



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

Deputy Headteacher: Ms P. Ruprai

Newsletter 12

Date: 8 December 2023

This week we have had another visit from the trusts and also our Maths, English and School Improvement advisors have been in school.

The English advisor was looking at Reading with Mrs Cox, they were able to look at how much progress we have made since our last Ofsted visit. Both Mrs Cox and the English advisor were very impressed with the teaching of reading and the sense of enjoyment from the children. Over the last two years we have worked hard to further develop the reading teaching and curriculum and I am proud that this progress could be seen.

The Maths advisor worked with Mr Yates looking at how successfully our teaching addresses the areas that teachers are identifying need to be practiced by the children, to really secure their knowledge and understanding. Mr Yates was very pleased with the way that your children are working during their Maths and Fluency sessions and are able to make links in their learning and understanding.

Mr Lawson, Chair of Governors, and our School Improvement advisor came in to look at behaviour around the school and learning behaviours in class. Although this is a time of year when timetables change and Christmas performances are being practiced, the children as always were amazing. They showed how the 'ABC' of walking around the school has been learnt and remembered by everyone. They spoke to our visitors about the ways that the school help them and everyone to behave and to learn. It was a pleasure to show the visitors around the school.

♥ Finally, I am very pleased to say that following Mrs Holtom passing her teaching qualification she will be joining us as the class teacher on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in Nursery from January. It makes me very proud that Ashtree Primary School & Nursery supports our community members to develop, grow and be a vital part of the Ashtree School journey. Mrs Rodford will remain with us working with Mrs Holtom. ♥

Have a lovely weekend and I hope to see some of you in the audience watching our choir tomorrow in the town centre as they perform.

Mrs M Janes – Headteacher

Fencing Enrichment Day – Mr Yates

Our pupils enjoyed a day of fencing on Monday. They put on a vest and helmet and learned the stance for 'En Garde.' They were then shown the sabre and the foil, and how these can be used. A big thank you to Miss Meadows, Mr Smith & Miss Kirby from Premier Education for providing this opportunity for our pupils.



Design and Technology lead – Ms Goode

This Autumn term has seen our children fully engaged in the fascinating world of Design and Technology. From exploring the intricacies of designing, making, and evaluating their creations, our children have been immersed in exciting projects. Year 6 embarked on a delectable journey, crafting delicious Greek dishes as part of their food unit. Meanwhile, Year 5 dived into the world of mechanisms, crafting moving toys that showcased their innovation. Lower Key Stage Two is eagerly preparing for the festive season by creating charming Christmas stockings, we are eagerly awaiting parental involvement to add that extra special touch. Key Stage One children have been on an adventure crafting their own moving picture books, employing sliders, levers, and flaps to bring their stories to life. Witnessing their remarkable DT skills flourish has been truly inspiring. DT serves as a gateway where our children not only acquire a diverse range of subject knowledge but link to subjects like mathematics, science, engineering, computing, and art. It's been a joy to witness their creativity and problem-solving abilities bloom through this incredible subject.



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SENDCo Drop In Sessions with Ms Ruprai

These sessions are to support you after you have spoken with your child's class teacher. You will be able to discuss:

- Information to share from home.
- Initial concerns about your child.

If you would like to book a drop-in session with myself, please contact the school office by either phoning or emailing

admin@ashtree.herts.sch.uk

Slots available		
Monday 11 December 3pm – 3.15pm	Wednesday 13 December 9am – 9.15am	Thursday 14 December 9am – 9.15am

House Points - Special Mention:

Dylan (Wrens) At the end of lunch, one of the children in Key Stage 1 was having difficulty in coming in. Dylan helped them to come in from the playground and helped them get their coat off and settle down, ready for the register. This showed good community spirit. Well done, Dylan. **Awarded by Miss Staddon**

Edie (Eagles) has been awarded an on-the-spot house point for her fantastic singing. She knows all the words to the songs in the performance and sings them with great enthusiasm and enjoyment. She behaves beautifully during practises and is a great role model during the rehearsals. **Awarded by Mrs Allen**

Gracie (Falcons) demonstrated real community spirit and a caring attitude when she noticed a friend was upset and looked for adult support to help them. **Awarded by Mrs Cox**

Bradley (Harriers) It was a pleasure to talk to Bradley about his work this week. He was able to talk about not only what he has learnt but also how he learns best and how his teacher helps him. **Awarded by Mrs Janes**

This week's trophy winner is:

KS1 Community Trophy - Dylan Wrens
KS2 Community Trophy – Gracie (Falcons)
KS2 Pride Trophy - Edie (Eagles)



Attendance Cup:

The winner for this week is **Hawks** with **97.5%**

Class	Authorised / Unauthorised Sessions Missed
Wrens	4.3
Buzzards	5
Falcons	8
Kestrels	10
Harriers	11
Red Kites	11
Penguins	11.5
Robins	13.5
Swifts	14.8
Eagles	16.2



Thursday 14 December 2023

CHRISTMAS LUNCH



Christmas Turkey and
Chipolata Sausage,
Trimmings of Sage and
Onion Stuffing and Gravy

OR

Festive Quorn Fillet (v)
with a Veggie Sausage (v),
Trimmings of Sage
and Onion Stuffing
and Vegetarian Gravy

With Roast Potatoes
and a Choice of
Seasonal Vegetables

A Choice of
Christmas Desserts



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PTA@ASHTREE.HERTS.SCH.UK

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Clubs – Mr Yates

Many of our clubs are opening bookings for their January extra-curricular clubs. These clubs are all run by external providers and not Ashtree School.

