



## NEWSLETTER 8

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

### Conversion to Academy Status

The Governors have asked me to inform all parents/carers, pupils and staff that they are considering applying for academy status for the school. The Governors are currently in consultation with the Herts for Learning Multi – Academy Trust (HfL MAT). Governors hope to convert on 1-4-2018. If Governors decide to proceed there will be a formal consultation with parents / carers, staff and stakeholders. Governors will keep you informed of progress.



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



We will be running a decorated jar stall during the Winter Fayre. This is a very popular annual stall and each year pupils have responded marvellously to our request for decorated jam jars of goodies.

If children would like to provide a jar for the Winter Fayre, I am repeating instructions from last year's newsletter. Jars can be brought in to school right up to Friday 24 November and each jar will be gratefully received. I am happy to give a Headteacher sticker for every pupil who brings a jar in to school. For those of you who are not sure what decorated jars are, the following may help: take any used jar, clean it, decorate the outside using paint, materials, card etc. (possibly with a Christmas theme) and then put something lovely inside that another young person might enjoy having, eg. sweets, colouring pencils, tiny teddies, toy cars etc. These then go on to a Tombola style stall and are very popular with the children.

This year families can also have a go at 'Mad Science' during the fayre.

### Special Dietary Requirements – Urgent

As advised since July, Hertfordshire Catering are no longer using the existing special menus. To continue to receive a special menu for your child you will need to complete the online request on the Hertfordshire Catering website <https://hertscatering.co.uk/allergy-menu-application>. Hertfordshire Catering have advised school that from now unless you have completed the online request only the standard menu will be provided.



### Poppy Appeal

We will be selling Poppies in class next week. If your child would like to buy one please bring in a donation to the appeal. We also have a box of Poppy merchandise which includes the following: Friendship Bracelets £1.00, Wristbands 50p, Reflectors 50p and Pencils 10p, these can be purchased from the office only.



### Photographs

Please can you make sure you return your photographs / payment to the office by **Thursday 9 November** at the latest, thank you.



### Y4 Swimming

If you pay half termly the £24.00 is now due. Please could any outstanding amounts for last term be paid as soon as possible. Thank you



### Stevenage Food Bank

I received a lovely card the other day from the Stevenage Food Bank thanking us for our massive donation. This will be gratefully received by their families, thank you.



### Children in Need – “Spotacular” – Non-uniform day



On Friday 17 November we would like you to support Children in Need by allowing children to come to school dressed in a spotty way including Pudsey ears/headbands etc. If your child would like to do this, then all we ask is that they make a donation that we can then send on to Children in Need. We are also collecting old pound coins if you wish to donate and pupils will be involved in fun, circle maths related activities in school during the morning.



## Sport Fixtures

The girls' football team played in the Autumn Tournament on Friday 20 October. They were fantastic! They played 4 group games, finishing top of their group without conceding a goal. The girls then advanced to the semi-finals beating Giles School on penalties meaning they qualified for the final! They were superb in the final, with the game ending 0-0. They lost on sudden death penalties, but should be so proud of themselves! Well done to the team.

The girls won against Trots Hill 3-1 on Wednesday after school. Holly S. scored a hat trick in the first half! Well done to the team for continuing their great start to the season. Player of the match goes to Holly S. for her hat trick.

The boys' football team played a friendly game against Trots Hill on Friday 20 October. The boys really enjoyed themselves and showed tremendous spirit in their match against a strong Trots Hill team. They battled their hearts out and were unlucky not to grab a goal. The game finished 0-6 to Trots Hill. Player of the match goes to Harry W. for some excellent shot stopping and low diving saves.

### Dinner Behaviour Awards

The winners for this week are Class 6 & Class 14.

### Attendance Cup

The winner for this week is Class 4 with 100%

### Effort Cup

The Effort Cup was not awarded this week due to our NSPCC assembly.

Finally, if you are attending fireworks displays or having your own parties this weekend please all stay safe and remind your children of the Firework Code.

## Diary Dates for Autumn Term

- Children in Need - Non-uniform day - Friday 17 November
- Friends of Ashtree Winter Fayre - Saturday 25 November
- 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*