



Friday 3rd November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you have had a good first week back and had a lovely half term break. I am writing with my usual weekly letter of news and information. I can be contacted at [exechead@aspire-kent.org.uk](mailto:exechead@aspire-kent.org.uk) between 8am - 5pm Monday to Friday for queries and questions. Also, Lauren my PA can be contacted at [lriby@aspire-kent.org.uk](mailto:lriby@aspire-kent.org.uk). Any requests for meetings or appointments can be made through Lauren - thank you.

### Sporting News-

On the 13th October, children from all 4 schools entered the Malling Hockey Festival at K Sports. For most, hockey was not a sport they had played much of, but the purpose of the festival was to give children the opportunity to experience the sport, whilst being professionally coached by members of K Sports hockey team.



Two year 3/4 teams and two 5/6 teams attended this event.

Despite little or no hockey experience the teams were fantastic! The more we played, the better we got and it was without a doubt, an enjoyable day for both players and staff!



Both Mrs Liddicoat and Mrs Goodfellow ran a team each and were really impressed by the teamwork, encouragement and overall way in which the children proudly represented Aspire. They were all a credit to their schools.



The player of the tournaments for the year 3 and 4 teams were: George (Leeds and Broomfield) and George H (Leeds and Broomfield). The player of the tournaments for the year 5 and 6 teams were: Chloe (Kingswood) and Belle (Leeds and Broomfield).

A very special well done to Aspire Team 1 who came 3rd in the year 3/4 festival! We are very proud of everyone who took part!

### **E- scooters-**

Please see attached with this week's letter information regarding E-Scooters that is being shared with all schools in Kent.

This provides important information should you wish to purchase an e-scooter for your children. E-Scooters are classed as motorised vehicles and are required to be taxed and insured. As it is not possible to get private insurance for these and it is illegal to use them on the road or in public spaces, such as the pavement. Police could seize the scooter and you could also face a fine for using them in these spaces. E-Scooters should only be used on private land with the landowners consent.

For further detailed information regarding e-scooters please visit-

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/powered-transporters/information-sheet-guidance-on-powered-transporters>

### **National Sleep Helpline-**

There is now a wonderful new free resource that can help parents and children learn more about their sleep and to develop a better bedtime routine. By helping children to sleep better, they will be able to succeed in school.

This free helpline is run by trained sleep advisors, many of whom are specialists in working with SEND.

**The helpline is open 5 days a week**  
**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday- 7-9pm**  
**Monday, Wednesday - 9-11am**

**03303 530541**

For further information please visit-

<https://thesleepcharity.org.uk/national-sleep-helpline/>

## **Firework Safety-**



As you are aware Sunday 5th November marks Guy Fawkes Night. Many of you as families will be celebrating this with Fireworks, whether this is at one of the multiple fabulous displays or at home with friends and family.

Please do be aware of the dangers of fireworks and ensure to protect yourself and those around you. Equally please be mindful of any animals within the house as the loud noises can be frightening.

Ensure that only adults deal with setting up firework displays, lighting fireworks and the safe disposal once they have been used. Children should be fully supervised and watch fireworks at a safe distance.

Equally with Sparklers, please ensure safety when using these. It is recommended that children under 5 do not use sparklers. These do burn at fierce temperatures so ensure they are held at an arm's length and away from anyone else. It is also recommended that once finished they are placed in cold water before disposing.

I hope if you do attend any displays that you have a fabulous and safe experience!

## **Energy Cost Support-**

Parents of children who receive free school meals will receive a Post Office pay-out voucher of £100 to help with energy bills this Autumn.

Parents will receive this voucher on Monday 13th November via E-Vouchers. More information on this is provided in the attached letter.

For families who are not eligible for free school meals advice can be found at- <https://www.kent.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/cost-of-living-support>

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

Emma Hickling  
Executive Headteacher