
Ackton Pastures Primary Academy

Part of the Inspire Partnership Multi-Academy Trust

College Grove,
Castleford,
West Yorkshire
WF10 5NS
Telephone: 01977 802322

Email: ap-enquiries@inspirepartnership.org.uk



Headteacher: Mr C. Ivel
Chair of Governors: Mrs H. Causier
Designated Safeguarding Leads: Mr C. Ivel
Miss C. Woodhouse, Miss R. Lynch
Mrs D. White, Miss S Naylor

'Children at the heart; inspiring futures'

Friday 11th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our first full week back in school has been wonderful. Children are settling in so well to their new classes and I know how hard teachers found choosing their star of the week as there were a lot of children to choose from! It was wonderful to welcome so many of you into school for our first celebration assembly this morning and a reminder to please send any out of school achievements you would like us to celebrate to the office email address by Thursday morning.

Uniform Reminders:

Miss Woodhouse has reshared our uniform policy this week on Class Dojo. Please could I ask that parents support with ensuring children are dressed in the correct uniform for school, this helps us create a sense of belonging and pride amongst children and sets them up in good routines for the future.

After School Clubs.

As part of our weekly development meeting, teachers spent some time planning our club offer for this year and the office will be making the Autumn term club bookings live from 3pm today. Clubs will run in 8 week blocks starting the week of the 28th September 2026 until week commencing 23rd November. They will finish at 4:15pm. I am pleased to see our teachers are offering such a fantastic range of opportunities for the children to develop new interests and skills and we have detailed these below:

Day	Year Group/Key Stage	Club	Start date
Monday	Years 3 and 4	Sculpture Club (Mrs Turfrey)	28 September 2026
Wednesday	KS2	Cooking Club (Miss Naylor)	30 September 2026
Wednesday	Years 5 and 6	Football Club (Mr Smith)	30 September 2026
Wednesday	Reception and Year 1	Sketching (Miss Briscoe)	30 September 2026

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Wednesday	Years 1 and Year 2	Spanish Club (Miss Moorby)	30 September 2026
Thursday	Years 1 and 2	Art Hub Club (Miss Nalson)	1 October 2026
Thursday	Years 1 and 2	Musical Theatre (Miss Gibbins)	1 October 2026

We have had lots of questions regarding Elite clubs for this year. Due to the government cutting all schools Sports Premium funding, school has been unable to renew the contract with Elite this year so Elite clubs will not be available at Ackton. We hope children find something of interest in our clubs offer and a reminder clubs are offered on a first come, first served basis. If you are unable to book your child on to a club, it is because the club is full. Please do contact the office for further information. Please also find attached to this newsletter, a leaflet with some information about a new local Football club we have been asked to share with you.

A reminder about consent forms

The office have been busy distributing our consent forms we require from parents, predominantly via Arbor. A reminder that consent is needed for our Y5/6 children to walk home/bring a mobile phone to school. We will also be sending home our home school agreement to parents next week for you to acknowledge, which outlines the expectations of school and home to best support your children.

Attendance

May I thank parents for such a positive start to the year with attendance and punctuality. Our whole school attendance has sat above our target of 97% for most of this week. Morning sessions are crucial at school as children spend time completing their one life routine first thing and then get straight into their core subject learning. Missing these vital sessions can mean children fall behind in their learning. A huge thank you to you all for starting strong habits with the children. Should your child be absent from school for any reason, please remember to contact the school office as soon as possible.

Allergies.

You may be aware of the changes to recent legislation linked to allergies and Benedicts Law coming into effect to ensure the management/response to allergies is clear. Schools have been busy behind the scenes making the necessary changes and are currently in the process of contacting all parents of children with identified allergies to ensure our paper work is current and up to date. It is essential that if your child has any diagnosed or suspected allergy you alert the school office immediately so the correct paperwork can be completed.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Advance notice that we will be holding our annual Macmillan Coffee morning, as part of our Celebration assembly, on Friday 25th September. This will take place just inside the main entrance and will help raise vital funds for such an important cause

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to many of us. Please could we ask for any donations of cakes, biscuits or treats for us to sell as part of this? These can be brought to the main school office during that week. We thank you in advance for your support of this.

