



Friday 29th September 2023

Dear parents/carers,

I hope you have all had good weeks and that the children have enjoyed the many learning opportunities within their classrooms. Please find below the usual round up of news and information.

Congratulations to Platts Heath

Yesterday Mr Waters shared some good news on behalf of Platts Heath - they are now a fully accredited nurture school. They are the second of the Aspire schools to gain this accreditation with Leeds and Broomfield being awarded it last year.

It means that all at Platts Heath have worked hard to make sure that all children are supported in a nurturing environment,

A big thank you to Mrs Morley, Mrs Russell, Mr Waters and all other staff involved in the application, training and assessment

Maidstone Literacy Festival

We have received the below information about the Maidstone literacy festival - which looks like an exciting family event.

Hot on the heels of the Summer Reading Challenge, we wanted to let you know about the upcoming Maidstone LitFest, just in case you hadn't spotted it! We are very excited to be a part of Maidstone's first ever literary festival, and there are some super authors involved. The Kent History and Library Centre is involved, and have some fun events for all ages.

To find out more, or book tickets, visit - <https://www.maidstonelitfest.org/>

Maidstone LitFest Events for Little Ones

Join us for free author workshops for pre-school aged children

Tuesday to Thursday 3 – 5 October

Kent History and Library Centre in Maidstone

Tuesday 3 October - 10.30am – 11.30am - Meet Afua Kesewa Akoto and hear

'Titi Wants a New Tutu'

Tuesday 3 October – 11.30am – 12.30pm – Meet Elisa Peacock and hear

'The Bum that Barked'

Wednesday 4 October – 10.30am – 11.30am – Meet Nicola Parkhouse and hear

'Where is Maggie's Moo'

Thursday 5 October – 10.30am – 11.30am – Meet KD Greaves and hear

'Grandma Georgia's Amazing Handbag'

Maidstone LitFest Events for Children

Join us for free author workshops for children

Saturday 7 October

Kent History and Library Centre in Maidstone

10.30am – 11.30am - Meet Stuart Heritage and hear him read his picture book

'Don't Say Elephant'

Suitable for children up to 9 years old

11.30am – 12.30pm - Meet J C Clarke and hear her read from her new book

'Prophecy'

Followed by an interactive talk about this and her popular book 'Spellboda'

Suitable for children 8 years and over

Crafts activities available all morning to keep the whole family entertained!

Letter from Annie Allum

Please find a letter sent out with this one from Annie Allum, Chair of Governors for the Aspire Federation.

Sadly as leaders we have been faced with an increasing number of parents and other visitors who find it acceptable to be disrespectful and at times aggressive. We do understand you are passionate about your children, however we do not come to work to be treated poorly, and I would ask that you treat my staff with respect, as I would expect them to give you. Issues are usually much better handled and sorted when the conversation is calm and actions can be agreed on.

We do have the right to ban any parent or visitor from the school premises if behaviour is not acceptable and we will when necessary. I would prefer not to use this measure as it also affects the children.

Thank you for your understanding. If you remain unhappy with how any issue is addressed please do contact me in writing by email at exehead@aspire-kent.org, during working hours of 8am - 5pm Monday to Friday

Wishing you all pleasant family weekends

Kind regards,

Emma Hickling
Executive Headteacher