Headteacher’s Newsletter

Ashfield Valley Primary School

14/2/23

Together Everyone Achieves More

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you and your families are well.

**Non-uniform day**

We will be having a non-uniform day on Friday 17th February and ask that if children are wearing their own clothes that they bring a donation which will go towards funding our outdoor learning provision. Thank you for your support.

**Relationship and Health Education**

As I hope you remember, when we introduced the new curriculum for Relationship and Health education, we ran a series of meetings for parents to answer questions and go through lesson materials. We plan to review the curriculum in the coming weeks and will, of course, involve parents and carers in these discussions. In the meantime, the curriculum plans are available to view and if you have any questions please do ask. You can speak to the class teacher, Mrs Lenton, the RHE lead, myself or Mrs Begum.

**Nursery Places**

Please note that we have nursery places available. We have excellent nursery provision at school with highly skilled staff. Children may start as soon as they are three. We welcome visits from prospective parents and application forms are available at the office.

**Strike Action – 28th February**

As you may be aware, the next planned day of strike action for teachers is Tuesday 28th February which is just after half term. As soon as I am able to give you information I will do so but please be prepared for a school closure.

**Attendance**

The school target for attendance is **96%.** Last week attendance was **94.8%.**

However, we have many children whose attendance is below 90% which is classed as persistent absence and is serious. Some of this is due to visits abroad during term time but not all. Some parents will be receiving letters this week about this issue and will be requested to attend a panel after half term.

Attendance is one of the key areas that will be looked at by Ofsted, especially in our school where persistent absence is much higher than in other schools. More importantly, persistent absence means a loss of learning and makes a difference to children’s progress. Please work with us to ensure good attendance for all of our pupils.

If you have any questions or concerns, please speak to your child’s teacher or either myself or Mrs Begum – we will be happy to help.

With kind regards,

Mrs H Edge