

Issue 1  
October 2020



**Inkersall**  
PRIMARY ACADEMY

## **NEWSLETTER**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our new look newsletter, which I am sure will evolve over the next couple of terms. We aim to celebrate the great things we do and give you information and tell you what we have been up to in school.

I can't quite believe that we have made it to the end of the first half term of this academic. It certainly seems to have flown by and what a busy term it has been.

Over this term it has been lovely to see the children back at school and settling to learn so quickly. I am so proud of them all, their learning behaviours have been established so quickly and it has been lovely to have a school filled with the buzz of children again.

This half term has been busy for lots of different reasons so I must start by saying a huge well done to the children for adjusting to the new ways of life in school and facing the challenges with a smile on their faces. It is starting to feel more and more normal as the days pass by. Well done to all our parents/carers too for helping drop off and collection run smoothly in the mornings and after school. Thank you to our great staff team too for balancing so many plates and adapting as we go. I am hoping that we continue to be virus free next half term, however we do have significant plans in place in case we do have a case.

I hope that the regular communication that you are receiving from school is timely and helpful. One of my main aims was to make you as a parent body more aware of things happening in school.

Just a quick reminder that if you have a child, or you know a family who has a child, who is due to start school in September 2021 then the deadline to apply for a place is 15th January 2020. We did have big plans to do several great open mornings for potential new parents to look around, however that has had to be put on hold. We will have a clip on the website that will show our environments to new parents. But there is nothing better than word or mouth.

If you need to contact anyone from school during the holidays due to emergencies or other reasons, please contact myself via my email address or class dojo, and I will try and respond as soon as I can.

This week we say goodbye Mrs Overton one of our Mid Day Supervisors. Thank Mrs Overton for all you have done at Inkersall and good luck in your job. We also welcome Mrs Baker to the Inkersall team on a permanent basis as Assistant Principal and Phase Leader for Y4,5,6.

Finally, I would like to thank you as parents for all the support that you have again given Inkersall this term. It is much appreciated by all of us; we couldn't do our job if it wasn't for the partnership between home and school. Thank you to those parents who always say thank you for the hard work that the staff put in, especially when they go over and above.

I hope that you all have a great half term, and the sun shines over some part of the week.

Kind regards

Sarah Allison  
Principal

[Sarah.allison@inkersall.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:Sarah.allison@inkersall.derbyshire.sch.uk)



In every newsletter we will be featuring the latest advice or signposting parents to areas of interest on Mental Health. This may be for children and young people or for adults.

On the school website you can find various links and charities that can offer support and guidance on looking after your mental health and those around you.

Looking after our mental health is just as important as our physical health and this time of year it is especially important to look after those around us as for some it is a really difficult time of year and with the pandemic even more time to take time to check in with people.

Miss Matthews is our trained Mental Health Leader in school and she has a raft of knowledge on how to support children and young people. Or our Inclusion Team, Mrs Johnson and Miss Slinn will be able to signpost to many services to help.

## STAFF IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Hello everyone, I am Miss Matthews and I joined Inkersall Primary Academy in April this year as the Early Years and Year 1 Lead. I am in my seventh year of teaching and have always aspired to be an early years lead having completed an Early Childhood Studies degree at Derby University. Throughout my teaching career so far, I have had many amazing opportunities including becoming a mental health lead, being mental health first aid trained, teaching children about dementia (which is very close to my heart) and being on the local news and radio showcasing my work with this. I can honestly say, despite starting here at a very strange time, I am loving every minute. The children, staff and community are incredible!



Some more about me..I (for my sins) am a Derby County season ticket holder and have been for over 12 years. As I've grown up, I have been part of Glapwell CCC and have been a qualified cricket scorer since the age of 13. I know, who knew this was a thing? I have won an award with Derbyshire CCC and scored for the U15s for a while. I love nothing more than sitting in the sun watching the team play cricket.

I have a twin brother, who I am 10 minutes older than (this is very important in our sibling rivalry!) and I have two family dogs that are incredible. The old cliché of my family and friends are amazing, but it's true! My best friend and I, have a bit of an obsession with Westlife, Olly Murs and musicals. I have lost count of how many shows we have been to!

I hope this gives you a little bit more of an insight in to who I am and the face you will see around Inkersall. Take care and keep safe x



## Poppy Appeal

Don't forget that the first week back after half term we will be selling poppies and poppy related products in school. Normally, our older children would take these round the classes to sell, however this year it will be slightly different. Prices are from 50p - £1.50 per item.



# #HelloYellow YOUNG MINDS

On Friday 9th October, it was World Mental Health Day and as a school we signed up to take part in #HelloYellow. Throughout the day the children wore their yellow clothing to showcase our support to such a worthy cause. Children took part in different activities and lessons tackling the stigma around mental health. This included creating a mental health hero, decorating biscuits, reading stories and taking part in an online live dance session. With the current pandemic, as staff, we felt it was crucial for this day to be significant in our teaching. As a school and community, we couldn't be any prouder of how we have all worked together and your generous donations helped us raise £309.44 for the Young Minds charity. We would like to thank you all for your support and please remember, we are all here if you need us!



