

# Pathways Academy Newsletter

## Message From The Principal

Hello and welcome to our new-look September newsletter! The academic year has got off to a relatively smooth start. Although we have had a few minor hiccups, our new staff have settled in well, and our children continue going from strength to strength. There have been significant improvements already in children's behaviour and children are responding really well to our new PRIDE badge system and team point based system in classes. Our attendance is improving despite a high number of holidays being taken at the beginning of this year by some families. Myself and the rest of the senior leadership team have been in classes a lot and we are seeing a pleasing picture in terms of the quality of teaching and learning which is going on. There have also been a few changes this year. Children are now taught by their class teacher for all lessons rather than going to different teachers of English and maths. We have introduced a new maths curriculum written by our maths leader Miss Parry and this is ensuring that the maths that children are being taught is of a very high quality. We have also introduced reading characters to help children to focus on their reading skills, and this, alongside our Reciprocal Reading approach, is leading to real developments in the quality of reading. We have a new handwriting approach which is leading to great improvements in the quality of presentation. Our new Dimensions curriculum, along with its new characters and themes is being enjoyed by children across the academy. As mentioned above we have introduced our PRIDE badge system and have seen real improvements in attitudes and behaviour. Our website has been updated and we have launched our new online App. Our corridors have been decorated and the next step is to get our new inspirational transfers in place on the corridor walls. Our Parent Teacher Association and our Parent Council are in development, and we now have several enthusiastic parent volunteers working in school. Our new catering provider who began work with us in September is proving to be a real hit with the children. Apart from the minor hiccups mentioned earlier, linked to communication mainly which we are continually working on improving, we are seeing things develop in a really positive way across the academy.



**Chris Walton**  
**Principal**

Thank you for your continued support.

## Pride Badges



Have you had the chance to speak to your child about their PRIDE badge yet? With our new PRIDE badge scheme, children will now be directly rewarded for demonstrating improving attitudes, dispositions and behaviours. They can be awarded the following badges: Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum, Diamond. As part of the PRIDE Badge assembly that takes place every Friday morning there will also be a draw to choose children to go on the Always Trip. 15 children will be chosen from across the academy. If a child has been awarded a bronze badge, their name gets put into the draw once; if they have achieved silver their name gets put into the draw twice; three times for gold; four times for platinum; five times for silver – the higher the badge, the more chance there is to be chosen for the Always Trip!



## Staff News

Please join us in wishing well Kylie Webb and Charlotte Rafferty who will both be going on maternity leave shortly. Also, please join us in welcoming a new clerical officer due to start after the half term, as well as Kate Moore & Joanna Craig who are both joining the academy as support staff. Finally please join us in welcoming Alison Haigh & Sumera Usman who have both joined the academy as maternity cover teachers.



## The Pathways App



Have you downloaded the Pathways APP yet? Browse galleries of photos from around the Academy! Sync up your google or office calendars to our events calendar! View all recent communications and newsletters! Translates news items to over 100 different languages! Never miss a thing! Search for “Pathways” on the app store, or type the below address into your browser!

[jsa4.me/eactpa](http://jsa4.me/eactpa)



## ECERS

In preparation for the Foundation Stage who will be carrying out a project on developing a Secure Attachment Focused Environment (SAFE) this year, this week an ECERS audit was carried out by Sheffield Early Years (A+ Education Ltd) within Pathways Academy's reception unit.



Practitioners were commended on the high quality provision, with particular reference to the quality linked to cultural diversity. Effective and supportive adult interactions with children were also a particular strength.

## Uniform Shop Reminder



Neckerchief (infant): £5.20  
Neckerchief (Junior): £5.60  
Sweatshirt: £7.45  
Jumper: £10.95  
Cardigans: £9.00  
Standard Tie: £3.50  
Elastic Tie: £3.50  
Clip on Tie: £3.50

Uniform can be purchased from uniform shop at the following times:

**Tuesday Afternoons: 2:30pm – 3:30pm**

**Wednesday Afternoons: 2:30pm – 3:30pm**

**Thursday Mornings: 8:30am – 9:30am**

## Parenting Discussion Groups

Parenting Discussion Groups are run by an experienced Parenting Practitioner who used to work at Pathways and is familiar with our parents and the needs of the community. Each session lasts two and a half hours, with the aim being to provide parents with tips and suggestions for dealing with their children's problem behaviour in a relaxed group session. at home. The Discussion Groups will take place monthly on a rolling program throughout the year. To get involved speak to Jane Brailsford (Senior Learning Mentor) who will be happy to give you further information.



## Parent Parking

We are aware that the roads around the Academy can become very busy, especially at the beginning and end of the school day. For the safety of all our children can we remind parents to be considerate when leaving and collecting their child from school and to strictly adhere to parking restrictions which includes: **Not parking in front of the Academy gate, avoiding parking on the yellow lines and not parking in front of residents driveways.** Unfortunately we have had residents from the area coming into the academy making us aware of a lot of incidents recently and in some cases cars are even mounting the kerb. The safety of our children is paramount and we cannot condone this kind of behaviour. We have been in contact with the local parking enforcement agency and asked for their representatives to visit the academy during busy times to enforce the parking regulations. **Bear in mind that it is prohibited to park on the zig zag lines, and doing so can incur a fine of up to £70 which is enforced by the local authority.**

