



ATHELSTAN NEWSLETTER



Letter Number 4 – Friday 25th September 2026



Gold Award Winners



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

CORAL	Jack S
OCHRE	Arlo W
VIOLET	Elaina A
Y2AS	Oliver W
Y2CL	Eleanor B
Y2DC	Melissa L
Y3AB	Grace A
Y3HB	Edith V
Y3KCB	Dion Dler M
Y4EM	Archie G
Y4LG	Cecilia H
Y4TB	Alfie C
Y5BT	Arna W
Y5JA	Hugo G
Y5JM	Lydia S
Y6DF	Gracie H
Y6GW	Salim H
Y6LB	Harry F

Attendance & Reporting Absences

If your child is unable to attend school, please follow the absence procedure below:

On the first day of your child's absence, you should contact the school office on 01142692301, before 9.30am, by leaving a message on the absence line (option 2) or speaking to a member of the Admin Team (option 3) providing the reason for their absence. We understand that you may also wish to notify the teacher directly, however, the office must be informed to ensure this isn't missed during the school day.

Failure to contact school about your child's absence will result in your child receiving an unauthorised absence mark. These are closely monitored by Sheffield City Council, and an Attendance and Inclusion Officer may contact you for further details.

You may also be visited at home, by a member of the school/local authority staff, if you fail to report your child's absence.

**From the first day of term to the last, the small moments in a school day make
a real difference to your child.**

OTHER NEWS & IMPORTANT INFORMATION

A message from Richard Joel, Chair of Governors

We are delighted to inform you that, following our recent recruitment process in July, the Governing Body has successfully appointed a new headteacher. Chris Stewart, who is an experienced headteacher currently working with the Flying High Partnership, will be joining us in January 2027.

A message from the Senior Leadership Team

We recently invited Positive Regard, an inclusion support service, into school to carry out an independent review of behaviour. We cannot emphasise enough how positive they were about our pupils and wanted to share a few of the lovely comments they made in their final report. We hope that they make you feel as proud of your children as we are.

'Athelstan Primary School's success is its deeply embedded relational ethos. Internal reviews, external Ofsted findings, and observational data consistently confirm that pupil-to-adult trust is exceptionally high. Pupils articulate feeling safe, valued, and respected. They demonstrate genuine happiness regarding attendance, welcome visitors with politeness, and actively help one another during learning activities. Behaviour across the broad majority of the school, including corridors, communal areas, and standard classroom settings, is good. Pupils present as polite, welcoming, and proud of their school.'

Staffing Update

Ms Barry is continuing her treatment and would like to sincerely thank the whole school community for their lovely messages and well wishes for her recovery.

Taylor Shaw Special Census Day Menu

On Thursday 1st October, Taylor Shaw will be providing the following special menu:

Red – Cheeseburger, Wedges, Beans or Sweetcorn

White - Halal Cheeseburger, Wedges, Beans or Sweetcorn

Green - Quorn Cheeseburger, Wedges, Beans or Sweetcorn

Brown - Jacket Potato

Blue - Tuna Mayo Sandwich

Dessert: Ice Cream

Medical Diets

Children who have a Medical Diet in place will be given the same meal choices as above, but these will be made in accordance with their specific menus/dietary requirements.

KS2 Breaktime Snacks

All pupils in KS2 are encouraged to bring in a healthy snack to eat during morning playtime. This could be a piece of fruit or a cereal bar. Snacks containing/covered in chocolate, sausage rolls, crisps, sweets and cake bars are not considered a healthy snack. In KS2, there is a tuck shop during playtime, run by the School Council, selling healthy snacks to pupils. Pupils in FS and KS1 are provided with fruit, free of charge.

Tuck Shop Y3-Y6

Tuck shop is up and running. It would be really helpful if you bring the correct change and items are either 20p, 30p or 50p. Please help our tuck shop helpers by disposing of the rubbish correctly. A list of the items can be found on the school website:

<https://www.athelstanprimaryschool.co.uk/attachments/documents.asp?id=4>

Packed Lunch Policy

Please can parents/carers refer to our Packed Lunch Policy:

<https://www.athelstanprimaryschool.co.uk/attachments/documents.asp?id=1132>

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. We are also finding a lot of items including pizza, chips and chicken nuggets etc. which are not permitted. Thank you for your support.

Flu Immunisations

The School Immunisations Team will be coming to Athelstan on Friday 6th November to administer flu vaccinations to pupils. **Please note, the team cannot administer this without parental consent.** Please see the attached for further information of how to give parental consent or opt-out. The form must be completed either way to confirm if you give or do not give consent for your child to receive the immunisation.

Whole School Photographs

Jane Stapleton Photography will be in school on **Wednesday 14th October**, to take individual photographs of children in all year groups. Children who have siblings in school will have their photographs taken both individually and together during the school day.

Pre-school Siblings - For those children who have pre-school siblings that do not attend Athelstan, there will be an earlier photoshoot to have a sibling photograph, but these will only take place between 8.15am and 8.45am. **Please ensure you bring your non-Athelstan pre-school children between these times only.** Non-Athelstan children who arrive after 8.45am will not be able to have their photograph taken, as this will impact on the school day. Please enter school via the main reception area. Please bear with us at this busy time.