## The School Office

May we politely remind you we are a nut free school. Would you please refrain from sending your child/children to school with nuts or any foods containing nuts. This is to ensure the safety of children and staff with allergies.

May we respectfully remind you that if you wish to remove your child from school for a holiday during term time, please complete a Leave of Absence Form which can be obtained from the School Office or online.

If your child has an appointment during school hours, please could you send a letter to the School Office confirming the date, time and reason for their absence. We may ask to see proof of the appointment for our records.

If your child is going to be absent from school, please contact the Office and leave a message on the answerphone or speak to a member of the Office staff.

Please could we request that dinner money is paid at the beginning of each week/term using the ParentPay system. Debts over £20 will chased and dinners stopped until it is paid.

## Amazon Wish List

Thank you so much for all your kind donations on our Amazon wish list. This is helping to stock our library and other areas of school.



## A visit from Father Arnold

Over this last week we have had a new visitor in school. Father Arnold from Staveley Church came to visit most year groups to talk about harvest. He talked about farming and how crops are grown and how they feed the world. We are hoping that when we are back to normal he will come and visit us often to take some assemblies for us.

Thank you to Mrs Cole for sorting this out for us.



## Children in Need

The School Council have decided that on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November to support Children in Need with a non-uniform day, fancy dress or sportswear and a £1 donation.



## SCHOOL COUNCIL

In the School Council we make many important decisions which effects our school to make it an even better safe and fun environment. We have a meeting every two weeks. In this meeting we discuss things such as what rewards we should have when we get a certain amount of dojos; what the consequences should be for making the wrong choices; how to improve breaktimes and lots more things. Children from all year groups participate in the School Council. We have this so that all students can express their opinions and make our school wonderful and more enjoyable.

*Alana Y6 Secretary of the School Council*

## Behaviour Systems

As you may be aware we are currently tweaking our behaviour systems and policy so that they are fully inclusive for all children. The School Council have discussed our reward systems and have made some changes to it. You will have seen the notes on class dojo. Over the next half term we will be firming these up and then reviewing our behaviour policy and procedures.

If you have any concerns or questions the first person you should approach is your child's class teacher. They will be able to help and sort out the issues as they are with your child and will be the best person to answer questions. If things are not resolved then you should approach the phase leader (details below), then the next step would be to speak to Mr Mercer, Vice Principal and then finally Mrs Allison, Principal.

The Leadership structure in school has changed slightly. Please see the structure below.

**EYFS/Y1 Phase Leader – Miss Matthews**

**Y2/3 Phase Leader - Mrs Murdoch**

**Y4,5,6 Phase Leader – Mrs Baker**

**Assistant Principal – Mrs Baker**

**Vice Principal – Mr Mercer**

**Principal – Mrs Allison**

## Governor in the Spotlight

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to introduce myself as the new Chair of Governors at Inkersall Primary Academy. My name is Nicole Browne and I've been part of the Governing Board for 3 years as a parent and the SEND link governor.

I've lived in Inkersall for the past 10 years and have two children who attend the school. My working background is supporting adults with learning difficulties and more recently as a Therapy Assistant helping patients achieve their goals.

As a governor our role is to support the school as well as present challenge when needed to consistently ensure the school is accountable and provides the best possible learning environment for our children.

The Governing Board will be taking part in regular school visits where we will monitor, evaluate & review the school's practice and feedback our findings to Mrs Allison at our monthly meetings.

Hope you all have a lovely half term break and if you have any questions or would like to speak to the Governing Board please contact us via school or our email is



[chairgov@inkersall.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:chairgov@inkersall.derbyshire.sch.uk)

Nicole Browne  
Chair of Governors

## INSET DAYS

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021

## Dairy Dates

Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October – Secondary school applications close.

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – School returns

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November – PTA AGM

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November – World Science Day

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November – Inset Day

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November – Governors Meeting

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December – Whole school Photos

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December – Flu immunisation

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Dinner

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December – Governors meeting

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Break up for Christmas

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January – School starts

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January – Governors meeting

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February – break up for half term

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February – Inset Day

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February – Governors meeting

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March – National Offer day Y6-Y7

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March – Governors meeting

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April – Break up for Easter

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April – School starts

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> April – Governors meeting

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April – Inset Day

## FARE SHARE

Every Tuesday we are very fortunate to have a FareShare delivery. Fare share are a charitable company who are trying to eliminate food waste.

Fare Share statements are -

We believe that no good food should go to waste  
We redistribute surplus food to charities that turn it into meals.

We are doers. We are a community. We change lives.

Hundreds of thousands of tonnes of good food is wasted by the UK food industry every year. At the same time, millions of people are struggling to afford to eat. Our work addresses these two issues by redistributing food industry surplus, which would otherwise go to waste, to the people who need it most. Find facts and figures on food waste and hunger in the UK below.

Come along on a Tuesday and collect some food from Fare Share. Thank you to Mrs Johnson and Miss Slinn for organising it.

