



Aston Academy

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Dear Parents/Carers

ClassCharts

The feedback from parents and carers about ClassCharts has been very positive. We hope you are enjoying seeing the achievements roll in for your child. The follow-up conversations at home are so important - ask your child about pieces of work they are proud of, or lessons where they have tried exceptionally hard. Naturally, teachers are now starting to record negative points if, for example, a pupil is unprepared for learning or lacking effort in class. Again - a quick follow up conversation at home will usually help to nip any such issues in the bud. The overwhelming majority of points recorded are positive and it is lovely to celebrate this in our weekly assemblies. Special mention for **Mr Risley's tutor group** who took gold this week for most achievement points.

Book Swap

At Aston Academy we believe in the power of reading. We know that a regular reading habit is one of the most valuable habits of excellence we can instil in every child. Time is dedicated throughout the week to independent reading and all Year 7 students should bring their independent reading book each day, just as they would their student planner. We have a very well stocked library and books for lending, free of charge, throughout the school.

On Thursday 17th and Friday 18th October 2024 we will be holding the first of our regular Book Swap opportunities. These will become a termly feature of Year 7 lunchtime - students can bring books, discuss books and take books away from our selection on the head yard. If you are looking to clear some space at home and donate some pre-loved or unwanted books, especially children or YA fiction, we would love to add the to our Book Swap stock. We will be collecting Book Swap donations on the gate from Monday. Students do not need to have donated to browse later in the week - we just want get the power of books and stories into the hands of Year 7!

Skipping Challenge

How wonderful to spend some of lunch break today in the beautiful autumnal sunshine with Y7 students laughing, smiling and encouraging each other in our hastily arranged skipping contest. A short burst of light-hearted exercise at the heart of the day was a great way to burn off some excess energy and focus on afternoon lessons. A lovely reminder that children still love to play. Weather allowing, we will continue to offer this - so those students with a skipping rope at home should get practicing!



Resilience Pride Respect Ambition Responsibility

Be Exceptional

Special mention to our current reigning champions Cole, Annabel (24 seconds) and George (26 seconds).

Year 6 Transition

I am very grateful that so many Year 7 students stayed late to be student ambassadors on our recent Y6 Open Evening and it has been lovely to visit some of our primary schools with current Year 7. These visits will continue throughout the year. Please remind any friends, family or neighbours who are completing the application process for September 2025 that if they have any questions or need further support/guidance then they should not hesitate to contact us via transition@astonacademy.org

A Year 7 to be Proud of

As we get to know the children it has been fantastic to realise what a busy and talented group of young people we have. From dedicated county-level swimmers, distance runners and martial artists to poets, artists and Venture Scouts - we really do have a Year 7 to be proud of. We would always be keen to celebrate these achievements so if you would like us to give your child a shout-out, or even just a low-key conversation with the year team, then please just drop us a line at info@astonacademy.org

Yours sincerely,

Mike Kilgannon
Assistant Vice Principal
Aston Academy