

Friday 19th November 2021

Dear parents/ carers,

We have reached the end of another busy week and seem to be very quickly approaching December and all that entails! I am writing this week with an exciting announcement and the usual news and information.

An Award for Aspire



**We are delighted to announce that the
ASPIRE Federation
has been awarded the
Kent School's Resilience and Emotional Wellbeing
Award!**



**Congratulations to pupils and staff for all their hard
work!**

**KCC will be presenting the Federation with the award on
22nd November 2021.**

This award has been given to all four schools in the Federation and we have each been awarded a plaque to display at school. The award ceremony will be held on Monday 22nd November at Kingswood, with the other schools being present via Google Meet.

Huge thanks has to go to Mrs Sanchez for her work on wellbeing which has been the main reason we have won this award, together with the efforts from the children and staff, we can all be very proud!

Projects

Aspire this year are involved or will be involved in a number of projects which will help us to further improve the quality of education with our schools. These projects are as follows:

- Number sense - developing the understanding of number in the Early years
- NELI - Nuffield Early Language Intervention - developing language in the Early years
- Teaching for mastery - a programme to develop a mastery understanding in maths, with a focus on number and the idea of teaching less but deeper.
- Nurture schools - Leeds and Broomfield are undertaking this 18 month training to become accredited through VSK, the other Aspire schools are going to join a KCC funded course to do the same
- Inclusion leadership project - this is through LLSE (Leadership Learning South East) it is a programme of inter school deep dives into inclusion so that we can develop our provision further
- Trauma informed schools - Ulcombe are undertaking this training via the Diocese (Church of England)

If you have any questions about any of the projects please talk to your head of school.

Anti-Bullying week

The focus of this year's anti-bullying week has been Kindness. Some of the children have chosen to fill in a seven days of kindness diary listing the ways they have been kind to others and to themselves. We have all been talking about the value of respect and how we can show each other respect at school and at home.

Children in Need



On my way to school this morning, I was listening to the radio and heard the Children in Need single, a cover of Fleetwood Mac's Everywhere by Anne Marie and Niall Horan. I enjoyed it and have downloaded it, therefore, making a donation to Children in Need. Perhaps you would like to do the same!

In school the children are enjoying non uniform days and other activities to raise money for Children in Need. Thank you for your support.

Christmas

This Christmas we will be putting on nativities, carol concerts and other celebrations. Please look out for information from your school regarding performance and church services.

I hope you have all had good weeks. Thank you to the support of Platts Heath parents on Monday, when the staff attended Miss Killick's funeral. It was a very sad occasion but I was pleased the whole team could be together.

Wishing you all relaxing family weekends,

Kind regards,

Emma Hickling
Executive Headteacher
Aspire Federation