

Friday 14th October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

It is hard to believe that we are so close to the half-term holiday and our Atlas pupils have already had 6 fantastic weeks of learning in school. We continue to be delighted by their positive behaviour for learning and their excitement at discovering and exploring new knowledge and concepts. Don't forget to follow us on Twitter (@AtlasAcademy1) to see all of the wonderful learning taking place in school.

'Sky-High' Atlas Expectations: Our message throughout this year is focused on having 'sky-high' expectations of each other. We expect to see this consistently from our pupils in many different ways, such as by being present in school and arriving on time each day, wearing correct Atlas uniform, demonstrating wonderful walking around school, producing their very best work in all lessons, and being ready, respectful and safe in everything they do. We are very proud of our Atlas pupils and expect them to aim to be the best versions of themselves every day. Please support us by continuing to expect the very best of your child when they are at home so that they understanding the value of consistency.

Pupil Voice: We are very proud of the way that our pupils are fully involved in everything that we do at Atlas. We provide them with many opportunities to give us their opinions on what happens at school, and our Pupil School Improvers play an invaluable role in helping to make Atlas an even better place for all of us.

Amongst various other roles, we have recently recruited for the positions of Learning Behaviour Councillors and Equality & Diversity Ambassadors. Our Behaviour Councillors have the very important role of ensuring that everyone in school follows our school rules of being Ready, Respectful and Safe and tries their best at all times. Our Equality and Diversity Councillors are tasked with making sure that all of our pupils have the chance to do their very best in school, and to understand the importance of treating each other equally and respectfully. Both extremely important jobs, I am sure you will agree!

The children have had to undertake a rigorous application process including an interview with Mrs. Hildreth, and we would like to congratulate the following pupils who have been successful so far:

Learning Behaviour Councillors:

Mavin, Sara and Matylda (Year 6) and Liliana, Aylin, Saya, Lily-May and Nikodem (Year 5)

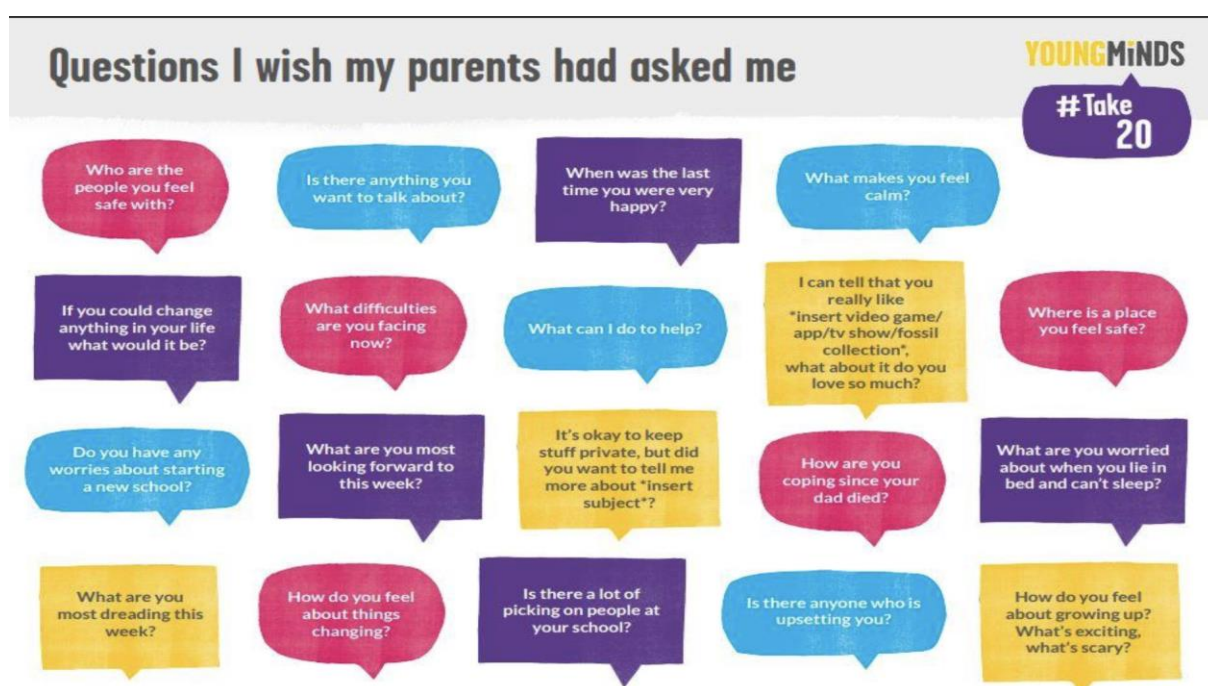
Equality and Diversity Ambassadors:

Matylda, Sara (Year 6) and Robyn (Year 5)

Our focus on excellent learning behaviour and having an active voice are key elements of the Personal Development programme which is at the heart of our pupils' learning journey at Atlas.

Personal Development education develops the qualities and attributes our children need to thrive as individuals, family members and responsible members of society. This includes developing healthy, productive relationships, eating healthily, being road safe, staying safe on the internet and the importance of good mental health. Our school website <https://www.astreaatlas.org/learning/curriculum/pshre/> provides much more information about the approach we take to Personal Development and the topics we teach across school. Should you have any questions please contact your child's classteacher or Mrs. Hildreth, our Personal Development Lead.

Mental Health Awareness: We recognised World Mental Health Day this week with a special assembly where we talked about the importance of looking after our minds and our feelings to stay healthy. We discussed that it is good to talk about our feelings as it helps us to relax and feel better. Below are some questions which you may want to use at home to encourage your child to talk more about how they are feeling. Please speak with Mrs. Grant or Mrs. Nicholson from our Pastoral Team if you need any further guidance or support.



Dates for your Diary:

Monday 24th October – Friday 28th October: School closed for half-term holiday

Monday 31st October: School re-opens for 2nd half-term

Tuesday 1st November, Wednesday 2nd November and Thursday 3rd November: Parents' Evenings (more details to follow)

Monday 7th November @9:00am: Phonics Workshop for Reception Parents

Wednesday 9th November @9:00am: Phonics Workshop for Year 1 Parents

I would like to wish you all a safe, restful and enjoyable half-term holiday. Thank you for your continued support.

Peter Sturgess

School Principal