



NEWSLETTER 11

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to this week's newsletter. Unfortunately, I'm having to repeat last week's note about no parking on the grounds of the Stevenage Education Support Centre.

Stevenage Education Support Centre

Stevenage Support Centre have asked parents from Ashtree School to refrain from using their car-park when dropping and picking up your children. This car park is for parents/staff of the Support Centre only. We do not wish to lose their good will in allowing our trips / swimming coaches to use the car-park. Thank you.

School Admissions Arrangements 2019/20

Hertfordshire County Council is running a consultation on the proposed admissions arrangements for the school year 2019/20 and is seeking responses from parent/carers, schools and community groups.

The proposed changes are:

1. To amend the wording and definition of 'Rule 5 - Nearest School' to include all schools and academies (regardless of status) unless that school or academy prioritises applications and allocates places on the basis of faith.
2. To include reference to the Shared Anti-Fraud Service in the definitions section in cases of fraudulent address verification.
3. To reduce the Published Admission Number (PAN) of Watton-at-Stone Primary School from 34 to 30. *(you should only include this point if you are a school located in the relevant area of Hertford and Ware)*

The consultation period runs until 5 January 2018. Please visit www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions2019 for more information and to respond online.



Friends of Ashtree Winter Fayre – Saturday 25 November 12.00pm – 2.00pm



We look forward to seeing you all tomorrow, where we hope to have lots of fun and raise money for the pupils. I'm very grateful to Mrs Young and her Friends of Ashtree Team for organising this popular event.

Christmas Cards

I would like to remind you that if young pupils would like to give Christmas cards, we ask them to pass them to each other before or after school in the playgrounds. In this way pupils will know who have sent them cards, should there, unfortunately, be any less than seasonal greetings. Nursery have their own post-box within their setting.



Christmas Performances



Reception/KS1 – “The Angels”

Monday 4 December:	10.00am
Tuesday 5 December:	2:00pm
Wednesday 6 December:	2:00pm

KS2 – Performing “Puss in Boots”

Monday 4 December:	1:30pm and 7:00pm
Tuesday 5 December:	7:00pm

Nursery - Performing “Nursery Rhyme Nativity”

Friday 8 December:	10:00am
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If you haven't already done so please can you complete the slip and return back to school as soon as possible. Extra tickets will be sent out on Friday 1 December.

Christmas Dinner

We would like to invite all children to join us for a Christmas Lunch on **Tuesday 19 December 2017**. This letter will be going out on Monday 27 November, please return the slip attached to it by Friday 8 December. If your child is in receipt of free school meal or universal school meal a slip must still be returned in order for the kitchen to be able to order the correct amount of food.



Data Protection

At this time of year we always need to consider the balance between allowing home video recordings and photographs at our Christmas performances, whilst ensuring the security and safety of all of our pupils. I have sought County Guidance on the matter and have decided that videos will be allowed but I must insist that this is done from the back of the hall in order not to disrupt the view of other parents. Unfortunately, the balcony area will not be available as the children will require this space. **Images taken must be for private use only and must not be put onto social media.** Our production programmes are of a general nature and will not include the full names of any child. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.



Children in Need

We have raised £643.39p and Friends of Ashtree have donated £150, which gives us a grand total of

£793.39 Well done everyone.



Arriving and Collecting for the KS2 Evening Performances

Staff have asked me to request that all children in KS2 arrive in school between 6.30 and 6.40pm on Monday 4 and Tuesday 5 December. The evening performances start at 7.00pm and we anticipate that children will need to be collected by 8.15pm on both evenings.

The Sparrow Drive gate will be open but you use this route at your own risk as the Junior playground is going to be used for parking. For all pupils and parents watching the performance, entrance will be via the **Junior playground door**. Pupils in Y4/5/6 will go to their normal classrooms. Pupils in Y3 will go down the corridor and will be met by their teachers in the Infant Hall.