If your child has a PE lesson or Forest Schools/Outdoor Learning session on this day, please ensure that they come to school wearing their full school uniform and bring their PE kit/change of clothes in a named bag to change into. If you have any queries, please email Amy Brownhill on abrownhill@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk

Athelstan Primary School PTA - Rainbow Raffle!

We need your help to create our Rainbow Hampers! We are collecting new, non-perishable items such as toys, treats, toiletries, stationery, etc. See the attached poster for further details.

Each year group is asked to collect different coloured items. Please see below for your child's year group colour:

FS: Black | Y1: Blue | Y2: Yellow | Y3: White | Y4: Purple | Y5: Green | Y6: Orange

Please send any items into class with your child **by Friday 16th October**. Electronic raffle tickets are **50p each**. Please send money into school with your child in a named envelope and detail how many tickets you would like to purchase.

The raffle will be drawn during w/c Monday 19th October. All proceeds will go directly to school funds to benefit all of our children. Thank you for your support!

Book in a Box Competition

As part of the National Year of Reading, we are excited to launch a whole-school reading and art competition called 'Book in a Box'! We are inviting children to choose their favourite story and get creative by recreating the story, or a favourite scene from it, inside a box. This is a fantastic opportunity for children to combine their love of reading with their creativity and imagination, and we can't wait to see their wonderful ideas! There will be one winner from each year group, so everyone has a chance to be recognised. Please hand entries in to your child's class teacher by Monday 19th October at 9:00am. Please make sure that all entries have your child's name and class clearly written on them. We look forward to seeing your favourite stories come to life in a box!

Non-Uniform Day – Snowflake Appeal – Sheffield Children's Hospital

On Thursday 22nd October, we will be having a non-school uniform day to raise money to sponsor a snowflake for The Sheffield Children's Hospital. We are hoping to raise as much money as we can for this amazing cause and would be grateful if each child could bring a minimum donation of £1.00 on the day. Thank you for your support!

YEAR GROUP NEWS

Foundation News

Read Write Inc Session – Monday 28th September 9am-9:30am

We would like to invite Parents/Carers to come and watch their children take part in a Read Write Inc Session to learn about how reading is taught and what will be sent home. After morning drop off, please wait in the Foundation Yard until morning registration is complete.

Photographs

As part of our 'All About Me' topic, we would love to learn more about the children and the special people in their lives. If possible, please send in a photograph of your child as a baby, along with photographs of family members, by Tuesday next week. The photographs will give the children an opportunity to talk about themselves, their families and their experiences, while helping us to get to know them a little better. Please ensure you write your child's name and class on the back of the photographs. Thank you for your support!

Donations

We would be grateful for any donations of the following items:

- 1. Dressing-up outfits** - We would love to add some more **superhero outfits** to our dressing-up areas! If you have any superhero costumes that your child has outgrown or no longer uses, we would be very grateful for any donations. We are also looking for **hats for our role-play area**. Top hats, silly hats, sun hats or any other fun and imaginative hats would be very welcome! Thank you for helping us to make our role-play areas even more exciting and imaginative for the children.
- 2. Spare Clothes** - We are kindly asking families to donate any clean, good-condition trousers, underwear and socks that are no longer needed at home. These items will be kept in school as spare clothing for children who may need a change of clothes during the school day. Any donations would be greatly appreciated and will help us ensure that we have suitable spare clothing available when needed. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.
- 3. Pumpkins** - We would be grateful for pumpkin donations (all shapes and sizes) for our pumpkin picking farm shop.

Foundation Health Screening

The School Nursing team from the Sheffield Children's Hospital will attend school to carry out the height and weight screening, as part of the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP), and the hearing screening, during this academic year.

In addition, the Vision team from the Sheffield Children's Hospital will attend school to carry out the vision check. If you would like support or to discuss your child's health, i.e. eating, sleeping, toileting issues, etc., please copy the link below to complete the "Ready for School" questionnaire.

<https://www.sheffield.childscreening.co.uk/Forms/SHQ>

Please complete the questionnaire before **16th October 2026**.

Your unique school code for **Athelstan Primary School** is **SF107083**

If you wish to opt out of this screening then please send an email to: scn-tr.ncmpoptout@nhs.net before **16th October 2026**.

Please include in your email the following details:

Name of child who you are opting out for

Date of birth of the child

School the child attends

Which screening you are opting out of

For more information about the programme please visit

website: <https://www.sheffieldchildrens.nhs.uk/services/school-nursing/school-entry-health-screening/> or

call Admin: 0114 3053224 (option 4)

Y1 News

Book of the Fortnight

Our book of the fortnight is **The Naughty Bus**. Our vocabulary words are: **important, reflection, handsome, lonely, rescue** and **promise**.

Junk Modelling

We would be grateful for donations of any cardboard boxes, clean plastic bottles or cartons etc for our junk modelling. Please give donations to the class teacher.

Pine Cones

We are collecting pine cones! If you spot any when you are out and about, we would be grateful if you could collect these and hand them to the class teacher.

