



ATHELSTAN NEWSLETTER



Letter Number 27 – Friday 17th April 2026



Stars of the Week



A huge well done to this week's Gold Award Winners:

BLUE	Freya M
GREEN	Stanley A
RED	Ikra K
CORAL	Jensen S
OCHRE	Willow R
VIOLET	Grae C-C
Y2AC	Chester S
Y2MS	Ivy H
Y2RJ	Sa'Rayah H
Y3A	Rowan B
Y3B	Parker W
Y3G	Afreen C
Y4B	Zaydan Z
Y4J	Rex M
Y4W	Louie R
Y5BT	Leo B
Y5DF	Effie P
Y5HB	Henry N
Y6JT	Rio W-O
Y6LB	Tise A
Y6NB	Alice C

Parking Around School

We would like to remind parents/carers about parking legally and considerately around school grounds. There have been numerous instances of inconsiderate and illegal parking around the school grounds, and we are extremely concerned about the safety of our children. We invest a huge amount of money in keeping our children safe, but we simply do not have the resources to monitor parking and safety outside school grounds. Please take note of the following points:

- Follow the rules of double yellow lines
- Do not block school gates
- Do not block residential driveways or the Woodview Care Home
- Pay extra due care and attention
- The bus must always have access to the bus stop.

Safety around school grounds is a constant concern for us, and we rely on all members of our school community to drive and park considerately.

OTHER NEWS & IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Staffing News

Ms Bisknell

We are delighted to let you know that we have a new addition to Team Athelstan! Ms Bisknell and her partner welcomed a beautiful baby girl during the Easter holidays. Both Mum and baby are doing well.

Family Support Worker

We are so pleased to let you know that Emma Fox was successful in our recent recruitment for a new Family Support Worker. Some of you will already know Emma as she has been working as a teaching assistant in Y5 for the last 18 months. She is also a regular face on our School Street as well as being one of our governors. Emma will be taking over from the role previously held by Rebecca Harrison and we are delighted that she will now be joining our Safeguarding Team. Emma's email is efox@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk if you need to contact her.

Nut Aware School

Please be reminded that we are a nut aware school. We cannot have nuts in school in any form. As we have children and staff with nut allergies, nuts and nut products (e.g., peanut butter and Nutella etc) should not be sent to school. Please note that chocolate spread is made from nuts and is therefore not permitted. It is very dangerous for children/staff with airborne allergies, as just being in the same room as someone who has eaten nuts can cause anaphylaxis shock. Thank you for your support.

Breakfast Club Reminder

Please be aware, Breakfast Club is strictly by pre-booking in order for us to ensure that we have enough members of staff available to safely supervise the number of children each day. Bookings should be made via ParentPay, our online payment system. Children who arrive at Breakfast Club and have not been pre-booked, will be turned away. **To ensure that children arrive at breakfast club safely, please walk to the breakfast club doors with your child until they enter school.** If you are having difficulty in using the booking system on ParentPay, please see a member of the office team who will be happy to assist you.

Reading for Pleasure Survey

What should reading for pleasure be like at Athelstan? We need your help! 2026 is the National Year of Reading. We want to build a vision statement of what reading means at Athelstan. We have asked our staff and pupils for their contributions, and now we want to hear from families.

Click on the following link to answer a 3-minute survey around the question, **What should reading for pleasure be like at Athelstan?** <https://forms.gle/6KYefb7JQLz2wUv97>

Are you worried about your child's mental health?

I am a trained Child Mental Health First Aider and a trained Senior Mental Health Lead here at Athelstan. I am offering parents the chance to book an appointment to discuss any concerns about your children's mental health and provide some options and signposts that might help. We can also discuss what we can do in school to support your child. Appointments will be 20 minutes and will be available between 8:40am and 11:30am on Wednesday 29th April. If you would like an appointment then please contact Selina Ashton on sashon@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk

The Joy of Movement Festival

Children in Year 1, Year 2 and Year 5 have been chosen to take part in the Joy of Movement Festival run by Sheffield United. This will take place in school on Monday 20th April and each class will do a 30 minute PE session. Please ensure your child comes to school wearing their PE kits on Monday.

Message from Sheffield Young Explorers

We are pleased to share an exciting upcoming community event organised by Sheffield Young Explorers, supported by BBC Children in Need – our **Rising Stars Fun Day**.

This is an inclusive community event designed to bring families together in a safe, welcoming space, with a wide range of engaging activities for children and young people.

Event details:

Saturday 18th April

12:00pm – 3:00pm

Church, Station Road, S9 4JT

What to expect:

- Arts and crafts
- Hot food and refreshments
- Mendhi and face painting
- Chocolate fountain
- Bouncy castle
- Stalls and toy stalls
- Fun competitions

Please note, **each stall and activity will have a small charge**, helping us to cover costs and continue delivering community programmes.

