

ASHTREE PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

WEBSITE: www.ashtree.herts.sch.uk

18 December 2015

NEWSLETTER 15

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to this week's newsletter. It has been an exciting, busy and hard working term for us all and we have taken the opportunity this week to have some Christmas fun. The children's Christmas dinner was beautifully prepared by our cook David Street and his team. I was grateful to the staff that helped to serve the children whilst wearing a variety of tinsel and party hats. The parties were a real treat and the atmosphere in school was lovely with Father Christmas as the surprise guest to the FS/KS1 and Y3/Y4 parties. Thank you to his elves (aka Friends of Ashtree) for wrapping the gifts. The whole team are working very hard to tidy up the school and leave us ready for the challenges of the new term. I am very grateful for this help.

Pupil Achievements

Well done to the choir who performed for the residents of Silkin Court on Monday 14th. My thanks go to Mrs Clark for preparing the children. It went down a treat with everyone.

Well done to Raef B. in Y1 who followed the instructions from one of his Christmas books to make a beautiful Advent Calendar which he has shared with his class. I was very pleased to be able to award the Headteacher's sticker to Raef and his mum!

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a **Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year**. Staff would like me to pass on their thanks for the very generous cards and gifts that they have received. It is very much appreciated.

Governors' Attendance Cup

A very big well done to Class 12 for winning this cup in recognition of having the best attendance in the school for this half term (97.04%).

Dates for Next Year

Term starts for us all on MONDAY 4 JANUARY 2016.

15-19 February	HALF TERM
21 and 22 March	Parent Consultations
Friday 25 – Monday 28 March	Easter Weekend
Thursday 1 April (2.15pm)	End of Term
Monday 18 April	Term Starts
Monday 2 May	May Day Bank Holiday
9 – 13 May	KS2 SATS week (No holiday will be authorised during this week)
27 May	INSET Day 4
30 May – 3 June	HALF TERM
12 – 17 June	Kingswood Residential Week (Y6)
13 - 17 June	Y1 Phonics Test Week (no holiday will be authorised during this week)
Monday 4 July	Open Evening
Friday 8 July	INSET Day 5 – school closed to pupils
Friday 15 July	Family picnic at lunch time followed by an afternoon Sports Day
Friday 22 July (2.15pm)	End of School Year

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

Well done to Sophie D. in Y6, whose dancing was deemed to be the highlight of the Y6 party.

Staffing Changes

I am very proud of Ms Goode and Miss Kiernan for giving 110% whilst moving into the later stages of their respective pregnancies. Both ladies start their maternity leave at the end of term and I know that you will join me in wishing them all the best over the next few weeks. We very much hope that they will come and see us in the Spring Term. Mr B. Appadoo (Class 12) and Miss S. Bishop (Class 14) have both enjoyed spending time in school this term in readiness for January.

I would also like to thank Mrs D. Bithrey for her wonderful work in Reception whilst covering for Mrs Khattran's maternity leave. We will be welcoming Mrs Khattran back in January (Mrs Gilbert - Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday, Mrs Khattran - Thursday/Friday in Rainbows). I am pleased to say that Mrs Bithrey will be continuing as a teacher in school supporting groups of Y6 pupils in readiness for their 2016 SATs.

Dinner Money

£2.30 per day	£11.50 per week
1 st half term £69	2 nd half term £64.40