



Friday 25th March 2022

Dear parents/ carers,

I am writing this with the sun streaming through the windows, with a week left of term. I for one am looking forward to the Easter holidays, as I am sure you are too. I am writing today with an update, news and information.

Year R/1 trip to Leeds Castle

We are planning a trip to Leeds castle for all of our year R/1 children next term, with Ulcombe visiting in April and Kingswood, Leeds and Broomfield and Platts Heath visiting in May. More details will follow, but I wanted to make you aware that a trip if planned is linked to their topic which is based on fairy tales.

Swimming - Kingswood and Platts Heath

Year 4 children from Kingswood and Platts Heath will be invited to take part in swimming lessons next term with Mrs Steer and Ms Liddicoat at Sutton Valence school. These lessons will start after Easter and you will receive a letter asking for permission and a weekly donation, towards transport costs. Some year 3 pupils may be invited to continue if they still need to gain confidence and there is space on the minibus. These children will be nominated by Mrs Steer based on the progress made in lessons this term.

Improvement Advisor Visits

We have had several more improvement advisor visits across Aspire this term, looking at different areas of the curriculum: English, Geography, computing, MFL, music and Art. All visitors have praised the curriculum we are offering to the children and the work of subject leaders in developing their subjects. There are some subjects which need further development and we will continue to work on those. We have also been developing the use of vocabulary across the curriculum and assessments at the end of topics/units.

Annual Reports

Just a reminder that you will be receiving your child's annual report at the end of next week. Please do read the report carefully as it is a reflection of your child's achievement and progress at the mid point of the academic year. There are comments on learning areas and also general

learning behaviours. Please use the form attached to return any comments to their teacher and make an appointment if you wish to discuss anything within the report, with their teacher.

Attendance Service

Just a reminder that Aspire schools are KCC schools and therefore are governed by the attendance service in terms of monitoring, holiday requests, letters concerning attendance and penalty notices. Our registers are monitored every three weeks and any child's attendance which is under 97% will be looked at. There are a series of three letters which will be sent if attendance is causing an issue together with meetings in school. If absences have not been authorised, penalty notices can be issued by KCC. Although letters come from the school, that is because your child attends an Aspire school, all letters etc come from the attendance service. Please discuss any concerns you have with the school or the attendance service at KCC.

Wishing you all sunshine filled weekends. I can be contacted via exechead@aspire-kent.org.uk if needed during office hours.

Kind regards

Emma Hickling
Executive Headteacher
Aspire federation