

Andover Way  
Middlesbrough  
TS8 9HL

**Tel:** 01642 591053

**Email:** office@viewleyhill.org.uk

**www.viewleyhillacademy.co.uk**

**Head Teacher:** Mrs Helen Malbon



# AUTUMN 1 2017 NEWSLETTER

## Welcome Back

The first week has flown by! It has been wonderful to see the children settling into their new classes and getting to know new teachers and, in some cases, classmates too. Thank you for making sure the children have been well prepared to return to school – they all look great in their new uniforms and shoes. Please do make sure you label everything (including PE kits) so that we can keep lost property to a minimum.

## Settling in

Please remember that your child's class teacher is the first port of call if you have any concerns about your child, their work or their friendships. Class teachers are usually available at the end of the day on the school playgrounds and will have a little time to talk. You can also leave a message at reception for a class teacher to contact you which they will do when they get the opportunity. If your class teacher feels it appropriate they may ask Mrs Scaife (KS2 Leader) or Mrs Gardiner (KS1 Leader) to talk with you. Mrs Scaife and Mrs Gardiner can offer further advice and support to solve any problems or concerns. As last year, our first consultation evenings will take place this half term so that you get an early opportunity to meet the teachers and talk about how your child is settling in. Please see diary dates overleaf.

## Logo and Vision Refresh

During the summer term we asked you, the children, staff and governors about our vision for the next stage of our journey as a school. As a result of that we have refreshed our Vision Statement and also enhanced our school logo adding the friendly kite above and the strapline 'Awakening Curiosity; Creating Success'. We think this strapline summarises what we are passionate about here at Viewley Hill and the kite illustrates the idea of curiosity, fun and exploration.

### Our Vision

- ✓ We aim to see Viewley Hill at the heart of our community where every child and family is safe, valued and welcomed.

- ✓ We aim to promote, curiosity, independence and resilience; skills which will encourage our children to become life-long learners.
- ✓ We aim to inspire each child to believe in their own potential and provide them with skills they need for their future.
- ✓ We aim to ensure the child's voice is heard and encourage each one to contribute fully to the life of our school.
- ✓ We aim to provide an engaging and challenging curriculum which meets the needs of our children and enriches their experience of the world.
- ✓ We aim to support our children in becoming responsible and considerate young people.

The children have been asked to come up with a name for the kite which we hope to decide on soon! The uniform is not changing as the core logo is exactly the same. The kite and strapline will be added to letters, posters and signs over time and we may in the future look to adding to school jumpers.

## Excellent Results!

Our school performance continues to go from strength to strength and I am delighted to tell you that our outcomes at the end of Reception, KS1 and KS2 have again improved on previous years. This is because of the hard work and positive attitudes of the children, the excellent teaching of the whole staff and your support at home. The current national curriculum and testing arrangements are extremely tough and it is so pleasing that our children do as well and, in some measures, better than other pupils nationally so that they can move onto their next classes or next schools ready to be successful. Well done everyone!

## Twitter

Attached to this letter is a permission form for using children's photographs on the school's Twitter account. If you use Twitter, please follow us! We need your permission to share a photograph which may be to celebrate an achievement or show off something interesting happening in school. The purpose of the Twitter account is to promote the super work at

**Awakening Curiosity; Creating Success.**

Andover Way  
Middlesbrough  
TS8 9HL

Tel: 01642 591053

Email: office@viewleyhill.org.uk

www.viewleyhillacademy.co.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs Helen Malbon



# AUTUMN 1 2017 NEWSLETTER

Viewley Hill with other schools and educational settings as well as family and friends. Once completed, the form will be added to your child's personal file which is updated annually at autumn consultations.

## Clubs & Pupil Premium

After school clubs are starting again on the 18<sup>th</sup> September. As always we have some clubs that are completely free and some clubs that have a small charge. If your child is in receipt of pupil premium you may request a 50% reduction in the charges for after school clubs. Please speak to Mrs Moore if you would like to take up this offer.

## Attendance and Punctuality

Our attendance target for last year was 96.5% and we just narrowly missed it with 96.4%! Thank you for all your support towards this. We are aiming again for 96.5%. Please remember that the threshold for persistent absence is 90%. This is a government threshold and is the level at which legal proceedings can be started in relation to poor attendance. We will contact you if your child's attendance falls below 95% to ensure that attendance improves. We will be continuing with our weekly class rewards, half termly '100%' parties and termly 'school target' rewards. Please remember that registers close at 9:10am. Children must be in school by 8:50am and arrivals after that time are classed as late. A child arriving after 9:10am is marked as absent which affects their overall attendance. Please ensure that children are on time for school every day.

## Holidays in Term Time

Please note that it continues to be school policy that leave of absence in term time **will not be authorised except in exceptional circumstances**. This is in line with government legislation. It is essential that you inform school if you plan to take a holiday during term time and complete a request form as any unexplained absence cannot be authorised. We do frequently become aware of reasons for absence through conversations in the playground and also through the children, so please do be open with us and complete a request form. It is important that we know where

children are when they are not at school to avoid us reporting a child to the Local Authority as 'missing from education'.

Further information about our attendance policy can be found on the website and also in our shorter parents' guide which is available at the school office.

## Bikes, Scooters, Phones & Uniform

Children and adults must not ride bikes or scooters anywhere on the school site; this includes younger siblings coming with parents to collect brothers and sisters. This is because the playgrounds are busy and crowded at the start and end of the day and we want to avoid accidents.

**Please also note that mobile phones should not be used or visible at all when you are in school. If you visit a class for any reason, phones must be on silent, out of sight and must not be used until you have left the school. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.**

Jewellery and nail varnish are not allowed. If your child has pierced ears, earrings must be small, discrete gold or silver studs and must be removed for PE. School staff are not allowed to remove earrings so please make sure this is done before your child comes to school. Please do not 'jazz up' the uniform with decorative hair accessories or colourful and patterned socks and tights. Thank you.

## Dates for the Diary

*Please check the website and the school app for updates/changes and additions to these dates.*

|                          |                               |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 11 <sup>th</sup> Sept    | Y2 Trip to Danby              |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> Sept    | Y1 Trip to Danby              |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept    | Y6 Trip to Eden Camp          |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> Sept    | Clubs start                   |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> Sept    | Y5 Family Friday              |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Oct      | Parent Consultations          |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Oct      | Parent Consultations          |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> October  | School closed PD Day          |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> October | Y3/4 Mrs Lockey Family Friday |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> October | Harvest Festival              |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> October | Last day (half term)          |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> October | School re-opens               |

**Awakening Curiosity; Creating Success.**