



Ad Astra Infant School
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CEO : Mrs Kate Carter BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH
Ad Astra Infant School Headteacher: Mrs Clare Tantrum BSc (Hons) PGCE
Haymoor Junior School Headteacher: Miss Lucy Waterhouse BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH

TEACH Trust Poole

Trust Excellence Aspiration Collaboration Honesty

Article 28: Children have a right to a primary education.

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am so incredibly proud of everyone here at Ad Astra Infant School. I am proud of all of the children for working so hard to be the very best that they can be and of all of the staff and volunteers for loving and supporting all of the children on this journey. We are a true supportive community and I can honestly say that I have LOVED my four and a half years at Ad Astra Infant School.

I would also like to say a huge thank you to you, our parents and carers, for your partnership with us and your support this year. We really value the special relationship that we have with you and know that this is vital to the success of your children. Thank you for working with and helping us to deliver the very best education and care to your children.

Our superb Friends of Ad Astra PTA have, once again, worked relentlessly throughout the year organising and running so many enrichment events, for example discos, movie night, the Christmas shop, meeting Santa, meeting the Easter bunny, walk to school week and our Teddy Bears' Picnic and Fair. Not only have these been thoroughly enjoyed by our children, but they have raised an incredible amount of money for the school to purchase some fantastic new additions to our provision. I would especially like to say an enormous thank you to Carmen and her wonderful team who make all of this happen for us – your commitment and dedication is just incredible. Next year, we will again be looking for more parents and carers to join our PTA team to help to organise, run and join in with our incredible list of events so please do think about whether you can give a little or a lot of time to this really special cause.

All three of our year groups have been incredibly successful this year and each Year Leader has noted some of the highlights to share with you:

Early Years have engaged with our sequential, engaging curriculum including a range of exciting first-hand experiences this year and their progress has been incredible! They all represented the school well on their first Early Years' trip to Canford Heath library and have welcomed many visitors, including People Who Help Us, the Space Dome, Crazy Creatures, the farm and much more. Early Years have thrived both within their adult-led learning environment and their child-initiated play, particularly evident whilst within the natural environment of our Forest School. They have prepared for and been part of performances and have taken care of many plants and animals. The children now show readiness for Year One and a love of learning that will serve them well.



Ad Astra Infant School

Haymoor Junior School



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Miss
Bridgman



Year One have had fantastic year, with our amazing children being incredibly successful – we are so proud of them all. We have had so many highlights to make fond memories with the children, such as the drama workshop at the start of the year; the jumble pans sparkly starter; our wonderful storyteller session with Martin; the trips to Upton Country Park and St. Pauls' Church and, more recently, the designing and making (and eating!) of ice lollies. I know lots of children's personal highlight was the fantastic Nativity performance. Thank you for all of your support throughout the year; you really should be so proud of your children, because I know we are!

Mr Watt



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Next week, we will sadly say goodbye to all of our Year 2 children and one or two other children from across the school too. They will all take the next step in their schooling journey at a different school in September and we all wish them the very best in the future and will miss them so much.

We are also saying goodbye and good luck to Miss Lee, who has supported our lunchtimes and helped to keep our school beautifully clean this year, as she embarks on her teacher training next year. Mrs Newman will also be returning to Canford Heath Junior School and we thank her immensely for her positivity and support of our children here at Ad Astra Infant School this year. Finally, we say goodbye and good luck to Miss Taylor, who meerkats have very much enjoyed having as their teacher this half term as she takes up a new teaching role next year.

As you know, I am also leaving Ad Astra Infant School next week, with a heart full of pride and joy to have been part of this amazing team. I am so pleased to be handing the baton over to Mrs Walters, who knows and loves this school as much as I do and will do an incredible job of taking the school forward, I know.

For all those returning to Ad Astra Infant School after the summer holidays, children will need to wear their smart school uniform. This will be the winter uniform unless the weather is such that it is decided to extend the wearing of the summer uniform. You will be informed if this is the case via Arbor at the start of term. Please remember that hair on or longer than the shoulders must be fully tied back, not just half of the hair tied back, and that all children must wear school shoes and not trainers or boots. If you are intending for your child to have their ears pierced over the summer then please do schedule this for right at the beginning of the holidays so the earrings can be easily removed on PE days in September. Also, if you need a parking permit for next year, please remember to email the school office with your request and details of why this is necessary. Please see our term dates and important dates for the first two weeks of the Autumn Term at the bottom of this letter.

On behalf of all the staff at #TeamAdAstra, I wish you and your families a safe and fun-filled summer holiday.

Best wishes,

Clare Tantrum
Mrs Clare Tantrum
Headteacher



Haymoor Junior School



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Term dates for Academic Year 2026/2027

Autumn Term: Tuesday 1st September 2026 to Friday 18th December 2026

Half Term: Monday 26th October 2026 - Friday 30th October 2026

Christmas Holiday: Monday 21st December 2026 – Friday 1st January 2027

Spring Term: Monday 4th January 2027 to Thursday 25th March 2027

Half Term: Monday 15th February 2027 – Friday 19th February 2027

Easter Holiday: Friday 26th March 2027 – Friday 9th April 2027

Summer Term: Monday 12th April 2027 to Wednesday 21st July 2027

Half Term: Monday 31st May 2027 – Friday 4th June 2027

Summer Holiday: Thursday 22nd July 2027

Staff INSET Days: Tuesday 1st September 2026

Friday 27th November 2026

Monday 30th November 2026

Monday 4th January 2027

Friday 18th June 2027

Important Dates: first few weeks of the Autumn Term

Tuesday 1st September – INSET DAY (no school for the children)

Friday 11th September – Year 2 Big Art

Monday 14th September – Penguins' and Dolphins' trip to Canford Heath Library

Wednesday 16th September – Parent volunteer workshop at 2:15pm

Wednesday 16th September – Early Years Welcome to Base Meeting 5pm

Thursday 17th September – Turtles' trip to Canford Heath Library

Friday 18th September – Year 2 Art Attack Exhibition (am)



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