



Ashtree Primary School & Nursery



Chertsey Rise, Stevenage, Herts SG2 9JQ

Tel: 01438 351090 Fax: 01438 353464

Email: admin@ashtree.herts.sch.uk

 Facebook: Ashtree Primary School Nursery

 Twitter: @AshtreeSchool

Headteacher: Mrs M. Janes

Acting Deputy Headteacher: Mr R. Yates

NEWSLETTER 12

DATE: 3 December 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

We started this week thinking we may have snow and have ended it with beautiful sunshine. As of the writing of this newsletter we are officially Covid-19 free and have been all week. This all hopefully means that we will be able to run our Christmas Sing-Along straight after school on Friday 10th December. The staff have been working hard to teach children the carols and to arrange something that everyone can enjoy. The Friends of Ashtree PTA have also organised hot chocolate and raffle sales. Please be patient with them as they try to keep this within the Covid measures that are keeping us Covid free. This should be a very enjoyable hour to come together as a school community.

Our new afterschool club provided by Brighter Days and I have been meeting with Hertfordshire Catering recently and looking at running some exciting afterschool sessions and activities. I am looking forward to seeing them bring in their smoothie bike, where all of the power to run the smoothie maker comes from pedalling. Remember there are still places at the afterschool club and you can contact them on enquiries@brighterdayskidsclub.co.uk

In January we will be welcoming some new staff to the school. As you know Miss Ruprai is stepping out of class to be the new Deputy Head and Class 13 will be taught by Mrs Chowdhury Monday to Wednesday and Mrs Compton Thursday and Friday. Miss Butt and Mrs Compton will still be teaching in Nursery but doing different days.

Mrs Barber will unfortunately be leaving us at the end of this term but I would like to say well done because she will be moving to an Assistant Head post in a new school. I know that you will join me in wishing Mrs Barber well and welcoming our new staff into our community.

I hope that you all have a lovely weekend and let's try for two weeks Covid free next week.

Mrs Janes – Headteacher

Late Arrivals

We are having between 15-20 children arriving late each morning through the office. Unless there are exceptional circumstances children should be arriving by 8.55am in time to enter by the classroom door.



The image shows two NHS posters side-by-side. The left poster is blue and titled 'GOT COVID-19 SYMPTOMS?' with an illustration of a PCR test tube. Below it, it says 'TAKE A PCR TEST.' The right poster is white with a blue border and titled 'NO COVID-19 SYMPTOMS?' with an illustration of a lateral flow test strip. Below it, it says 'TAKE A RAPID LATERAL FLOW TEST TWICE A WEEK.' Both posters have the NHS logo and 'Test and Trace' text at the top.



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To commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee there is an additional Bank Holiday on Friday 3 June 2022



The DfE have amended the Education (School Day and School Year) (England) Regulations to reduce the 2021/22 school year for maintained schools by one day to account for this additional Bank Holiday. This reduces the number of pupil contact days from 190 to 189.

As 3 June 2022 falls during the Summer Half-term, we are required to amend our published term dates to identify another day of holiday elsewhere in the year. **We will be taking this Bank Holiday on Tuesday 19 April 2022, making the first day of term now Wednesday 20 April 2022.**

Outside of School Achievement:



Elena and Nella had a busy karate weekend which started in Guildford with a GKR Southern Regional Tournament, Nella won gold in both Kumite (point fighting) and Kata (series of moves performed in a pattern) in a mixed male and female division of 4 competitors. Elena who was unlucky at the last tournament was in a division with 6 other girls, on course for a gold medal in Kata, Elena chose to do a more difficult kata and made a mistake which ultimately cost her a medal but, in the Kumite part she put in a good display narrowly missing out on first place but receiving a silver medal.

On Sunday both Elena and Nella attended the monthly grading at their karate club and graded to the rank of 4th Kyu red belt, recognised as the first senior grade at the club, only 3 more grades to go before they can go for their black belt.

School Reminders:

- Please remember we are encouraging the use of masks outside and asking for masks inside.
- Can all children make sure they bring into school a pair of in-door shoes (plimsolls) due to the weather changing.