Instagram:

We are delighted that our new instagram page is up and running and we were excited to share pictures of our newly created Library space this week. A new consent has been added to Arbor today, please can all parents ensure they have given consent if they are happy for photos of their child to be shared on Instagram as we are hoping to start posting lots more school activities on here once staff have completed relevant training. In the meantime, please do give our page a follow, should you be an instagram user, by searching for ‘acktonpasturesprimary’.

PTA Meeting:

We are delighted to let you know that the PTA for Ackton Pastures is being reestablished this year. The group is a group of school parents that work together to raise vital money for school and put on school events. Mrs Peters and Mrs Chester have organised a meeting to invite new parents to join the PTA. The meeting will take place at 3.30pm on Monday 21st September in school. We would love to see any parents who could contribute some time or energy to supporting the group, at this meeting. Please head to the main office on the day and Mrs Peters will meet you there. We kindly ask that children do not attend the meeting, if you would like to attend but have problems with childcare, please do contact Mrs Peters, who can often be found in the Y5/6 classrooms at the end of the school day.

Attendance this week	
Reception – Mrs Jackson	99%
Reception – Mr Smith	98%
Year 1 – Miss Wilson	96%
Year 1/2 – Mrs Turfrey	97%
Year 2 – Miss Moorby	★ 100% ★
Year 3 – Miss Briscoe	99%
Year 3/4 - Miss Naylor	98%
Year 4 – Miss Stanton	94%
Year 5 – Miss Gibbins	99%
Year 5/6 – Mrs Longoni	98%
Year 6 – Miss Lynch	99%

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Finally, a reminder of our key dates for this academic year which are attached to the bottom of this newsletter. School will update you closer to the time of specific details.

It has been wonderful to hear so much positive feedback on how your children have settled into the academic year. A reminder to please speak to class teachers in the first instance with any problems or queries you may have; a member of the leadership team can often be found on the school gates in the morning and after school should you need us.

Have a wonderful weekend and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday,

Mr Ivel

Headteacher

Ackton Pastures Primary Academy Diary 2026-27

<u>September</u>		<u>October</u>	
1st	Inset day	1st	KS1 Harvest visit to church

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2nd 15th 25th 30th	School opens Bonfire Talk Macmillan Coffee morning Flu immunisations (Rec - Y6)	6th 9th 19th 20th 21st 23rd	Maths open morning for parents Non-uniform - 'Hello yellow awareness' Individual photographs Parents' evening Parents' evening Break up for Half term
<u>November</u>		<u>December</u>	
2nd 3rd 4th 20th	School Reopens EYFS/KS1 Halloween disco KS2 Halloween disco Non-uniform - bring a bottle	2nd 7th 8th 9th 10th 10th 11th 15th 16th 18th	Reception advent visit to church Christmas Fair KS1 Nativity KS1 Nativity Christmas jumper day Reception Nativity Reception Nativity Y3 & Y4 Christmas extravaganza Y5 & Y6 Christmas Extravaganza Reindeer Run Christmas Movie afternoon Break up for Christmas
<u>January</u>		<u>February</u>	
4th 19th 29th	School reopens Reading open morning for parents Y5/6 showcase afternoon	5th 9th 10th 12th 12th 22nd 23rd 25th	Year 1&2 Showcase Afternoon EYFS/KS1 Valentines Disco KS2 Valentines Disco Year 3&4 Showcase afternoon Non uniform Candlelighters fundraiser Break up for half term Inset Day School Reopens Young Voices
<u>March</u>		<u>April</u>	
1st -4th 4th 23rd-24th 23rd 24th 25th 25th	Bookfair after school World Book Day Y4 Residential to Dearne Valley Parents' evening Parents' evening Easter Raffle 4front Easter Production (Reception-Y6) Break up for half term	12th	School Reopens
<u>May</u>		<u>June</u>	
3rd 6th 10th-13th 14th 20th	Bank Holiday Class Photographs SATS week Ice Cream van for Y6 Non uniform Diabetes Fundraiser	14th 18th 28th	Return to school Non uniform day - Bring a bottle Summer Fair

