Headteacher’s Newsletter

Ashfield Valley Primary School

3/3/23

Together Everyone Achieves More

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, thank you for your donations for non-uniform day. We raised £219 which will be used to develop outdoor learning.

**New safety measures**

From Monday, the gate near the vegetable beds leading to the office will be locked and controlled by an intercom system. Visitors will need to buzz to be let in. The gates will be unlocked during drop-off and pick-up for nursery. I am sure that you appreciate this additional safety measure.

**Parking on site**

May I remind you that parents and carers should not park on the school site. We have had several parents doing so this week.

**Year 1 and Year 2 drop-off**

I have been made aware that an increasing number of Year 1 and Year 2 parents are leaving their children at the top steps near Arundel Street. This is not acceptable. Some parents are not even watching to ensure that their children have got down safely. Please bring your children down to the playground and ensure that they enter school.

**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.

**Attendance**

The school target for attendance is **96%.** Last week attendance was **93.1%.**

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.

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