



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

Assistant Head: Mr R. Yates

Newsletter 14

Date: 2 May 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

This week I have been able to visit classes and had children sent to me with their examples of hard work. In Nursery the children have been learning about the life cycle of a caterpillar and Reception have been remembering that they learnt last year. I have seen some very colourful drawings of caterpillars and butterflies which the children were able to describe. In KS1 I visit some Maths lessons and a computer lesson. In Maths they were using cubes to show repeated addition and in computing the Y6 monitors were helping the children to log on independently. I look forward to visiting KS2 next week.

On Friday the children will be having a holiday whilst the staff have a day of learning. We will be working hard looking at different strategies for supporting children's needs in Math and English. We are very lucky to have training videos from the English and Math Advisor from Herts for Learning which we will be using.

Reminder to everyone that is Bank Holiday on Monday 6 May, and we will welcome you back on Tuesday.

Mrs M Janes - Headteacher

We have been very busy in Nursery, beginning our new topic 'I wonder... Why do things grow and change?' The children have begun this topic exploring how we grow from babies to children, looking at the features that change. From this we have been discussing how Butterflies develop in a different way and learning about the life cycle. The children have shown great enthusiasm for their learning, choosing to take part in a range of different activities during Child Initiated Learning time. Some children have chosen to retell the story of 'The Hungry Caterpillar' using props, others have been using the sensory light box to create their own butterflies using translucent gems. The children have learnt a new skill of tracing in the mark making area and shown their understanding of the life cycle of a butterfly by sequencing an egg, caterpillar, chrysalis, and butterfly. To enrich the experience for all children we have some caterpillars in our classroom, the children have been learning how to take care of these and are thoroughly enjoying watching them grow, we are all very excited to see the changes that occur over the next few weeks!!

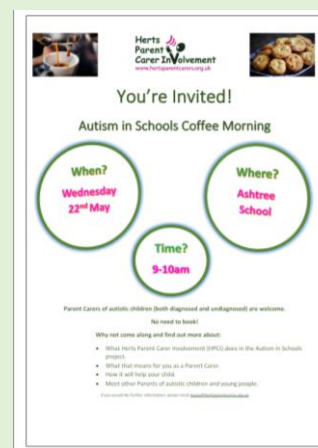


Mrs Holtom - Nursery Teacher

Round Diamond v Ashtree Mixed League Netball Match – 01.05.24 – Mrs Cox

With the last mixed league game for Ashtree back in January, it was good to see our team back in action at Round Diamond. It was a challenging game and the Roundgame, among team were committed and determined throughout the match. We found it tough at times to show our true netball ability, but there were many bright moments where our discipline and training shone through. We won the game 2 – 5 and the Player of the Match, as chosen by the Round Diamond team, was our centre Emmanuella, who never stopped moving during the game to find space to receive the ball and keep possession. Our captain for the game was Niamh and the coach's player of the match, for her amazing movement around the court and for creating passing opportunities, was Edie.

Music Lessons - Are you interested in your child learning violin or piano (pop and classical) but worried about the cost? For students in year 3 and upwards, there are options for 50% and 100% support of fees which are means tested. If this is helpful, please see <https://www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/music-lessons-in-hertfordshire/help-with-music-fees.aspx> for specifics and if you would like to set up lessons, please book here: <https://www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/music-lessons-in-hertfordshire/music-lessons.aspx>





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Clean Air Day - Thursday 20th June 2024

It's important to keep our air clean, so children's lungs can develop and grow properly.

We all know the health benefits of walking so please help us to reduce congestion, by supporting children being more active and lower carbon emissions on this year's Clean Air Day.

We would like to encourage all our pupils to try and walk, cycle or scoot to school. If it is not possible to walk all the way, then it would be great if you could park 10 minutes away from school and walk or scoot on the last part of your journey.

If you do drive to school, please do not leave your cars idling or "ticking over", especially near schools and even consider leaving the car at home at least once a week. We appreciate all your support for a healthier future. **Turn Your Key, Be Idle Free**

Walk to School Week - 20th – 24th May 2024

We are excited to be taking part in Walk to School Week this May.

We all know the health benefits of walking so please help us this week to reduce congestion by supporting children in being more active and help reduce lower carbon emissions during this Walk to School Week.

We would like to encourage all our pupils to try and walk, cycle or scoot to school during this week. If it's not possible to walk all the way, then it would be great if you could park 10 minutes away from school and walk or scoot the last part of your journey.

Each class will have a poster of featuring a map of Hertfordshire and aim take a 'virtual' walk by helping Buster The Dinosaur (the Active and Safer Travel Team mascot) walk around Hertfordshire. Every time a pupil travels sustainably, a dot can be coloured in.

Following on from Walk to School Week, we will be supporting **Clean Air Day on Thursday 20th June 2024**, more information closer to the date.

Parent/Carer Questionnaire

At Ashtree Primary School, we value the opportunity to work with you to continually provide the best possible experience for your child.