All registered children will receive a free slice of pizza.

We would be grateful if you could share this opportunity with your pupils and families through your newsletters, parent communications, or noticeboards. It is a great chance for children to socialise, have fun, and connect with their local community.

Families are encouraged to register in advance so we can manage numbers:

register.sheffieldyoungexplorers.org

Message from Abbeydale Tennis Club

You are warmly invited to join us at **Abbeydale Tennis Club's Open Day on Sunday, 19th April 2026, from 11:00am to 4:00pm**. Whether you're completely new to tennis or already love the game, this is a great opportunity to visit the club, meet our team, and enjoy a fun afternoon of tennis. We'll be running **FREE taster sessions throughout the day for players of all ages and abilities**, so everyone is welcome to come along and give it a try. For children, we'll also have **craft activities and face painting**, making it a great family day out. **Food and drinks will be available throughout the day**, so you can relax and enjoy the atmosphere between sessions. We'd love to welcome you to the club and share a great afternoon of tennis with you.

To book your place, simply follow the link below:

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/AbbeydaleTennisClubLtd/EventsV2/Summary/a0a6d319-9da0-49fd-9f0c-b28207761f52>

Sports and Physical Activities

We're looking to find out what sports and physical activities our pupils currently take part in outside of school.

This will help us to:

- identify children who may be interested in representing the school in tournaments or competitions
- understand what sports children already enjoy
- provide more opportunities for pupils who may not currently take part in clubs or activities

To assist us further, we would be grateful if you could complete the following survey.

The information will only be used to help us plan sports opportunities within school. Thank you for taking a few minutes to complete this survey:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScnYb0jBOv-OMByZy6eWQhuw68yjPeIJMSPj6rcP8CKowiPJg/viewform?usp=publish-editor>

Sports Days – Save the Dates

We will be holding individual year group Sports Days again this year. These will be held in the afternoon. Further details will follow, but in the meantime, please see the dates for each year group:

Date	Year Group
Thursday 11th June	Year 2
Friday 12th June	Foundation
Monday 15th June	Year 6
Tuesday 16th June	Year 4
Wednesday 17th June	Year 5
Thursday 18th June	Year 1
Friday 19th June	Year 3

PE Lessons

Please find details of PE below.

Children in all year groups should come to school dressed in their PE kit on the days they have their PE lessons.

Class	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Blue					PE
Green				PE	
Red					PE
Coral	PE	PE			
Ochre	PE	PE			
Violet	PE	PE			
Y2AC				PE	PE
Y2MS			PE		PE
Y2RJ		PE	PE		
Y3A			PE		PE
Y3B			PE	PE	
Y3G	PE			PE	
Y4B	PE	PE			
Y4J	PE				PE
Y4W		PE		PE	
Y5BT		PE	PE		
Y5DF		PE		PE	
Y5HB	PE	PE			
Y6JT			PE		PE
Y6LB	PE			PE	
Y6NB		PE		PE	

SEND Parent/Carer Workshops and Meetings

The Parent/Carer workshops and meetings will be taking place in school on the following dates and times:

Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS) Parent/Carer Meetings

Thursday 23rd April - 9am

Thursday 21st May - 9am

Thursday 18th June - 9am

Thursday 9th July - 9am

Please confirm attendance by emailing annamarie.emmett@sheffieldparentcarerforum.org.uk

SEND Workshops

The SEND workshops are run by Kirsty Unwin from Family Learning (she is also a parent of a child in Foundation Stage). The following workshops will be taking place in school:

Autism Workshop – Wednesday 29th April - 9am – 11am

ADHD Worksop – Wednesday 6th May - 9am – 11am

Emotional Regulation Workshop – Wednesday 10th June - 9am – 11am

Child Anxiety Workshop – Wednesday 17th June - 9am – 11am

Please see the attached flyer on how to book your place on the SEND Workshops.

YEAR GROUP NEWS

Foundation News

Forest Schools

Forest Schools will be starting next week for children in Foundation Stage. Please ensure that your child comes to school with appropriate clothing and footwear for outdoor activities on their Forest School day. Sessions will go ahead in most weather conditions, so wellies, waterproofs, and suitable outdoor clothing are strongly recommended.

If you would like to volunteer to assist us during these sessions, please speak to your child's class teacher. Sessions will take place every week on the following day throughout the summer term:

Red Class – Tuesdays

Green Class – Wednesdays

Blue Class – Thursdays

On Forest School days, children will be dismissed at hometime from 'The Shack' in the staff carpark. Thank you for your continued support.

Water Bottles

With the warmer weather approaching could you please ensure your child has a water bottle in school.

