



ATHELSTAN NEWSLETTER



Letter Number 19 – Friday 30th January 2026



Stars of the Week



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

CORAL	Nola R
OCHRE	Eliana A
VIOLET	Rhain T
Y2AC	Alfie K-P
Y2MS	Autumn S
Y2RJ	Darcie R
Y3A	Daisy G
Y3B	Ibraheem U
Y3G	Isla H
Y4B	Reya H
Y4J	Reon F
Y4W	Ava R
Y5BT	Gracie H
Y5DF	Eryan C
Y5HB	Alannah H
Y6LB	Olivia-May C and Tariq V
Y6NB	Ben K



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!

Leo H Y3G
Ayobami H Y3G

OTHER NEWS & IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Staffing News

We are very sad to say goodbye to Rebecca Harrison, our Family Support Worker, who is leaving us today. Rebecca has been a fabulous addition to Team Athelstan. We are currently recruiting for Rebecca's replacement and will let you know who the successful candidate is as soon as we can. In the meantime, any safeguarding enquiries should be directed to either Lisa Watson, Anna Waring or James Mills. For any other enquiries dealt with by Rebecca, please contact Selina Ashton. All email addresses are below:

lwatson@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk

awaring@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk

jmills@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk

sashton@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk

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

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.

School Website

Our new website is now up and running. We apologise for any inconvenience caused this week if you were unable to access this.

Ordering School Meals

If your child is going to arrive at school late (due to a medical appointment or other reason) and needs a school meal that day, please notify the office in advance by 9:30am, as meal orders must be placed with the kitchen before this time. Children who arrive at school after 9:30am, and do not have a meal pre-booked may not receive the school meal of their choice, as only the jacket potato option will be available at this time. Thank you for your support.

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 4th February from 8:40am - 10:30am.

If you would like an appointment then please contact myself, Selina Ashton

on: sashton@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk

Parking on Pavements

We have noticed an increased number of cars parked on pavements around school. This is a polite reminder that pavements are for people not parking. Please consider those walking to and from school and their safety when parking. If parents park on the pavements, this will force other families to walk in the road putting their safety at risk.



Chinese New Year Art Competition

This week we are launching a Chinese New Year art competition to celebrate the Year of the Horse! The competition encourages pupils to express their creativity through artwork inspired by the Year of the Horse, symbolising energy, independence and forward momentum, while engaging with Chinese culture in an accessible and inspiring way. **Please submit all entries to your class teacher by Friday 20th February;** this gives you time over the holidays to create art at home. A selection of entries will be sent to Sheffield University. The First prize will be a £10 Amazon e-Gift voucher, and there will be two runners up who will receive a £5 e-Gift Voucher. The overall winner of the competition will receive a £20 Amazon e-Gift voucher; this is judged by the Confucius Institute at the university, not by school. Winners will be showcased and celebrated at the Exhibition Launch Party. The Exhibition Launch party and ceremony will be on the 12th March at the Diamond at Sheffield University. The exhibition will then be open to the public from the 13th-20th of March at the Diamond. The competition is open to KS1 and KS2. You will need to have your full name and your class on the artwork otherwise your entry will not count. Digital artwork, 3D models and sculptures are NOT accepted. Please ensure all work is on A4 paper or card. Good luck; we cannot wait to see what you can create!

YEAR GROUP NEWS

Foundation News

No additional news this week.

Y1 News

Book of the Fortnight

Our book of the fortnight is **Jack and the Beanstalk**. Our vocabulary words are: **strange, wrinkly, demanded, commanded, flung** and **topped**.

Numbots

Y1 have been sent home their logins and passwords for using Numbots. This is a fun and exciting way for the children to explore subitising, number bonds, addition and subtraction. This is the same log in as they will use to access Times Table Rock Stars as they progress further up the school. If you require any more information, please ask your child's teacher or contact Miss Thornsby on jthornsby@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk

Outdoor Learning

There have been some changes to our Outdoor Learning Dates. The new dates are:

Violet – Tuesday 10th February

Coral – Wednesday 4th February

Ochre – Friday 13th February

Y2 News

No additional news this week.

Y3 News

Our Year 3s are currently working on their latest writing project, "**People's History**." They have been busy crafting meaningful stories about the lives of family members and teachers within our Athelstan community. The children are so excited to publish their work and share these stories with you! Please join us for a **Year 3 Publishing Celebration** on **Thursday 12th February at 2:45pm** in the Y3 classrooms. Please arrive at school through the main office to sign in.

Y4 News

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

Y4B - Wednesday 4th February 1.15pm - 3.15pm - dnaylor@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk

Y4J - Thursday 5th February 9.30am - 11.30am - djohnson@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk

Y5 News

Y5 Outdoor Learning

Y5 will be having their outdoor learning next week and they will need appropriate clothing. As part of our learning, we will be collecting kindling, building a fire and celebrating our poetry unit.

Y6 News

Mock SATs

The Year 6 team would like to congratulate all Year 6 children for their hard work and determination during the Mock SATs this week. You should all be very proud of your achievements. We would also like to thank parents/carers for their continued support and for ensuring that all children arrived at school on time.

Y6 Outdoor Learning

Y6 Outdoor Learning takes place in school on the dates shown below. Children will be building dens using natural materials found in the school grounds, such as sticks and leaves etc. However, if possible, we would like children to bring in their own materials to assist in building their dens. Donations should be given to your child's class teacher. Please ensure that children come to school wearing suitable outdoor clothing, but bring a change of footwear to wear indoors. Thank you for your support.

Whole School Outdoor Learning

To help promote wellbeing across school, each year group will be having an afternoon of outdoor learning each half term. 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 remaining sessions will take place on the following dates:

Foundation

Green – Tuesday 10th February

Blue – Wednesday 11th February

Red – Thursday 12th February

Year 1

Violet – Tuesday 10th February

Coral – Wednesday 4th February

Ochre – Friday 13th February

Year 2

Y2MS – Tuesday 3rd February

Y2AC – Wednesday 4th February

Y2RJ – Thursday 5th February

Year 3

Y3A – Tuesday 3rd February

Y3B – Wednesday 4th February

Y3G – Thursday 5th February

Year 5

Y5DF – Wednesday 4th February

Y5BT – Thursday 5th February

Y5HB – Friday 6th February

Year 6

Y6LB – Tuesday 3rd February

Y6NB – Wednesday 4th February

Y6JT – Thursday 5th February

Attendance Matters!



Every Student, Every School, Every Day

Well done to Y3A, who achieved the highest attendance this week!

Class	Last Week's Attendance
Coral	96.7%
Ochre	89.6%
Violet	96%
Y2RJ	90.7%
Y2MS	95.2%
Y2AC	93.5%
Y3A	98.3%
Y3B	92.8%
Y3G	97%
Y4J	93.7%
Y4W	89%
Y4B	91.4%
Y5BT	98.1%
Y5HB	91.3%
Y5DF	94%
Y6JT	92.9%
Y6NB	97.9%
Y6LB	94.1%



Tuesday 10.02.26	Athelstan Choir - Young Voices Performance - Utilita Arena Sheffield
Friday 13.02.26	Break up for half term holiday
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!

