



## Letter Number 17 – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026



### Stars of the Week



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

<b>CORAL</b>	Layla W
<b>OCHRE</b>	Idrees M
<b>VIOLET</b>	Millie L
<b>Y2AC</b>	Kairo R
<b>Y2MS</b>	Amaya A
<b>Y2RJ</b>	Ruben B
<b>Y3A</b>	Daniyal I
<b>Y3B</b>	Eliana K
<b>Y3G</b>	Deacon J
<b>Y4B</b>	Charlotte M
<b>Y4J</b>	Temidire A
<b>Y4W</b>	Millie J
<b>Y5BT</b>	Rowan H
<b>Y5DF</b>	David T
<b>Y6JT</b>	Eleanor B
<b>Y6LB</b>	Le Yan L
<b>Y6NB</b>	Amelia R



### Pen Licence Awards



This initiative is all about celebrating the effort and pride our pupils take in their handwriting. By earning a Pen Licence, children will showcase not only their neat and legible writing but also their dedication to improving and taking pride in their work. It's a chance to highlight those who consistently show effort and perseverance, motivating all our pupils to aim high and write with confidence. Well Done!

**Lucy B Y3B**  
**Arwa A Y3B**

## **OTHER NEWS & IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

### **Snow and School Closures**

As we are now in the season of possible bad weather, we would like to remind you of the procedures we follow in the event of a school closure and snow. The Acting Headteacher and the Chair of Governors, make the decision if school is going to close. This decision is never made lightly, and school will always remain open, if it is safe to do so. We will also liaise with other local schools when making our decision. If school is to close, you will be sent a text and app message as early as possible, approximately 6:30am.

Please ensure the office is informed of any telephone number changes and that you have the latest version of "the SchoolApp" downloaded.

A message will also be put on our school website, [www.athelstanprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.athelstanprimaryschool.co.uk)

**We will ALWAYS send a message if school is closing. If you do not hear from us, school will be open as normal.**

The safety of our children is very important; therefore, if it isn't safe for you to travel, and your child will not be attending school, please contact school in the normal way. If school remains open, but the snow and ice make some paths dangerous to use, we may have to close some access routes around school. It is impossible for our Premises Team to clear every pathway before school opens, so please bear with us if you are unable to use your usual route into school.

### **Athelstan Readathon for Read for Good - 26<sup>th</sup> January - 1<sup>st</sup> February**

We will be running our second school Readathon to raise money for Read for Good, a charity who bring books and storytellers to children in hospitals all over the UK.

We are asking our children and families to do two important things during this Readathon week:

1) Read! As well as extra time devoted to reading in school, we need your help to squeeze in some more reading at home.

2) Sponsor! We have asked the children to seek sponsorship from family and friends. Every little helps and the money can be sent in as cash or paid online via card

at [https://readathon.my.salesforce-sites.com/sponsor/R4G\\_SponsorPupilFindSchool1](https://readathon.my.salesforce-sites.com/sponsor/R4G_SponsorPupilFindSchool1)

Please support your child's sponsored read as much as you can. They'll be helping kids in hospitals get books, as well as helping themselves, and our school receives free books worth 20% of our grand sponsorship total, so there really is something in it for everyone. Last year, we raised a whopping £936.10! For more information, see the attached Read for Good letters, check out your child's sponsorship card or visit [www.readforgood.org](http://www.readforgood.org)

Thank you for your support – helping your child to keep reading, raising and being amazing!

### **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 on the following date: Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February from 8:40am - 10:30am. If you would like an appointment then please contact myself, Selina Ashton on [sashton@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:sashton@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk)

### **Packed Lunches & Hot Food**

For Health & Safety reasons, hot food and flasks are not permitted in school. The packed lunch policy can be found on the school website: <https://www.athelstanprimaryschool.co.uk/policies/>

# **YEAR GROUP NEWS**

## **Foundation News**

### **PE Lessons**

Each class will do PE on the following days:

**Green Class** – Wednesdays

**Red Class** – Fridays

**Blue Class** – Fridays

Children should come to school on their PE day wearing their PE kit: Dark coloured jogging bottoms or leggings, plain white t-shirt and either a dark tracksuit top or their school jumper/cardigan. As the lessons will be indoors, we will be doing PE in bare feet and therefore no pumps are required.

## **Y1 News**

### **Book of the Fortnight**

Our book of the fortnight is **Little Red**. Our vocabulary words are: **inn, ginger, encounters, drapes, short-sighted** and **pounced**.

### **Green - Orange Read Write Inc Groups**

Children in Read Write Inc Groups Green to Orange will bring home speedy reading sheets every Monday. They need to practise reading the words and being able to read them in any order. This is to help improve their fluency when reading. Thank you for your help and support with this.

## **Y2 News**

### **Green - Orange Read Write Inc Groups**

Children in Read Write Inc Groups Green to Orange will bring home speedy reading sheets every Monday. They need to practise reading the words and being able to read them in any order. This is to help improve their fluency when reading. Thank you for your help and support with this.

### **Golden Pencil**

Y2 are very excited to be launching the "golden pencil" next week! This will be for children making a real effort to improve their handwriting, and also beginning to join letters together. They will be awarded a certificate in Monday's assemblies to bring home, and a sparkly pencil to use in class in their lessons. We already know lots of children are excited about this, and can't wait to see who is the first to get theirs. Your child may benefit from any extra practice at home, which may enable them to achieve this sooner!