Please see details of the clubs available below, and the contact details for booking:

Monday - Gymnastics - After School Club - Reception to Year 6 - <https://www.premier-education.com/parents/>

Monday - Street Dance - Lunch Club - Years 3 -6 - No booking required (This is a FREE club)

Tuesday - Karate - After School Club - Years 3 -6 - admin@goshinkarateuk.com

Wednesday - Basketball - After School Club - Years 1-6 - <https://www.stevenageroyals.com/ashtree> (This is a FREE club)

Thursday - Football - After School Club - Reception to Year 6 - https://officialsoccerschools.co.uk/stevenagefc/stevenage-fc-courses/after_school-in_school.html

Friday - FitKidz - Before School Club - Reception to Year 6 - fit-kidz@outlook.com (This is a FREE club)

Friday - Multisport - Lunch Club - Reception to Year 2 - https://officialsoccerschools.co.uk/stevenagefc/stevenage-fc-courses/after_school-in_school.html

For these clubs, please provide the following information:

- Child full name
- Year group
- Parent/carer full name
- Contact mobile number
- Any medical or other information

As a school, we are always looking at developing our extra-curricular offer. Please keep checking the newsletter carefully for: club updates, school team training, new clubs and enrichment days.



Come along and watch us singing at 1pm on Saturday 9 December





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Monday 11 December	Tuesday 12 December	Wednesday 13 December	Thursday 14 December	Friday 15 December
Menu 2 Premier Education Gymnastics Club Rec – Y6 After School Club 3.15-4.15pm Choir Years 5-6 1-1.25pm (Lunchtime) 12.30-1pm Warriorz Street Dance Christmas Performances Nursery/Reception Whoops a Daisy Angel 9.30am 2.00pm	GoShin Karate Club Y2-Y After School Club 3.30-4.30pm 12.30-12.50pm Recorder Club, Miss Hembra Christmas Performances KS1 The Nativity 9.30am UKS2 Christmas Carol Concert 1.45pm LKS2 Ashtree Christmas Crackers 3.40pm	Basketball Y1 – Y6 After School Club <u>LAST ONE THIS TERM</u> KS2 Chess Club (Lunchtime) 1pm-1.25pm Reception Reading / Phonics Club 3.25 – 3.40pm Christmas Performances LKS2 Ashtree Christmas Crackers 9.00am UKS2 Christmas Carol Concert 3.40pm	SFC Football Rec- Y6 After School EYFS Cooking Club After School Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Performances KS1 The Nativity 3.40pm	FitKidz UK Fitness Club Rec – Y6 AM Club (LAST ONE THIS TERM) Boys/Girls Netball Training Y5 – Y6 (Mrs Cox) After School 3:30 - 4:30pm SFC Multi-Sports - Rec, Y1, Y2 Lunchtime 12.30-1pm)
Monday 18 December	Tuesday 19 December	Wednesday 20 December		
Menu 3 Premier Education Gymnastics Club Rec – Y6 After School Club 3.15-4.15pm Choir Years 5-6 1-1.25pm (Lunchtime) 12.30-1pm Warriorz Street Dance	GoShin Karate Club Y2-Y After School Club 3.30-4.30pm 12.30-12.50pm Recorder Club, Miss Hembra	<u>LAST DAY OF TERM</u> <u>SCHOOL FINISHES EARLY</u> <u>1.30pm</u>		
				Friday 5 January
				First Day of Term
Monday 8 January	Tuesday 9 January	Wednesday 10 January	Thursday 11 January	Friday 12 January
Menu 1 Premier Education Gymnastics Club Rec – Y6 After School Club 3.15-4.15pm 12.30-1pm Warriorz Street Dance	GoShin Karate Club Y3-Y6 After School Club 3.30-4.30pm	Basketball Y1 – Y6 After School Club	SFC Football Rec- Y6 After School	FitKidz UK Fitness Club Rec – Y6 AM Club SFC Multi-Sports - Rec, Y1, Y2 Lunchtime 12.30-1pm) Boys/Girls Netball Training Y5 – Y6 (Mrs Cox) After School 3:30-4:30pm

School Dates 2023 / 2024

Last day of term – Wednesday 20 December 2023

Christmas Holiday: 21 December 2023 - 3 January 2024

INSET Day 3 – Thursday 4 January 2024 (school closed to pupils)

Friday 5 January 2024 – First day of term (pupils return)

Half-term Holiday: Monday 19 February 2024 – Friday 23 February 2024

Easter Holiday: Friday 29 March 2024 – Friday 12 April 2024

INSET Day 4 – Friday 3 May 2024 (school closed to pupils)

Half-term Holiday: Monday 27 May 2024 – Friday 31 May 2024

INSET Day 5 – Monday 22 July 2024 (school closed to pupils)

Occasional Day – Tuesday 23 July 2024 (school closed to pupils)

Summer Holiday: 24 July 2024 - 1 September 2024