Dinner Money - KS2 £2.60 per day - £13.00 per week

This should be paid in advance on Schoolcomms. We are no longer able to build up any dinner money debt due to Government changes. Any debt is taken out of the school budget, which has a detrimental effect on the education of our pupils. Please do not put us in the position of not paying for a meal but still expecting us to provide one. **If you are unable to pay, please provided a home packed lunch until the debt is cleared.** Thank you for your understanding.



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ASHTREE PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

CHRISTMAS SING-A-LONG

Join us
**10TH DECEMBER
3.30-4.30PM
ON THE JUNIOR
PLAYGROUND**

Christmas Hamper Raffle tickets on sale

Hot chocolate, mince pies & cookies will be on sale.

Guess the weight of the cake



On Friday 10 December we will be having a Christmas Sing-Along on the KS2 playground from 3.30pm until 4.30pm.

All the children across the whole school have been working hard to practice lots of Christmas songs in their music lessons with Mrs Dunlop and Miss Hembra and they would love to invite you all to join in too. Let's all celebrate Christmas together as a community safely outside. The PTA 'Friends of Ashtree' will be selling Christmas hamper tickets and selling hot chocolate and mince pies.

This year will not have a cash collection but would like you to consider donating to a fundraising link set up by one of our families who have spent a lot of time in the Lister Bluebell ward over the last year.

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/eliannabluebellward>

If you would like to help you children learn the signs to 'Must Be Santa' then please use this link <https://youtu.be/JWsXdcqEuCc>



'Must be Santa' Learn the Makaton signs with Al Start

Have fun with the best Santa themed song around, perfect for Christmas assemblies or singing with your family.

[youtu.be](https://youtu.be/JWsXdcqEuCc)



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Dinner Behaviour Awards



The winners for this week are **Class 5** (for lining up well) & **Class 8** (for calm behaviour).



Attendance Cup



The winner for this week is **Class 5** with **97.7%**.

Monday 6 December	Tuesday 7 December	Wednesday 8 December	Thursday 9 December	Friday 10 December
Menu 3		 ART Club Years 4,5&6 (3.20pm-4.15pm) Cheerleading Years 5& 6 (3.30pm-4.15pm)		Flu Vaccination 3.30pm-4.30pm Christmas Sing-along Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 13 December	Tuesday 14 December	Wednesday 15 December	Thursday 16 December	Friday 17 December
Menu 1		 ART Club Years 4,5&6 (3.20pm-4.15pm) Cheerleading Years 5&6 (3.30pm-4.15pm)		 Netball Training Years 5&6 (3.30pm-4.15pm)
Monday 20 December	Tuesday 21 December			
	Last day of term – school finishes at 2.15pm			



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Term Dates Academic Year 2021



Autumn Term 2021



Tuesday 21 December

-

Last day of term – finish at 2.15pm



Spring Term 2022



Wednesday 5 January 2022

-

First day of term for pupils

Monday 14 February – Friday 18 February

-

Half-term

Monday 21 February

-

INSET Day 4 - school closed to children

Tuesday 22 February

-

First day of term for pupils

Friday 1 April

-

End of term – finish at 2.15pm

Monday 4 April – Monday 18 April

-

Half-term - Easter Break



Summer Term 2022



Tuesday 19 April

-

Bank Holiday

Wednesday 20 April

-

First day of term for pupils

Friday 27 May

-

INSET Day 5 - school closed to children

Monday 30 May – Friday 3 June

-

Half Term *(including the Spring Bank Holiday and additional Bank Holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.*

Monday 6 June

-

First day of term for pupils

Friday 22 July

-

Last day of term – finish at 2.15pm

Academic Year 2022

KS1 – Y2 Testing window is the whole month of May 2022.

KS1 – Y1 Phonics is 6 – 17 June 2022.

KS2 – Y4 Multiplication Test is 6 – 24 June 2022.

KS2 – Y6 9 – 12 May 2022.

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