

ASHTREE PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

WEBSITE: www.ashtree.herts.sch.uk

1 April 2016

NEWSLETTER 26

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to this week's newsletter. Huge congratulations to 'The Mathematicians' team who represented the school at the Easter egg Mathsaganza at Barnwell School on Tuesday. Not only did Ronnie G. win the co-ordinates lucky dip, but also secured his team win by being in the top five for his symmetrical Easter egg. Year 4 thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon.

Nursery's Easter stay and play sessions were very well received and our youngest pupils took great delight in showing family members exactly what they get up to during the day, they also enjoyed their Easter Parade this morning. Yrs 1 – 6 had a great time during the Theatre Company's production of "Alice in Wonderland".

Sporting Results – Report by Miss Jackson

On Wednesday, the netball team played at home versus Codicote. The girls played excellently against a well matched team. I am very impressed with the improvements the girls have made over the course of this year. With team work and determination we won 4:3. My thanks to all the staff who came out to support us, it was lovely to have so many out with us. I look forward to the netball festival on 26 April, letters will be given out the first week back after the holidays. Player of the match goes to Elizabeth Y. for her amazing jumps to keep possession within the match. She also stepped out of her comfort zone to be one of the goal shooters.

Late Arrivals/Attendance

Our aim is for children to be here for 95%+ of the school year. If a pupil's attendance falls below 90% they become what is known as a persistent absentee. If you have taken a week or more holiday time since September, you will have a minimum of 10 unauthorised sessions (2 sessions = 1 day). County advise that we send out their standard 'first fixed penalty notice letter' for any pupil with more than 8 unauthorised sessions over two consecutive terms. For pupils with 21 unauthorised sessions over two consecutive terms, a fixed penalty of £120 could be issued by County. Please see our Attendance Policy on our website for more information.

Governors Attendance Cup

The winner this half term is Class 7 with 97.11%

Parent Questionnaire 2016

I am pleased to send out the outcomes of this year's questionnaire with this Newsletter. Having forms available at the Parent Consultations was very successful.

E. Kirwan

Parking

From Monday 18 April, parental parking on school site will only be for parents who have provided the office with proof of their Blue Badge status, at which point an Ashtree Permit will be issued. Governors ratified this decision in a meeting on 9 March. Access will be allowed for parents dropping children to Breakfast Club and collecting from SPLAT.

Reminder: Please park courteously in neighbouring roads when dropping off and collection pupils.

Level 3 Cycle Training

Yet again our children did us proud. They paid close attention to the instructors and were very successful. Certificates have been given out to the children today – badges to follow.

Sport Relief Bake-off

Well done everyone for raising more than £300. Final figure to be announced as soon as we know it.

Sainsburys Vouchers

Don't forget to hunt out those vouchers and send them in please.

Dinner Money Payments

We would like to remind you that we are only able to provide a dinner for free school meal pupils, KS1/Reception children and for pupils who have paid in advance, or who pay on the day. We are no longer able to build up any dinner money debt due to Government changes. Any future debt would be taken out of the school budget, which would have a detrimental effect on the education of our pupils. We would like to thank parents for paying their dinner money in advance. Unfortunately we still have a few parents who we regularly have to chase. Please do not put us in the position of not paying for a meal but still expecting us to provide one. **Please put all payments in an envelope labelled with your child's name, class and "Dinner Money"**

Summer Term Prices

£11.50 per week	£2.30 per day		
1 st Half term	£66.70	2 nd Half Term	£78.20

Finally, I would like to thank our Teaching Assistants, Mrs Groom and Mrs Gant, for all of their hard work and support of the school and to wish them all the best for their futures. We are welcoming Mrs J. Marshall and Mrs S. Jakupovic onto our Teaching Assistant team after Easter. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a restful holiday.

Diary Dates

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)
Friday 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).

Autumn Term 2016

Thursday 1 September Inset Day 1	-	school closed for pupils
Friday 2 September Inset Day 2	-	school closed to pupils
Monday 5 September	-	Term Starts
24 October - 28 October	-	Half Term
Wednesday 21 December	-	End of term. Pupils go home at 2.15pm.