### **Home Reading Books**

We are starting to run low on our home reading books. We have noticed some children have more than one book in their bag at a time. Please remind children to change their book each week and to only take one book at a time to ensure we have the stock for all children. Please hand any extra books to your child's class teacher next week.

## **Y3 News**

No additional news this week.

## **Y4 News**

### **Art Workshops**

On Tuesday 20th January, Y4 are excited to welcome Jordanna Farrimond, who will be delivering art workshops for each class on working with clay (inspired by our focus artist El Anatsui).

All clay and materials will be provided. However, Jordanna has suggested that the children might like to bring in very small junk objects for mark-making - for example, old Lego blocks, Kinder surprise toys or bottle lids. This is not compulsory but if your child would like to bring in a small junk item to use in the workshop, they are welcome. Please be advised that the items will end up covered in clay!

### **Local Area Walks**

We will be walking around the Handsworth area to discuss various landmarks and what they have contributed to the history of the local area. The walk will be for a couple of hours so the children will need to be wearing appropriate shoes and bring a coat. If you would like to volunteer to join your child's class on the walk, please email their class teacher.

Each class will be going on the following days:

Y4W - Tuesday 3rd February 9.30am - 11.30am - [gwindle@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:gwindle@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk)

Y4B - Wednesday 4th February 1.15pm - 3.15pm - [dnaylor@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:dnaylor@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk)

Y4J - Thursday 5th February 9.30am - 11.30am - [djohnson@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:djohnson@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk)

## **Y5 News**

No additional news this week.

## **Y6 News**

### **Y6 SATs Meeting**

Parents/carers of all Y6 children are invited to attend a meeting, on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January at 3:30pm. The meeting will include detailed information on the upcoming SATs tests, give access to revision material, and provide hints and tips. Please enter school via the reception area.

## **Whole School Outdoor Learning**

To help promote wellbeing across school, each year group will be having an afternoon of outdoor learning each half term. See attached poster for more information. Children will need to bring suitable outdoor clothing, to change into, for these sessions, as they will be taking place outdoors even if the weather is cold or wet.

The sessions will take place on the following dates:

### **Foundation**

Green Class – Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Feb

Blue Class – Weds 11<sup>th</sup> Feb

Red Class – Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> Feb

### **Year 1**

Violet Class – Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Feb

Coral Class – Weds 11<sup>th</sup> Feb

Ochre Class – Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> Feb

### **Year 2**

Y2MS – Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb

Y2AC – Weds 4<sup>th</sup> Feb

Y2RJ – Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> Feb

### **Year 3**

Y3A – Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb

Y3B – Weds 4<sup>th</sup> Feb

Y3G – Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> Feb

### **Year 4**

Y4B – Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan

Y4J – Weds 21<sup>st</sup> Jan

Y4W – Tues 20<sup>th</sup> Jan

### **Year 5**

Y5HB – Fri 6<sup>th</sup> Feb

Y5DF – Weds 4<sup>th</sup> Feb

Y5BT – Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> Feb

### **Year 6**

Y6LB – Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb

Y6NB – Weds 4<sup>th</sup> Feb

Y6JT – Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> Feb

## **SEND Parent Group Meeting at Athelstan Primary School**

You are invited to attend a SEND Parent Group Meeting on **Thursday 22nd January at 9.00am**. Parents of children with any SEND are welcome. No diagnosis necessary.

The meeting will be with Anna Marie Emmett, a Project Worker from the Sheffield Parent Carer Forum, as part of the Autism in Schools/PINS (Partnerships for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools) Project. The Autism in Schools/PINS Projects aim to improve the student experience for all children/young people with SEND. As part of the project, we are inviting parents/carers to share the experiences of their children in school and to meet and chat with other parents.

We would be grateful if you could please confirm attendance by emailing Anna Marie directly on [annamarie.emmett@sheffieldparentcarerforum.org.uk](mailto:annamarie.emmett@sheffieldparentcarerforum.org.uk)

## **Attendance**

We have noticed an increase in the number of children arriving to school late each morning. We know that sometimes this can be unavoidable; however, arriving late does impact your child's and other children's learning. Please be reminded that the doors open at 8:35am and close at 8:50am.

Attendance Matters!



Every Student, Every School, Every Day

## **Mindfulness at Athelstan**

breath barometer - 3 minute pause ([youtube.com](#))

finger breath - 3 minute pause ([youtube.com](#))

hugging breath - 3-minute pause ([youtube.com](#))



## **Makaton**

Makaton is used by many people as a support to communication. Our hope is to enable all students to be able to confidently communicate with their peers and all staff in school. Please follow the link below to our website if you would like to join us on this learning journey:

<https://athelstan-primary-school.primarysite.media/playlist/makaton>

## **Food Works – Handsworth**

Please follow the links below for further information about Food Works:

[Market – Food Works](#)

[Handsworth – Food Works](#)



Tuesday 20.01.26	Y6 SATs Meeting - 3:30pm
Tuesday 10.02.26	Athelstan Choir - Young Voices Performance - Utilita Arena Sheffield
Friday 13.02.26	Break up for half term holiday on this day so children will attend on this day
Monday 16.02.26	Half term holiday begins
Monday 23.02.26	Children return to school
Thursday 05.03.26	World Book Day
Friday 20.03.26	Red Nose Day

**Have a lovely weekend!**

