



# ASHTREE PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY



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

**14 July 2017**

## NEWSLETTER 37

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to this week's newsletter.



### **Nursery Trip to Shepreth Wildlife Park – Reported by Mrs Mohiuddin**



We had a lovely time at Shepreth Wildlife Park on Tuesday for our school trip – we didn't let the rain spoil the afternoon. The children, parents and staff had a great time seeing all the different animals, having a lovely picnic and playing in the adventure playground. It was lovely to see lots of parents on the trip.

Well done to the Nursery children who also stayed to try out school lunches in the infant dinner room for Reception next September.



### **Rounders Tournament – Reported by Mr Allen**



Year 5/6 pupils were superb during the Rounders Festival, winning 3 out of their 4 group games and narrowly missing out on a semi-final place. Miss Ralph and I were very impressed with their behaviour and attitude to the competition. Well done!

### **Pupil Achievement**

Well done to Stacey P Y6 who has been with St John Ambulance since September 2016. Stacey passed a 3 day first aid course and on Sunday carried out her first official duties at the Race for Life in Stevenage. Her training helped to treat a cut knee and a sprained ankle. St Johns Ambulance told her she did a brilliant job and she is welcome on duty at any time – let's hope we didn't keep Stacey busy on sports day!



### **Y6 visit to Fairlands Valley**



Y6 had a lovely day out and again a member of the public commented on their excellent behaviour. Well done team.

### **Athletic Mentor**

We welcomed Dermot Gascoyne back into school on Tuesday. Well done to Y3 who worked so hard that they wore Mr Gascoyne out. We have another visit planned for the Autumn term.



### **Gymnastics Tournament**



Mr Appadoo would like to thank all the children that gave up all their time on the Inset day on Friday last week. We came 7<sup>th</sup> in Hertfordshire that is a tremendous achievement – Well done children.

### **Free School Meals and Music**

- Parents/Carers do not need to re-apply for a school meal for Sep 17
- Any child receiving a free meal as well as 100% music remission will be renewed for both.
- Letters will only be sent to families whose children are no longer entitled to receive a meal.
- During August, schools will receive confirmation of who is entitled to receive a free meal and 100% music remission.
- Anyone currently receiving 50% music remission will still need to re-apply at [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals) from the 7th June 2017.
- We will work with our admissions team to identify children who will be starting a new school from September 17. No contact or renewal is required. Our customer service team will be dealing with any duplicated applications. No contact is required.
- We would ask schools to contact us at [howcanwehelp@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:howcanwehelp@hertfordshire.gov.uk) to advise of any changes we may not have identified, including in-year admissions.

## MSA Vacancy

We have a full time vacancy in KS1 (7hrs 30mins per week 11.55-1.25pm) and KS2 (6hrs 15mins per week 11.55-1.10 daily) term time only. Please contact the School Office for a Job Description and Application Form. Closing date is Monday 17 July with interviews to be held on Thursday 20 July from 9.00am.



## Dinners



We are having to chase an increasing number of parents/carers for KS2 dinner money. Dinners **must** be paid for in **advance**. Dinners cost £2.40 per day, £12.00 per week payable on a **Monday**. Dinner will not be provided unless paid for. If you would like to check your free school meal entitlement please call 0300 123 4048. Our debt currently stands at £253.86 this needs to be cleared at the end of next week.

## SchoolComms

If you haven't already done so please can you let the office know, your up-to-date email address. Thank you.



## Summer Reading Challenge 2017 – Animal Agents



This Challenge takes place in all Hertfordshire Public Libraries during the Summer Holidays. We really enjoyed our visit from the School Librarian, who explained this year's challenge to us. Children choose books to read with family and friends, then talk to Library staff about their reading. They collect incentives to mark their progress and a Certificate and Medal are presented to all children who complete the Challenge by reading six books. I will be delighted to award a Headteacher Sticker to every pupil who comes and shows me their Certificate in the Autumn Term. Children will get a special mention in the September Newsletters.



## Ms Kirwan's Summer Writing Challenge



I am definitely going to have to order more Headteacher Stickers because I am hoping as many pupils as possible will have a go at this challenge. If your child would like to write either a 500 word story of their own subject choice or keep a diary of the exciting things they got up to this summer, then I would be delighted to receive these in September and have the children share them with me. This can be handwritten or typed. I would prefer, of course, for the work to be of the children's own doing, however, I am sure the odd bit of adult help may be required. **Please ensure any work has reached me by Friday 15 September.** Children will get a special mention in the September Newsletters. We have been extremely proud of the pupils' achievement in writing across the school this year, and this will be another way to celebrate their love of writing.

### Class Homework for the summer

In addition to the reading challenge and my writing challenge, pupils will be set homework by their teachers, to be returned in September, (with the exception of Y6 children). Please ensure that the homework is completed and returned to their new class teacher in September. It is important the children keep active, academically, over the summer break in order to make sure that they haven't lost ground for September.



## Dates for this Year



Thursday 20 July  
Friday 21 July (2.15pm)

Y6 Leavers Assembly (pupils only)  
End of School Year

## Term Dates for academic year 2017 - 2018

### Dates for 2017/18

#### Autumn Term 2017:

Occasional Days	-	Wednesday 30 August – 31 August - school closed to children
INSET Day 1	-	Friday 1 September - school closed to children
INSET Day 2	-	Monday 4 September - school closed to children
First day of term	-	Tuesday 5 September
Half-term	-	Monday 23 October - Friday 27 October
INSET Day 3	-	Monday 30 October - school closed to children
Last day of term	-	Tuesday 19 December at <b>2.15pm</b>

### **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 <b>2.15pm</b>

### **Summer Term 2018:**

First day of term	-	Monday 16 April
May Day	-	Monday 7 May - school closed to children
14 – 18 May	-	KS2 SATS week ( <b>No holiday will be authorised during this week</b> )
Half-term	-	Monday 28 May - Friday 1 June
11 - 15 June	-	Y1 Phonics Test Week ( <b>No holiday will be authorised during this week</b> )
INSET Day 4	-	Friday 6 July – school closed to children
Last day of term	-	Friday 20 July at <b>2.15pm</b>
INSET Day 5	-	Monday 23 July – school closed to children
Occasional Days	-	Tuesday 24 July – Friday 27 July - school closed to children.

Finally, Just a reminder that the school closing at 2.15pm on Friday 21 July.



### **Governors' Attendance Cup**



The winner is Rainbows with 99%

*E. Kirwan*