

Akroydon Primary Academy

Weekly Newsletter



Rawson Street North, Boothtown, Halifax, HX3 6PU

W/E 10 January 2020

Akroydon Primary Academy
Rawson Street North
Halifax
HX3 6PU
Tel: 01422 351 291

Term Dates

Close — 20 December 2019

Open — 7 January 2020

Close — 14 February 2020

Open — 24 February 2020

Close — 3 April 2020

Open — 14 April 2020

Close — 7 May 2020

Open — 11 May 2020

Close— 22 May 2020

Open — 1 June 2020

Close— 18 June 2020

Open — 22 June 2020

Close— 17 July 2020

Open — 2 September 2020

To report an absence please select option 1 and leave a message.

A member of the behaviour team will pick it up. If your child is unfortunate enough to get a sickness and diarrhoea bug please keep them tucked up for 48hrs.



Key Dates and Information

CEO follow-up message

Dear Parents/carers

May I draw your attention to an article on the Times Educational Supplement (TES) website, which references the recent Ofsted inspection at Akroydon? I was approached by a TES reporter because Trinity Trust is a high performing group of schools and they wanted my view on the new Ofsted inspection framework. I didn't think the story would gain any significant traction, but apparently it is the most read story on the TES global website today, and I have been approached by several leading educationalists who are in full support of my views. I therefore thought it prudent to ensure that all our parents/carers were also aware of the story, and why it appeared.

I was clear and to the point – the new framework, even in its early days, does not give the credit it should for real improvements made in schools in more challenging circumstances. I know journalists use a bit of creative license at times, omitting bits and pieces and making more of certain phrases, but the gist of the published story is accurate. I wanted to make the point that the achievements made at Akroydon over the last couple of years, that everyone has contributed towards and all can be really proud of, should have been recognised. My main issue is that my early experience of this new framework (and I have been through more than 50 altogether in my career, without ever feeling the same way) is that it sees education through a middle class perspective. It doesn't give credit to children who make remarkable progress from joining reception – quite often below the national average – and leave Y6 well above it.

I have worked in schools that serve socio-economically deprived areas for more than 25 years. People often ask what that (socio-economically deprived) means – to put it simply, for a school, it means that the cohort admitted into reception classes each year (or Y7 classes, in the case of a secondary school), is significantly below the national average with regard to both academic ability and social development (at that age, compared to their peers nationally). Those statistics are factual, and are produced by such schools each year. They are of course based on the cohort average, rather than a reflection on any individual child. My decision to work in schools like those in the Trinity Trust is a conscious one, made because the impact of a great school in those areas is magnified by the incredible ability you can unleash from the local young people. Only this week Trinity Academy Halifax, which serves a similar area to Akroydon, became the only school in Calderdale to achieve 'World Class Status.' Indeed, only about 70 schools nationally have such an award and there are about 14,000 institutions. That award, more than any other, is given because of the talent and attitude of the young people who attend. It is what is possible when we all pull together and achieve what wasn't thought possible before.

I may have gambled a bit going for Ofsted in such a public way, but I strongly believe that our story – the Akroydon story – is an important story to tell. I am fiercely proud of this school's improvements and so, on behalf of our pupils, parents and staff, I decided to say so.

Michael Gosling, CEO – Trinity MAT

Attendance

1st	Birch	100%
2nd	Juniper	98 %
3rd	Hawthorn	98 %
4th	Holly	97 %
5th	Hazel	97 %
6th	Linden	97 %
7th	Maple	96 %
8th	Oak	96%
9th	Beech	95%
10th	Ash	95 %
11th	Willow	95 %
12th	Yew	94 %
13th	Elm	89 %

This weeks class with the top attendance is **Birch**
Well done!



Mathletics Champions

Congratulations to this week's Mathletics Champions:
KS1 - Wyatt Chapman, Birch

KS2 - Laura Tarchala, Holly

Parent Assembly Dates

All parents assemblies will start at 2.50pm, please enter through the main reception.

Friday 17 Jan—Oak

Friday 31 Jan—Maple

Friday 7 Feb—Ash

Thurs 13 Feb—Hazel Rock

Bottom Performance

Friday 14 Feb—Holly Rock

Bottom Performance



Star of the Week w/e 20 December

KS1

Ash— Finlae Briggs
Beech— Eliza Joyce
Birch— Wyatt Chapman
Elm— Bobby Brown
Hawthorn— Molly Dent

KS2

Hazel— Freddie Fairhurst
Holly— Beatrix Wood
Juniper— Nathan Flather
Linden— Amelia Harris
Maple— Aston Louch
Oak— Angelika Gajer
Willow— Aanjan
Mahmood
Yew— Danielle Milne



Sports Stars

KS1

Taylah Mai Dougherty-Howard, Elm
Dylan Cooper, Birch

KS2

Cole Seabourne, Linden
Charlie Turner, Maple

Well done!



Accelerated Readers

Well done to all of our Accelerated Readers. The stars of the week are:

1st—An Qi Guo, Willow

2nd—Alicja Lapacz, Oak

3rd—Daniel Poole, Willow



After-School Clubs—this half term

Thank you to all those who have signed up for one of our extra-curricular clubs this term. There are now limited spaces available but if you would like your child to join a club please contact Mr McGrath.



Year 4 Swimming—Mondays, 9am

A reminder that Year 4 will continue swimming, every Monday. Leaving the academy at 9.00am.

Book Fair— Wednesday 5 February—Wednesday 12 February

From Wednesday 5 February, we are excited to welcome Scholastic Book Fair to school. This pop-up book shop will be a great celebration of reading, give you the perfect opportunity to browse books with your child. With over 200 of the newest and the best children's books available – each chosen by Scholastic's expert book buyers – there will be something to catch the eye of even the most reluctant reader. You'll find a wide range of books suitable for your child's age-range and the school can earn **free books** for every book that's bought. Further information to follow.



Upcoming Trips

A reminder that if you have a trip this term you can pay for this on the MCAS browser page, by adding the trip to your basket. If you have any issues please contact the office for assistance.

Trips this term:

Yorkshire Wildlife, Hawthorn—Tuesday 14 January
Yorkshire Wildlife, Elm—Thursday 16 January
Jorvik, Juniper—Monday 20 January
Jorvik, Linden— Tuesday 21 January
Anti-bullying Ambassadors, Hull—Wednesday 22 January
Murton Park, Holly—Wednesday 22 January
Murton Park, Hazel—Friday 24 January



Year 5 Business and Enterprise Week

Year 5 will be embarking on their business journeys in week 3 of this term, Monday 20 January. After the huge success in Year 6, we can't wait to see what our entrepreneurs in Year 5 create. If there are any parents, or if you know anyone, who would be willing to come and discuss their business journey with Year 5 on Monday 20 January, please contact Mr McGrath. A big thank you to those parents who have already volunteered to help.



Free School Meals & Pupil Premium

Is your child entitled to a Free School Meal which could save you £418 a year?

Is your child entitled to Pupil Premium Funding which could give your school up to £2300 to provide the best learning opportunities and support with their education?

Free School Meal & Pupil Premium application forms are available from the school office to ensure that you and your child are getting the best financial and educational support.

