



# Aintree Davenhill Primary School Newsletter

Friday 14  
February  
2025

## 2M Class Assembly

We had another fantastic assembly from 2M last week which was all about two really important women in history, Mary Seacole and Florence Nightingale.

It was lovely to hear about two women who are famous for being kind and caring for others. The children spoke so well as a class and in small groups, and we could tell how much they had enjoyed their history lessons. Well done to 2M not only for a fantastic assembly but for being 'famous' in Aintree Davenhill for being such a kind and friendly class!

## 3H Class Assembly

We have had so many amazing assemblies this half-term and 3H ended the half-term in style with their assembly about the Stone Age. Everyone really enjoyed their performance because the children put so much enthusiasm into how they shared the knowledge they had gained from their history lessons. We loved their Stone Age song and were really impressed with how clearly the children spoke. Well done, 3H! We are really proud of you!

A huge thank you to all the teachers and TAs who have helped the children prepare for their assemblies this half-term!

## Dates for the diary...

### February

#### HALF TERM

Mon 17th - Fri 21st

#### Monday 24th

INSET Day

#### Friday 28th

KS2 Choir begins

### March

#### Monday 3rd

Year 6 Parents Evening  
Only

#### Thursday 6th

World Book Day

#### Friday 7th

5B Assembly

#### Thursday 13th

1J Assembly

#### Friday 21st

4S Assembly

#### Thursday 27th

1A Assembly

## Happy Holidays!

The children have worked really hard this half-term and it's amazing once again to be half-way through this school year. They deserve a lovely holiday and so do all of the staff, who have also worked really hard this half-term.

When we return to school on Tuesday 25 February 2025, our behaviour focus for the half-term will be about how we should speak to each other (children and all adults). We would really appreciate you speaking to the children about this at home as we have had a growing number of unkind comments between children, and inappropriate responses to adults when the children have been given an instruction.

We appreciate you supporting our behavior focus.

## TT Rock Stars

A huge well done to all who took part in our Inter-House TT Rock Stars Battle. A whopping 75000+ questions were answered by both KS1 and KS2.

Entering the final hours of the battle, it was extremely close at the top with both MILL and VALLEY in with a chance of winning. After a closely fought battle, VALLEY were crowned the winning house.

Our individual winners for Key Stage 2 were Oliver, Mikey and Maisie and for Key Stage 1, Penelope, Sebastian and Fraser.



Look out on Class Dojo as we will be posting lots of photographs from our Rock Star Day! Well done, everybody!



## Football Tournament

Congratulations to our girls' football team who finished runner up in the MADCOS five-a-side tournament today. After losing the first game, the team went on to win their next five games scoring plenty of goals. They showed fantastic team work, determination and skill to finish as high as they could in the group.

Thank you to the parents who were able to help with both transporting the team to the event and supporting them as they played.



## Cross Country

On Saturday 1st February, some of our children took part in the Merseyside Cross Country Championships, held at Merchant Taylor's Playing Fields. We had representatives from Year 5 and 6 as well one child from Year 4 (Mylo). All children ran brilliantly and can be extremely proud of their achievements. As a result of their finishing position, it has been confirmed that three of our children have been selected to represent the Merseyside Cross Country team in the upcoming National Primary Schools' Cross Country Finals. Well done to Mason, Isla and Halle.



## Amazing Achievements

Well done to Jax in 5C who took part in a World Kickboxing tournament in Barnsley on Sunday. All of Jax's hardwork and training paid off and he achieved second place in the 9-11 age category.



**A fantastic achievement, Jax!**

Well done to Bella in 2M who has also been working really hard in her free time and has been competing in cheerleading competitions across the UK. She performed recently in Blackpool.



**Well done Bella!**

It is fantastic to hear the great things that are happening both inside and outside of school!

## Discount Code

We have been offered an exclusive offer of 10% off our uniform at [www.myclothing.com](http://www.myclothing.com)

**CODE = UNIFORM10%**

**EXPIRES = 31/03/2025**

## Polite Reminders

### **Smoking**

Smoking or vaping is not permitted anywhere on our School Grounds. If anyone is seen smoking or vaping you will be politely asked to leave. Thank you

### **School Car Park**

Please can we ask that you do not use the car park to drop off late children or any items your child may have forgotten. The car park can get extremely congested and only those parents who have prior permission from Miss Clay are allowed access to the Car Park. Thank you

## The Gambian Schools' Trust

At Aintree Davenhill, we are extremely fortunate to have a wealth of educational resources and equipment available to the children. As we strive to improve and provide our children with the highest quality of education, we are always looking for new ways to do things and updating areas of school, which means that we ultimately have equipment and resources that is surplus to use or outdated. So that these resources do not go to waste, we have teamed up with The Gambian Schools' Trust who are extremely grateful for any resources and equipment that we have available to donate.

Last summer, we donated some of the dining room tables that were no longer required and a significant number of books and teaching resources that are not relevant for our curriculum, which will be of great use to the children attending school in The Gambia. Further information about the trust can be found at <https://www.gambianschools.org/>.



## House Team Competition

This week, the winning team was **ABBEY!** Well done!



1. **ABBEY** (3298 points)
2. **VALLEY** (3235 points)
3. **ROSE** (3004 points)
4. **MILL** (2971 points)



## Team Around the School

Janie Cowley, an Early Help Worker, will be in school every Wednesday. If any parents would like to drop in and ask for any help or support, Janie would be more than happy to speak to you.

