorpe

Apley Winter Olympic Games



We have had a very successful first week of our School Olympic Games. The children have really enjoyed getting involved and competing for their houses. I am pleased to announce that we will be continuing with this after half term. As year groups are split into two bubbles, one base has competed this week and the other base will compete after half term. **Miss Cassidy**