Learning Logs

All Y1 children will be receiving a 'Learning Log'. The aim of this is to update you on what the children have been learning at school and will give you some ideas of activities you might want to do together at home. They will be sent out each Thursday and we ask you to return them by the following Tuesday if you have taken part.

Forest Schools

Forest School Sessions have now started for Y1 children next week. Please refer to the letter you have been emailed for further information about these sessions and what your child should wear.

Each class will have their session on the following days:

Ochre – Tuesday

Coral – Wednesday

Violet – Friday

Y2 News

No additional news this week.

Y3 News

Local Area Walks

As part of our geography topic this term, Y3 children will be going on a walk around the local area. If you would like to volunteer to assist us on one of the walks, please email your child's class teacher and they will let you know. Each class will be going on the following dates:

Monday 12th October – Y3AB – abarraclough@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk

Friday 16th October – Y3HB – hbouskill@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk

Monday 19th October – Y3KCB – kcleaves-blake@athelstan.sheffield.sch.uk

Y4 News

Weston Park Museum Visit

As part of our history curriculum learning about the Anglo-Saxons, Y4 would like to visit the Weston Park Museum. A contribution of £9.50 per child is required to cover the cost of the transport and the workshop. Payments should be made through ParentPay as soon as possible before 25th September.

Each class will visit on the following dates:

Y4LG – Friday 2nd October

Y4EM – Friday 2nd October

Y4TB – Friday 9th October

Outdoor Learning

Y4 children will be taking part in outdoor learning sessions. Children will need to bring suitable outdoor clothing and footwear, to change into for these sessions, as they will be taking place outdoors in all weather conditions. The sessions will take place on the following days:

Tuesday 13th October – Y4TB

Wednesday 14th October – Y4LG

Thursday 15th October – Y4EM

Y5 News

Wonder Dome Mobile Planetarium

As part of our science curriculum about space, the Y5 children will be stepping into a Wonder Dome and be transported on a cosmic journey on Monday 19th October. It will be a thrilling adventure exploring the wonders of the Universe. Children will learn about planet formation to the birth and death of stars, from launching rockets to stepping foot on other worlds. A contribution of £5.22 per child is required to cover the cost of the experience. We would be grateful if parents/carers could make a contribution as soon as possible via ParentPay.

Outdoor Learning

Y5 children will be taking part in outdoor learning sessions. Children will need to bring suitable outdoor clothing and footwear, to change into for these sessions, as they will be taking place outdoors in all weather conditions. The sessions will take place on the following days:

Tuesday 20th October – Y5JM

Wednesday 21st October – Y5BT

Thursday 22nd October – Y5JA

Y6 News

Sheffield Blitz Walk

As part of our History topic, Y6 will be visiting Sheffield City Centre, to walk the sites of the Sheffield Blitz. A contribution of £2.00 per child is required to cover the cost of the bus fare. Payment should be made through ParentPay, our online payment system or cash (in a named envelope).

Each class will visit on the dates as follows:

Y6DF – Friday 2nd October

Y6LB – Monday 5th October

Y6GW – Friday 9th October

Height and Weight Screening

The School Nursing team from the Sheffield Children's Hospital will attend school to carry out the height and weight screening, as part of the National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP), during this academic year. If you wish to opt out of this screening, then please send an email to: scn-tr.ncmpoptout@nhs.net before **16th October 2026**.

Please include in your email the following details:

Name of child who you are opting out for

Date of birth of the child

School the child attends

For more information about the programme please visit website:

<https://www.sheffieldchildrens.nhs.uk/services/school-nursing/school-entry-health-screening/> or call

Admin: 0114 3053224 (option 4)

Manor Adventure – Medication Drop-ins.

If your child has any sort of medication, please ensure that you attend one of the Medication Drop-In Sessions on Friday 13th or Monday 16th November at 3:30pm, where Mr Thompson and Mrs Godwin will go through the medication and permission for school staff to administer this while your child is on the residential. Please enter school via the office.



Well done to Green Class who have achieved this week's highest attendance.

Class	This Week's Attendance
Red	97.7%
Green	99.6%
Blue	95.8%
Coral	97%
Ochre	93.8%
Violet	90.3%
Y2AS	97.3%
Y2CL	96.4%
Y2DC	95.5%
Y3AB	99%
Y3HB	97.7%
Y3KCB	98.3%
Y4EM	96.7%
Y4LG	95.7%
Y4TB	97%
Y5BT	94.5%
Y5JA	96.7%
Y5JM	95.2%
Y6DF	91.6%
Y6GW	98.3%
Y6LB	96.2%



Thursday 01.10.2026	Census Day Special Menu
Wednesday 14.10.26	Individual Photographs
Thursday 22.10.26	Non-uniform day for Sheffield Children's Hospital Snowflake Break up for the half term holiday on this day so children will attend on this day
Friday 23.10.26	INSET Day (school closed for children)
Monday 26.10.26	Half term holiday begins
Monday 02.11.26	Children return to school
Friday 06.11.26	Whole School Flu Immunisations