Please help us by answering this brief survey: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfJQQvUv6iqVzuT-GZp0B_DuJV2toDrgEKHwXXYC9dWhEOYA/viewform?usp=sf_link

[p0B_DuJV2toDrgEKHwXXYC9dWhEOYA/viewform?usp=sf_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfJQQvUv6iqVzuT-GZp0B_DuJV2toDrgEKHwXXYC9dWhEOYA/viewform?usp=sf_link)

This survey link will be live until Friday 3rd May.

House Points - Special Mention

Luke (Swifts) During lunchtimes this week, Luke has shown great community spirit by playing beautifully and supporting some of the children who find lunchtimes tricky. He has made me feel so proud of his caring and by being so kind. **Awarded by: Mrs Livings**

Chantelle (Buzzards) During today's violin lesson, Chantelle confidently demonstrated how to conduct 4 beats, in front of the class.

Miss Humphries was very impressed. **Awarded by: Miss Tobin**

Finley (Kestrels) As part of his Junior Duke tasks, Finley selected some suitable picture books and brought them in to read to the nursery children at the end of the school day. All the adults were very impressed with Finley's clear reading and calm and kind manner with the youngest children of our school. Well, done Finley! **Awarded by: Mrs Cox**



Attendance Cup: The winner for this week is **Hawks 93.6%**

Class	Authorised / Unauthorised Sessions Missed
Buzzards	6.9
Swifts	7.1
Eagles	7.3
Harriers	7.6
Falcons	7.6
Robins	7.8
Penguins	9.7
Kestrels	10.2
Red Kites	10.8
Wrens	16.7



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Monday 6 May	Tuesday 7 May	Wednesday 8 May	Thursday 9 May	Friday 10 May
BANK HOLIDAY	Week 1 Table Tennis Y3/4 (lunchtime) Premier Education Dodgeball Rec- Y6 3.15-4.15pm GoShin Karate Club Y3-Y6 After School Club 3.30-4.30pm Mixed Aged Classes Meeting Y5/Y6 4.00pm Falcons Classroom	Stevenage Royals Basketball Y1 – Y6 After Sc After school Club	Stay Active (lunchtime) Rec – Y2 SFC Football Rec- Y2 After School SFC Football Y3- Y6 After School Premier Education Tennis Rec-Y6 After School	FitKidz UK Fitness Club Rec – Y6 AM Club SFC Multi-Sports – Rec - Y2 Lunchtime 12.30-1pm) Boys/Girls Netball Training Y5 – Y6 (Mrs Cox) After School 3:30-4:30pm Chess Club (lunchtime) 12.30pm

Club Bookings - April - July

Monday After-School - Gymnastics - <https://www.premier-education.com/parents/venue/courses/4618-881263/>

Tuesday After-School - Karate - please email: admin@goshinkarateuk.com (Years 3-6 only)

Tuesday After-School - Dodgeball - <https://www.premier-education.com/parents/venue/courses/4618-881264/>

Wednesday After-School - Basketball - <https://www.stevenageroyals.com/ashtree>

Thursday After School - Football - <https://officialsoccerschools.co.uk/stevenagefc/ashtree-after-school-club-reception-ks1-football-april-may-2024.html> (Reception - Year 2 only)

Thursday After School - Football - <https://officialsoccerschools.co.uk/stevenagefc/ashtree-after-school-club-ks2-football-april-may-2024.html> (Years 3-6 only)

Thursday After-School - Multi-Sports - <https://www.premier-education.com/parents/venue/courses/4618-881267/>

Friday Breakfast Club - FitKidz - please email: fit-kidz@outlook.com (This club is Free)

Friday Lunch Club - Multi-Sports - <https://officialsoccerschools.co.uk/stevenagefc/ashtree-lunch-club-ks1-multi-sports-april-may-2024.html> (Reception - Year 2 only)

The following clubs will also be running, but do not require pupils to sign-up

Monday Lunch Club - Dance - Years 3-6 only

Monday Lunch Club - Volleyball - Years 5-6 only

Tuesday Lunch Club - Table Tennis - Years 3-4 only

Thursday Lunch Club - Stay Active - Reception-Year 2 only

Boys Football Training - Thursday Lunch time

Girls Football Training - Thursday Lunch time

Mixed Netball Training - Friday After School

School Dates (2024/25)

Start of term: 2 September 2024

Half term holiday: 28 October 2024 - 1 November 2024

Christmas holiday: 23 December 2024 - 3 January 2025

Half term holiday: 17 February 2025 - 21 February 2025

Easter holiday: 7 April 2025 - 21 April 2025

Half term holiday: 26 May 2025 - 30 May 2025

Summer holiday: 24 July 2025 - 3 September 2025

Inset Day 1 - 2 September (Monday)

Inset Day 2 - 25 October (Friday)

Occasional Day 20 December

Inset Day 3 - 6 January (Monday)

Inset Day 4 - 22 April (Tuesday)

Inset Day 5 - 23 May (Friday)

School Dates 2023 / 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