



Friday 11th January 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back!

You will recall that before Christmas we hosted a review in school as part of our work with the Challenge Partnership. This is the school's first review by an external body since the Ofsted inspection in May 2016 at which the school was judged to be inadequate overall. At the review which took place over 2 days last term the school was evaluated to have moved into the requires improvement category with the improvement strategies we have put into place being judged as good. Whilst this is not an Ofsted inspection it does signal that we are moving in a positive direction. This is a fantastic achievement for the whole school team- pupils, parents, staff and Astrea Trust. Thank you to you all for your continued support over a difficult period in the school's history and I look forward to continuing to build upon this success with your help. I have placed the full report on our website. Please click on this link to access this. <https://www.astreacastle.org/parent-information/inspection-reports/> Highlights from the report for me are:

Teachers know their pupils well, use effective classroom management techniques and lead by example by modelling care and respect at all times. As a result, pupils are enthusiastic about learning, eager to share ideas with their peers and talk confidently about their work with adults.

All pupils work well collaboratively and enjoy learning new things as "it makes them feel smart".

Over the next half term we will be working upon developing our use of questioning in lessons, building children's understanding of their responsibilities as a learner and encouraging children to work hard and be proud of their achievements.

Census Day- Thursday January 17th.

Census Day next week! We are having an American themed day for census day with non-school uniform and a raffle! To enter the raffle your child must be in school and have a school meal on Thursday 17th January, they will then be automatically entered into the draw. Prizes to win are: 1 x Family skate at SIV, 1 x Family ticket to Sealife, 1 x Family ticket to Cannon Hall Farm, 1 x Family ticket to Magna.

Attendance

We finished the autumn term on attendance figure of 95.1 %. Our target for the year is 97%.

Well done to Cougars who had the highest attendance for the last week of term.

You can come to school in non- uniform on Friday.

Lynx were awarded a certificate for being on time each day.

We are holding our attendance tea party next week.

Reading Challenge.

Each Thursday children who read at least 4 times can add a star to the Golden Book, be recognised in our special assembly and have their name added to the prize draw. At the end of each term we will pull out 2 names so the more you read the more chance you have of winning! Well done to Lola who read every day during the holidays.

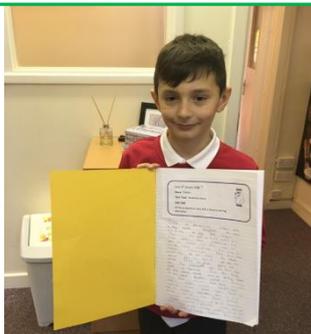
I hope you have a good weekend.

Ann-Marie Mason

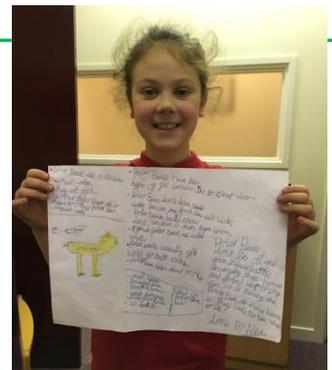
Principal



Charlie is proud of his drawing of an owl.



Harvey is proud of his writing.



Alisha is proud of her writing.

Celebration assembly starts next week. This week we launched our new whole school curriculum theme which is called "The World Around Us." Each class brought a key question which they shared with the school. At the end of the term we will invite you to a special assembly where we will share our learning with you.

Our key questions are

Lynx- Why do I need to sleep?

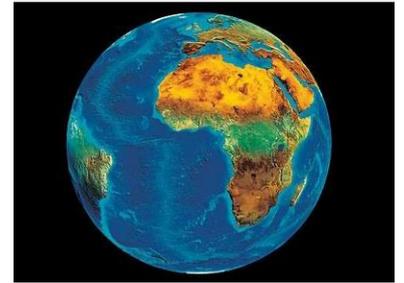
Tigers- How far away is the moon?

Leopards- What is the name of the furthest planet?

Jaguars- What is the coldest temperature ever recorded at the North Pole?

Cougars- How many seasons do polar habitats have and why?

Pumas- How many countries are within the Arctic region?



Golden Time

Below is a breakdown of how many children earned 100% Golden Time last half term.
Thank you for maintaining your support of the strategy.

| Week | Lynx | Tigers | Leopards | Jaguars | Cougars | Pumas | School Total |
|---------------------------|-------|--------|----------|---------|---------|-------|--------------|
| 26 th November | 66.7% | 81% | 78.6% | 30% | 72.4% | 55.6% | 61.02% |

Dates for your diary- dates in red are new

January

14th Clubs start this week. Young Voices performance- Sheffield Arena.

15th Reading morning every Tuesday from 8.40 am.

17th Census Day and at 10 am 100% attendance brunch party.

18th School Council Meeting.

21st Doncaster Rovers in school each Monday until half term.

24th School Nurse- height and weight screen

25th Y5 and Y6 to Cycling Championships.

February

4th Y2 Multi sports event

15th School Closed to children - staff training.

Half term holidays. School reopens on Monday 25th February

Sheffield Hallam Fundraising appeal update

Next week Michelle Osbourne from Sheffield Hallam will be revealing how much money we raised as part of the recent fundraising challenge.



In assembly this week I challenged the children to earn all of their Golden Time this term. I know they can do it!

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