## Punctuality is the First Step Towards Success!

Being punctual and on time is one of life's most important qualities, whether you're a child, adult, teacher or parent. It shows you are reliable, dependable, can be trusted and demonstrates respect to other people and for their time.

We are very concerned by the number of children who are late to school and arrive at the school office each morning rather than entering school via the playground. So far this half-term, we have had more than 260 incidents of lateness.

The start of the school day is one of the busiest times of day, and the office administrators are struggling to manage taking all of the children down to their classes whilst supervising visitors and answering phone calls.

Admittedly, modern day living can provide many challenges and, as a school community, we are aware of this. There are occasions when things can get stressful, things go wrong, or unforeseen circumstances can cause a family to be a few minutes late. However, our role as educators, in partnership with parents, is to also prepare children for the next step in their school careers and beyond. This means young people need to value the importance of being on time.

There is a lot of published material on the benefits of being punctual, especially for school, and also relating to the implications of being late.

### **Being on time:**

- Helps young people to be organised;
- Helps to build children's confidence;
- Reduces stress and anxiety;
- Maintains and improves academic achievement;
- Helps young people to maintain their routine and focus;
- Enables children and adults to start the day settled, ready and relaxed;
- Is a sign of respect;
- Allows others (including school staff) to use their time wisely and efficiently.
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### **Impact on children who are late:**

- Unfortunately, but understandably, there are a number of negative consequences for children who arrive late to school:
- Arriving late can cause some children to feel very anxious as they go into the classroom by themselves once everyone else is settled, calm and working.
- Key learning time will be missed. Class teachers or teaching assistants may have also planned to work with a child in an intervention group during registration time, but if they are late, they miss out on this.
- Children may miss the all-important start of the first lesson. Without question, class teachers will then repeat their delivery to the late child which inevitably interrupts the flow of the lesson and the teacher's aims and ambitions for other individuals.

Below is a chart highlighting how much learning time might be missed in extreme cases:

<b>Minutes late everyday</b>	<b>Total learning time lost each year</b>
5 minutes everyday	3.4 days
10 minutes everyday	6.9 days
15 minutes everyday	10.3 days
20 minutes everyday	13.8 days
30 minutes everyday	20.7 days

### **Helpful tips and guidance to improve punctuality**

- Be aware that on rainy days, there will be more traffic on the roads delaying journey times. Consider leaving the house 10-15 minutes earlier on these days.
- If children are oversleeping or getting up late, try putting them to bed an hour earlier each night for a week. Reduce screen time before bedtime by up to an hour.
- In terms of the recommended hours of sleep for young children, 3-5 year olds should be getting 10-13 hours each night and 6-12 year olds should be getting 9-12 hours each night
- Uniforms, lunches, homework and bags could be organised the previous evening to save time in the morning.
- Establish morning routines to help children know what to do and in which order. This enables them to become more independent too. Visual prompts can help.
- Provide a motivation for leaving the house early in the mornings, e.g. scoot or cycle, walking with friends and family, etc.

**After half-term, if you arrive at the school office because your child is late to school, we will now be asking you to wait with them until a member of staff is available to take a group of children down to class.**

### **Sefton Social Care Advice Line for SEND**

In recognition that families of children and young people with complex needs and special educational needs often need a bit more support, Sefton has launched a Social Care Advice Line for SEND.

This advice line is staffed by two experienced social workers with a good knowledge of the Local Offer in Sefton. Parents are invited to use this phone number to find out more about what a Social Care assessment for a child entails to help families make an informed decision before approaching Social Care, and to talk about what other help might be available. Voicemails will be responded to within 7 days at which point the social worker will return the call for a discussion.

The telephone number for our Social Care Advice Line for SEND is **0151 934 2196**.

The social workers will not create a referral or record any family details when families ring for advice using this phone number.

## Goodbye

We say goodbye to Mrs Newman today as she begins her maternity leave. We know that she is sad to be leaving 3N and school but it won't be too long before she is going to be extremely busy looking after her new baby! We are looking forward to seeing Mrs Newman and the new addition to her family very soon! We wish her and Mr Newman all the very best.

We also say goodbye to Miss Murray today as she starts a new role in a different school after half-term. We hope that she enjoys her new role and we are grateful for how well she has supported all of the children she has worked with throughout her time at Aintree Davenhill.

## Donate Clothes for Sammy

### **Thank You for Your Generosity: A Huge Success for the "Donate Clothes for Sammy" Initiative**

On behalf of the PTA, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all pupils, staff, friends, and family who contributed to our recent clothing donation drive in support of the Leukaemia & Myeloma Research UK's "Donate Clothes for Sammy" fundraising initiative. Your generosity and enthusiasm have made a tremendous impact, and we are deeply grateful for your support.

Thanks to your kind donations, not only are we helping raise vital funds for medical research that will contribute to fighting leukaemia and myeloma, but we're also doing our part to protect the environment. Recycling clothing is an important step in reducing waste and conserving resources, and your contributions have been a powerful reminder of how small actions can make a big difference.

We are delighted to announce that our school has raised **£195.25** through your donations! These funds will directly benefit our students by supporting essential school trips, providing much-needed iPads for learning, and enhancing our fantastic outdoor area. It is with your ongoing support that our school community continues to thrive, and we are truly grateful for each and every one of you who took part in this important initiative.

Thank you again for your generosity and for helping us make such a positive impact.