Food Tasting

Foundation children will be tasting different fruits during the week beginning Monday 27th April. The fruits are apple, pear, strawberries, oranges and watermelon. If your child has any allergies or you do not wish for them to take part, please email your child's class teacher before Friday 24th April:

Red – Mr McGrath: rmcgrath@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk

Green – Mrs Taylor & Mrs Kerfoot: ltaylor@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk & ckerfoot@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk

Blue – Mrs Sloan: hsloan@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk

Y1 News

Book of the Fortnight

Our book of the fortnight is **Iggy Peck**. Our vocabulary words are: **architect, exclaimed, sphinx, passion, ancient** and **uncertain**.

Phonics Screening Check

We would like to invite you to a meeting at 2:45pm on Wednesday 6th May 2026 to talk about the Y1 Phonics Screening Check. This is a statutory assessment that confirms whether or not pupils have met the expected standard in phonic decoding and will be administered during the week beginning 8th June this year. Please come along to find out all about the check and how you can support your child at home with their phonics. Please enter school through the Breakfast Club doors.

Y2 News

Y2AC Class Treat

On Thursday 23rd April, Y2AC will be having their treat in the afternoon. Children should wear their uniform as normal in the morning but can bring a change of clothes for the afternoon, should they wish to do so. We will be watching a film, doing arts and crafts and playing outside (weather permitting).

Y3 News

No additional news this week.

Y4 News

No additional news this week.

Y5 News

Manor Adventure Residential

The total cost of the visit has been confirmed as £184.25. A deposit of £50.00 has already been paid, leaving £134.25 left to pay for the visit. This can be paid for in full or by instalments using your ParentPay account. Please note, the first payment is set at £34.25. The remaining balance can be paid in instalments of £25. If you would like to pay in full, you would need to add all payments to your basket and checkout. The full payment should be made by Tuesday 1st September 2026.

When making payments on ParentPay, we would recommend that parents/carers **do not** use the 'One Click Payment' option and instead add the payment item to the basket and checkout using a debit card as you would with any online shopping. This is because the 'One Click Payment' can take up to seven days for ParentPay to attempt to take the payment from bank accounts, which we have found do sometimes fail, resulting in parents/carers having to make the payment again.

Y5HB Class Treat

On Wednesday 22nd April, Y5HB will be having their treat in the afternoon. Children should wear their uniform as normal in the morning but can bring a change of clothes for the afternoon and a healthy snack should they wish to do so.

Y6 News

Y6 SATs Tests

Y6 SATs week is from Monday 11th May to Thursday 14th May.

It is absolutely critical that your child is in school during that week and no requests for exceptional term time leave should be made. Children being absent from school during this time will cause significant difficulties for the whole team. Please support us by ensuring that your child attends every day.

Breakfast Club during Y6 SATs (Monday 11th - Thursday 14th May)

During SATs, all Y6 pupils are invited to a special **free** Breakfast Club. Doors open at 8.00am. This allows children to avoid being late, to have breakfast (sometimes their second of the morning) and socialise with their friends before the tests start. We strongly recommend that, if possible, all pupils in Y6 attend; it has a huge benefit for your children during this busy week.

During SATs only, Y6 children do not need to be pre-booked a place via ParentPay.

If your child normally attends Breakfast Club, you do not need to book for them to attend Monday - Thursday of that week.

If you have younger children in school that you would like to attend Breakfast Club during the Y6 SATs, it is essential they are booked in through ParentPay in the usual way. You can now book via ParentPay for next half term. If you have any issues doing this, please contact the office as soon as possible, as children in Foundation to Y5 who are not pre-booked in for Breakfast Club during SATs week will be refused entry.

Attendance Matters!



Every Student, Every School, Every Day

Well done to Y3A who achieved this week's highest attendance. Most improved attendance this week were Ochre & Y6NB.

Class	This Week's Attendance
Red	93.6%
Green	92%
Blue	92.1%
Coral	94.2%
Ochre	96.5%
Violet	97.2%
Y2RJ	92.7%
Y2MS	94.3%
Y2AC	91.7%
Y3A	97.7%
Y3B	95.2%
Y3G	96.7%
Y4J	89.7%
Y4W	94.8%
Y4B	93.4%
Y5BT	93.5%
Y5HB	94.3%
Y5DF	96%
Y6JT	87.7%
Y6NB	96.9%
Y6LB	93.8%



Monday 04.05.26	May Day Bank Holiday
Wednesday 06.05.26	Y1 Phonics Screening Check Meeting – 2:45pm
Monday 11.05.26	Y6 SATs week (Free Breakfast Club for Y6 Children Monday – Thursday)
Friday 22.05.26	Break up for the Spring Bank holiday
Monday 25.05.26	Spring Bank holiday begins
Monday 01.06.26	INSET Day (school closed for children)
Tuesday 02.06.26	Children return to school Y4 Multiplication Tables Check begins
Monday 08.06.26	Y1 Phonics Screen Check Week