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21st 28th 28th	Inset Day Colour run Break up for half term		
<u>July</u>			
1st 2nd 6th 8th 13th 14th 15th 19th-21st 23rd 23rd	Sports Day EYFS/KS1 Sports Day KS2 Results Day Reception - Swithens Farm Year 6 Production 1:30pm Year 6 Production 9:30am Y1 & Y2 - Yorkshire Wildlife Park Year 6 Residential to Newby Wiske Hall Year 6 Leavers Assembly Break Up for the Summer Holidays		

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Castleford Football Development



At Castleford Academy (Sports Hall)

Ferrybridge Rd, Castleford, WF10 4JQ

Starting on Wednesday 30th September 2026

In association with First Kick Football



School years - Reception & Year 1

6:00pm - 6:45pm

School years - Year 2 & Year 3

6:45pm - 7:30pm

School years - Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6

7:30pm - 8:30pm

Dear parents,

Places are now available to join a new **12-week football course every Wednesday at Castleford Academy**, which is open to both boys and girls.

Our courses teach children correct football techniques by FA qualified coaches who have full DBS (CRB) clearance to work with children. The structure for the course is 'FUN through Football,' building confidence for total beginners and moving onto more complex sessions for experienced players.

We provide a **ball per player** for the majority of our drills ensuring children get more touches of the ball and improve quicker than conventional coaching where children are waiting around to have a turn. The sessions are held in the fantastic sports hall so trainers should be worn. Players are also advised to bring a still drink for the session.

The club has links to local junior teams of which players will be able to play for at the weekend. Players who show advanced ability on the course will be recommended for trials at professional academies. Players who have previously attended courses are currently playing for Bradford City, Sheffield United, Sheffield Wednesday, Manchester United, Liverpool, Leeds United, Everton and Oldham.

The cost of the course is just £6.67 per week, which is payable in two instalments. The first payment of £30 is due when booking your child on and the second payment of £50 due at the first session. Parents are encouraged to watch the sessions but are welcome to leave children, as every session is fully supervised.

****NEW TOURNAMENT FORMAT****

Every four weeks we have a tournament in order for the children to put their new-found skills into practice with medals awarded at the end of the course for various categories.

ALL PLAYERS WILL RECEIVE A TROPHY AND MEDAL at the presentation, which is held on the final week of the course. Additional trophies will also be awarded in each group from categories including; Best Attitude, Star Player, Most Improved Player, Most Promising Player and Hardest Working Player.

To book a place for your child please telephone:

Mackenzie

0113 457 3715 or 07514 316534

www.firstkick.co.uk



We cannot guarantee that the course will run in consecutive weeks
Please note we have a strict no refund policy once the course has been booked

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smilesformilescastleford.co.uk

Spreading Kindness in our Community

We work with local businesses to increase our reach and support more families

How we can help you:

We provide:

- Uniforms free of charge for local schools.
- Essential sleepwear parcels that contain a pair of brand new pyjamas, a blanket and a teddy.
- Bedding, duvets and pillows.
- Hygiene packs (toiletries such as shower gel, deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste, period products).

Need Assistance?
Know Someone
Who Does?



Visit our website to learn more and access our referral form.



facebook.com/smilesformilesabbi

ALL REFERRALS ARE STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Email: smilesformilescastleford@gmail.com
Unit 7 Airedale Business Park, Kershaw Avenue, Castleford, WF10 3ES

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Smiles for Miles is a small charitable group based in Castleford. We run purely on charitable donations and fundraising. We love to work with individuals, groups and businesses in our community to support and empower local children.



WE HAVE TO FUNDRAISE TO BE ABLE TO DO THE WORK WE DO

We take any donations just as a charity shop does and they are used in a variety of ways. We can recycle all of our donations and nothing goes to waste / landfill. We provide our local families with anything they need if we have it. We work with other local groups such as the Clothing bank and the Baby bank and help them with items they put appeals out for. Any miscellaneous items we use for fundraising to raise funds to buy the items we provide.

smilesformilescastleford.co.uk

So you can help by:

Donating items new and used.

Donating school uniforms.

Sponsor a parcel. Our PJ parcels cost around £25 to create.

Hold fundraising events/campaigns such as coffee mornings, yard sales or sponsored events etc.

Raise awareness by inviting people to our Facebook page, share posts, tell everyone you know about our mission to spread kindness.

Donate Using Our Bank Details:

Sort Code: 40-45-11 / Acc No. 82457520