



# ASHTREE PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY



WEBSITE: [www.ashtree.herts.sch.uk](http://www.ashtree.herts.sch.uk)

28 April 2017

## NEWSLETTER 27

Dear Parent/Carer  
Welcome to this week's newsletter.



### Professor Brainstorm – Mission to Mars



On Wednesday 27 of April 2017, Professor Brainstorm came in to Ashtree School to do some Science experiments all about space. It was about a 'Mission to Mars'. Firstly, he showed us some Space Strawberries and ice cream that had been dehydrated so you could take it into space. Next, he showed us three different types of rocket launches, using three different methods. Our favourite parts of the show were the rockets and the noise you would make if you went to Mars without a space suit. We both found his show interesting and funny.

We would like to say a big thank-you Professor Brainstorm for coming in to us.  
Reported by Ayla S and Leighton L (Y6 Science Ambassadors)

### Blue Whale Challenge (Current, Serious Internet Risk to Vulnerable Children)

Hertfordshire Constabulary has been notified of the 'Blue Whale Challenge' and has requested that Hertfordshire's Safeguarding Team passes this information onto schools so we in turn can inform our parents/carers. 'The Blue Whale Challenge' is about targeting vulnerable young people on-line and befriending them. Once their trust is gained they are set 50 challenges. These are a variety of challenges that build upon the previous in terms of risk and severity. The 50th challenge culminates in a dare to the vulnerable person to kill themselves. There have been reports of this happening in other countries but no incidents of this in Hertfordshire so far. Whilst this has been aimed at the 12 to 15 age group we must all be aware on behalf of our children no matter what age.

### Kadoma Mayor Visit

Following Mrs Janes' visit to Kadoma in October we are pleased to have had the opportunity to host the Mayor of Kadoma in school this afternoon. In Kadoma Mayors are addressed as Your Worship. His Worship Chinyanganya enjoyed visiting Year 4 whose project this term is Kadoma and also joined us in assembly for a question and answer session. The weather was a talking point! The recent temperature in Kadoma was 20 degrees as opposed to Stevenage's 10 degrees. We value our town's twin link with Kadoma and our own school's link with Tafadzwa Primary School. The link provides not only funding for school places in Kadoma but allows for learning link between staff and pupils in both towns. Mrs Janes' own visit involved the sharing of good practise between teaching staff in both countries and widening pupil understanding of the world and other cultures.

### Sam Learning – KS1 and KS2

SAM Learning is a revision, web based resource which can be accessed from home as well as from school. Pupils just need to enter our Centre ID which is SG2AJ and then their User ID which is DOB and 2 initials. So for example: David Jones born on 1<sup>st</sup> August 1995 would log in as 010895DJ. Their password is just a repeat of their User ID. **Children in Years 1 and 2 can work on the KS1 materials or challenge themselves with KS2! Pupils in Years 3 – 6 can work on the KS2 materials!**



Kingswood 2017



Thank you to everyone that has paid in full for the Kingswood trip.



### Headlice



Please check your child as there have been a large number of 'sightings' recently!

## Year 4 Harry Potter Trip

On Tuesday a letter was given to all the children with details about this trip. The children need to be at school by 8.15am on Wednesday 3 May. **The coach will be leaving at 8.30am.** School packed lunches must be ordered by Tuesday 2 May morning please.



### Dinner Money – Summer Term

**£2.40 per day      £12.00 per week**

1<sup>st</sup> half term £67.20    2<sup>nd</sup> half term £81.60

Please note the prices have changed.

**We have a number of people who continue to take dinners without payment. Please be reminded that dinners must be paid for in advance. Where a letter/text has been issued notifying that no further meals will be provided please ensure that you send your child in with a home packed lunch each day until the debt is cleared. We are no longer able to build up any dinner money debt due to Government changes. Any debt is taken out of the school budget, which has a detrimental effect on the education of our pupils. Please do not put us in the position of not paying for a meal but still expecting us to provide one. Please ensure all outstanding balances are cleared by the end of term. Thank you for your understanding.**

## Sporting Achievements



### Girls' Football

Well done to the girls' football team that played away last Friday against Almond Hill. The girls' worked really hard against a strong Almond Hill team. The game finished 0-5 to Almond Hill. Player of the match goes to Amy G. for going in goal for an injured team-mate. The girls next match is today at Fairlands.



### Cricket Tournament

Mr Allen reported - The crickets did well in difficult conditions. They played in the true Ashtree spirit and were a credit to the school! Well done boys!



### Gymnastics - Marriott's

Mr Appadoo reported – We are all extremely proud of our gymnastics: Megan C, Lauren M, Maisy L, Lauren R, Ruby P, Ruby C and Stanley D who were placed first out of 8 schools in this years 'Key Steps Gymnastics' competition. All gymnasts performed a vault and a routine fantastically to retain their gold medals for the second year in a row. Ashtree Primary School has now qualified for the next round where they will be competing at County level as part of the 'Herts School Games'. Well done Ashtree!



### Sainsbury's Vouchers

This scheme is due to end on **2 May**. Please can you search pockets, purses, drawers etc. and dig out your Sainsbury's Vouchers and send them in to school. Thank you.

## Dates for this Year

### Monday 1 May

Wednesday 3 May

8 – 12 May

Monday 15 May

### 29 May – 2 June

Tuesday 6 June

11 – 16 June

12 - 16 June

Wednesday 14 June

Thursday 29 June

Thursday 29 June

Friday 30 June

### May Day Bank Holiday

Y4 School Trip: Harry Potter

KS2 SATS week (**No holiday will be authorised during this week**)

Y6 2017 Kingswood Meeting – 5.45pm

### HALF TERM

Y2 School Trip: Tower of London

Kingswood Residential Week (Y6)

Y1 Phonics Test Week (**No holiday will be authorised during this week**)

Y3 School Trip: St Albans Museum

September 2017 – Reception Parents Meeting - 3.30pm

September 2017 – Nursery Parents Meeting - 5.00pm

Friends of Ashtree Summer Fair 3.15pm – 5.00pm

Monday 3 July	Open Evening
Thursday 6 July	End of Year Reports
<b>Friday 7 July</b>	<b>INSET Day 5 (School closed to pupils)</b>
Thursday 13 July	Secondary Transfer Day
Friday 14 July	Family picnic at lunch time followed by an afternoon Sports Day
<b>Friday 21 July (2.15pm)</b>	<b>End of School Year</b>

**Please note – preparation and completion of Y2 SATs work will take place during May (No holiday will be authorised during this time).**

**Term Dates for academic year 2017 - 2018**

**Autumn Term 2017**

<b>Wednesday 30 August – Thursday 31 August</b>	<b>- Occasional Days - school closed for pupils</b>
<b>Friday 1 September</b>	<b>- Inset Day 1- school closed to pupils</b>
<b>Monday 4 September</b>	<b>- Inset Day 2- school closed to pupils</b>
<b>Tuesday 5 September</b>	<b>- First day back for pupils</b>
<b>23 October - 27 October</b>	<b>- Half Term</b>
<b>Monday 30 October</b>	<b>- Inset Day 3 – school closed to pupils</b>
<b>Tuesday 31 October</b>	<b>- Pupils return after half-term</b>
<b>Tuesday 19 December</b>	<b>- End of term - Pupils go home at 2.15pm.</b>



**Attendance Cup**

The winner for this week is Rainbows with 98%



**Dinnertime Behaviour Awards**

The winners for this week are Sunshines & Class 9

*E. Kirwan*