At the end of the performance, parents of Y4 pupils will remain seated in the Junior Hall, the children will be brought to you. Y5/6 pupils can be collected by parents directly from their classes. Y3 pupils can be collected by parents from the Y1 classroom doors that open into the Infant Hall. Once pupils are collected by parents, you may then exit via the Junior Playground Door, Junior Dining Room door or the Infant Hall Door. For parents not watching the performance, but collecting at 8.15pm, entrance will be via the Junior Dining Room door for Y4/5/6 and by the Infant Hall door for Y3. Staff will, of course, only hand pupils over once the collecting adult is present.

Please do not put us in a difficult position by sending an older sibling to collect your child or by telling your child that they can walk home alone.



ADMITTANCE IS BY TICKET ONLY



Sport Fixtures

The boys played a home match against The Giles on Friday 17 November and won 6-0. Another great team performance! Player of the match goes to Jared T. for scoring a hat-trick.



Netball - Reported by Jade B. and Olivia Y.

On Friday 17 November, the girls' netball team played against Knebworth School. It was a very close match. In the first half, we were winning, but in the second half they caught up. Luckily, the final outcome was good and we won by one goal. The score was 8 – 7 to us. The girls played extremely well and the Player of the Match was Praise M. for her dynamic moves on court and brilliant ball interceptions.

B Team Match against St. Vincent de Paul – 23 November 2017 – Reported by Mrs Cook (Coach)

This was many of the girls' first netball match and a great way to gain experience. We played against St. Vincent de Paul's first team, so the girls did exceptionally well and seized the chance to play a game with both hands. It was clear to see that they had been paying close attention in our training sessions, and displayed many of the skills they had been taught. Despite the score ending with a 6 – 0 loss for us, this first-time squad played amazingly against St. Vincent de Paul's A team. Player of the Match was Jessica Y. for her brilliant positioning and interceptions, and the Coach Player of the Match was Ruby C., for her never-ending energy and dynamic play on court. Well done B team!

Dinner Behaviour Awards 
The winners for this week are Classes 5 & 14.

Attendance Cup 
The winner for this week is Class 7 with 99%.

Effort Cup 
Congratulations to Keenan B. from Year 6.

Finally, I am very proud of Y5 and Y2 who were excellent ambassadors for the school in their recent visits to the cinema and St Mary's Church. Miss Long said that the children were a delight at the church and they answered lots of questions. The coach driver for the cinema said that our pupils were the best behaved that he had seen.

 **Diary Dates for Autumn Term** 

- Friends of Ashtree Winter Fayre - Saturday 25 November
- Rec/KS1** Christmas Performances - Monday 4 December, 10.00am
- Tuesday 5 December, 2.00pm
- Wednesday 6 December, 2.00pm
- KS2** Christmas Performances - Monday 4 December, 1.30pm & 7.00pm
- Tuesday 5 December, 7.00pm
- Nursery** Christmas Performance - Friday 8 December, 10.00am
- Last day of term - Tuesday 19 December at 2.15pm

- Spring Term 2018:**
- First day of term - Wednesday 3 January
- Half-term** - **Monday 12 February - Friday 16 February**
- Last day of term - Thursday 29 March at 2.15pm

- Summer Term 2018:**
- First day of term - Monday 16 April
- Y5 School Trip - Wednesday 25 April – British Schools Museum
- May Day** - **Monday 7 May - school closed to children**
- 14 – 18 May - KS2 SATS week (No holiday will be authorised during this week)
- Y4 School Trip - Tuesday 22 May – Warner Bros Studio – Harry Potter
- Half-term** - **Monday 28 May - Friday 1 June**
- 10 -15 June - Y6 Kingswood Trip – Isle of Wight
- 11 - 15 June - Y1 Phonics Test Week (No holiday will be authorised during this week)
- Y2 School Trip - Thursday 14 June – Roald Dahl Museum
- INSET Day 4** - **Friday 6 July – school closed to children**
- Last day of term - Friday 20 July at 2.15pm
- INSET Day 5** - **Monday 23 July – school closed to children**
- Occasional Days** - **Tuesday 24 July – Friday 27 July - school closed to children.**

Please note: Key Stage 2 SATs week; 14 – 18 May 2018. The Y1 phonics test will be held during the week of 11 June. KS1 (Y2) SATs process will take place in May.
Please ensure pupils do not book any family holidays during these times as they will be unauthorised.

E. Kirwan