



WEBSITE: www.ashtree.herts.sch.uk

29 November 2019

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NEWSLETTER 12

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to this week's newsletter.

Nursery Admissions

Applying for a school Nursery place for 2020-2021 (For children born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017).

Admissions for Nursery are now dealt with by the school.

For all enquiries relating to children being admitted into our Nursery, please contact the school office 01438 351090.

Our Admissions Application Form for children starting Nursery in September 2020 can be downloaded from our website or hardcopy available at the school office.

Our Nursery Admissions Policy is also on our website.

Applications for Nursery are now open – offers are made on a first come, first served basis. We offer 30 hours' provision in Nursery as well as 15 hours.

Parent/Carer Conduct on the school playground before and after school

If Parent/Carers have a concern about a pupil who is not their own child, whilst on the school site, please talk to a member of staff. It is not appropriate for Parent/Carers to approach that pupil directly. The school has the right to ban Parent/Carers from the school site if their conduct causes safeguarding concerns.

Operation Encompass

Please see separate information that has come out with this newsletter about a joint piece of work between Schools and Hertfordshire Constabulary.

Stevenage Mayor's Litter Poster Competition

At the Stevenage Schools' Parliament on Tuesday, parliament representatives helped the Mayor to choose the top three winning entries from the Stevenage schools.

The Mayor will now have the winning posters printed and displayed around the town as part of a 'Keep Stevenage Tidy' campaign.

One of the winning entries belonged to an Ashtree pupil - Cooper in Y6. Well done Cooper.

Christmas Cards

I would like to remind you that if pupils would like to give Christmas cards, we ask them to pass them to each other before or after school in the playgrounds. In this way pupils will know who have sent them cards. Nursery have their own post-box within their setting.

Christmas Lunch **- Friday 20 December**

We would like to invite all children to join us for a Christmas Lunch on **Friday 20 December 2019**. If you would like your child to have the Christmas Lunch, please return the slip by Friday 6 December. If your child is in receipt of free school meals or universal free school meals a slip must still be returned in order for the kitchen to be able to order the correct amount of food. If your child has special dietary needs, please complete the form attached to the letter and return back to the school with the slip. Payment (£2.60) for Christmas Lunch to be received by Monday 16 December please.

Christmas Lunch

Sliced Turkey Breast, Chipolata Sausage, Sage and Onion Stuffing Gravy
Roast Potatoes with Choice of Vegetables
or
Vegetable Wellington (v), Sage and Onion Stuffing Gravy
Roast Potatoes with Choice of Vegetables
Christmas Shortbread
Ice-cream Roll
Or
Cup Cakes

Data Protection

At this time of year, we always need to consider the balance between allowing home video recordings and photographs at our Christmas performances, whilst ensuring the security and safety of all of our pupils. I have sought County Guidance on the matter and have decided that videos will be allowed but I must insist that this is done from the back of the hall in order not to disrupt the view of other parents. Unfortunately, the balcony area will not be available as the children will require this space. **Images taken must be for private use only and must not be put onto social media.** Our production programmes are of a general nature and will not include the full names of any child. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Christmas Performances

Nursery/Reception/KS1 – “The Christmas Post”

Monday 16 December: 10.00am
Tuesday 17 December: 2:00pm
Wednesday 18 December: 2:00pm

KS2 – Performing “Aladdin”

Monday 16 December: 1:30pm and 7:00pm
Tuesday 17 December: 7:00pm

Please can you complete the slip and return back to school by Monday 2 December at the latest. Extra tickets will be sent out on Friday 6 December.

Arriving and Collecting for the KS2 Evening Performances

Staff have asked me to request that all children in KS2 arrive in school between 6.30pm and 6.40pm on Monday 16 and Tuesday 17 December. The evening performances start at 7.00pm and we anticipate that children will need to be collected by 8.15pm on both evenings.

The Sparrow Drive gate will be open but you use this route at your own risk as the Junior playground is going to be used for parking. For all pupils and parents watching the performance, entrance will be via the **Junior playground door**. Pupils in Y4/5/6 will go to their normal classrooms. Pupils in Y3 will go down the corridor and will be met by their teachers in the Infant Hall.

At the end of the performance, parents of Y4 pupils will remain seated in the Junior Hall, the children will be brought to you. Y5/6 pupils can be collected by parents directly from their classes. Y3 pupils can be collected by parents from the Y1 classroom doors that open into the Infant Hall. Once pupils are collected by parents, you may then exit via the Junior Playground Door, Junior Dining Room door or the Infant Hall Door. For parents not watching the performance, but collecting at 8.15pm, entrance will be via the Junior Dining Room door for Y4/5/6 and by the Infant Hall door for Y3. Staff will, of course, only hand pupils over once the collecting adult is present.

Please do not put us in a difficult position by sending an older sibling to collect your child or by telling your child that they can walk home alone.

Kingswood Payment

Just a reminder that the 2nd payment of £50.00 for Kingwood is due on 2 December. Payments can be made through Schoolcomms.



Headlice

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

E. Kirwan



Dinner Behaviour Awards

The winners for this week are Class 4 & Class 14.



Attendance Cup



The winner for this week is Class 13 with 97.4%.



Effort Cup



There will be no Effort Cup awarded this week – double next week!

Academic Year 2019/2020



Autumn Term 2019



Christmas Performance



- Monday 16 December - Nursery/Reception/KS1 Christmas Performance 10.00am
- Monday 16 December - KS2 Christmas Performance 1.30pm
- Monday 16 December - KS2 Christmas Performance 7.00pm
- Tuesday 17 December - Nursery/Reception/KS1 Christmas Performance 2.00pm
- Tuesday 17 December - KS2 Christmas Performance 7.00pm
- Wednesday 18 December - Nursery/Reception/KS1 Christmas Performance 2.00pm
- Friday 20 December - Last day of term - finish at 2.15pm**



Spring Term 2020



- Monday 6 January - First day of term
- Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February - Half Term**
- Monday 24 February - INSET Day 4 - school closed to children**
- Friday 3 April - Last day of term - finish at 2.15pm
- Monday 6 April – Friday 17 April - Half Term**



Summer Term 2020



- Monday 20 April - First day of term
- Friday 8 May - BANK HOLIDAY**
- Monday 25 May – Friday 29 May - Half Term**
- Friday 17 July - Last day of term - finish at 2.15pm
- Monday 20 July - INSET Day 5 - school closed to children**
- Tuesday 21 July - Occasional Day - school closed to children**

KS1 – Y2 Testing window is the whole month of May 2020.

KS1 – Y1 Phonics is 8 – 19 June 2020.

KS2 – Y4 Multiplication Test is 8 – 26 June 2020.

KS2 – Y6 11 – 15 May 2020.

Please ensure you do not book any family holidays during test times as they will be unauthorised.