



WEBSITE: www.ashtree.herts.sch.uk

11 September 2020

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NEWSLETTER 2

Dear Parents/Carers & Pupils,

Welcome to this week's newsletter. We have had an amazing first week back with high attendance and the whole community joining together to support the Covid Risk Assessment measures that are in place. I would like to thank you for all of your support with this particularly Rainbows and Year 2 parents who have adjusted well to the new request to arrive and leave through the Infant Playground side gate, this has further enhanced our social distancing.

Reminders

- If a pupil is sent home with symptoms from school, they would need to isolate for 10 days and arrange to have a test. Current advice is that all other household members would also have to isolate.
- Mobile phones should not be used on site – for safeguarding reasons.
- KS2 Parent/Carers not to sit on the quiet area wall.
- Follow the 'in', 'wait' and 'out' markings when visiting the office, this facilitates a one-way system. Do not come into the office lobby until the person in front of you has left.
- If arriving by the main gate, please stay off the grass banking.
- KS2 pupils are brilliant at knowing where their queue is for their staggered starts so markers will no longer be placed out from Monday.

What Parents and Carers need to know about early years' providers, schools and colleges in the autumn term – updated 1 September.

To open this link, press control and click on the link.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

Ashtree Decisions for September

1. Staggered start and finish times will continue and no pupil learning time will be lost. **Only one Parent/Carer will be allowed on site for drop off and pick up times.** It is the responsibility of Parents/Carers to maintain social distance for themselves and your children whilst on the playground and to leave site promptly. **Please note: All staff are aware that some pupils have siblings that are being dropped off at the same time as per our rota. No child will be recorded as late as a result of this.**

Timetables

Start and Finish times

Class Group	Time	Enter and leave by
Nursery bubble	8:45am – 3:30pm	Nursery door (including AM and PM only children)
Reception bubble	8:55am – 3:15pm	Rainbows' outdoor area & Sunshines' fire door
Year 1 bubble	8:50am – 3:10pm (please note this time change which is 5mins earlier, than previously published - for staggered start reasons)	Class 3 & 4 fire door

Class 5 and Class 6 bubbles	9:00am – 3:20pm	Infant playground door and Class 6 fire door
Class 7 and Class 8 bubbles	9:00am – 3:20pm Ms Kirwan must remember this!	Junior hall fire door accessed through the quiet area.
Class 9 and 10 bubbles	8:55am – 3:15pm	Class 9 and Class 10 fire doors
Class 11 bubble	8:55am – 3:15pm	Junior playground door 2 nd in 1 st out
Class 12 bubble	8:55am – 3:15pm	Junior playground door and through Class 11 1 st in 2 nd out
Y6 bubble	8:45am – 3:05pm	Class 14 & class 13 fire door

2. **Breakfast Club will not run in the first half of the Autumn term** due to the complexity of pupils crossing bubbles. A decision will then be made for Breakfast Club from the 2nd November. It is likely that this will be for a reduced number of pupils.
3. No Parent/Carer to drive onto the school site unless a school permit has already been issued.
4. We will continue to only allow 1 person at a time in the office lobby and the glass hatches will remain closed.
5. Visitors attending meetings in school will be required to wear a mask.
6. Parent/Carer's Consultations before October half term – these will be booked in the usual way by Schoolcomms but are likely to be conducted via remote meetings or via telephone call.
7. Nursery, Reception and Year 1 will form their own bubbles. From Year 2 to 6 each class will be in their own bubble. Year 2 to 6 pupils will be seated into rows, facing the same direction and encouraged not to have contact with each other. Staff will remain at 2 metres distance from pupils or 1 metre plus with mitigating measures.
8. Pupils will continue wash their hands frequently including on arrival and when going home.
9. Pupils should limit the amount of equipment they bring into school each day, to essentials such as lunch boxes, hats, coats, and mobile phones. Bags are allowed. All pupils will now be wearing uniform and this no longer needs to be washed more than is usual.
10. Hot and cold dinners will resume within a staggered lunchtime and certain class bases will be used for additional dining room space with a thorough clean down.
11. Parents and Carers can support by:
 - Ensuring that anyone who has coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or has someone in their household who does, does not attend school or college - this means if your child, or someone in your household, has symptoms you should not send them to school or college
 - Engaging with the NHS Test and Trace process so that cases can be identified and action taken - this means if your child develops symptoms, you should arrange for them to get a test and you should inform your school or college of the results of that test.
 - Observing quarantine regulations when returning from abroad.
12. Every child will need a water bottle and for children not having a school meal, a packed lunch box.
13. They can bring their book bag with just their reading book, reading record and any homework that they are returning.
14. On a PE day they must come to school in either shorts and t-shirt or plain joggers and t-shirt and school jumper. We will not be changing in class. As the weather gets colder please wear jogger option for PE kit. (see information below about your child's PE day).
15. All other days will be usual school uniform with plain black shoes or trainers that can be worn inside and outside, including for PE.
16. If your child needs a change of clothes at any point we will use our washed and bagged second hand uniform.
17. Parents and preschool siblings will not have access to school toilet facilities at drop off and pick up.
18. Please do not arrive earlier than your allotted time as this makes a nonsense of the whole staggered arrangements. As currently please ensure you leave the site promptly.
19. Our September Risk Assessment can be found on our website and will be updated when appropriate.
20. Our updated Ashtree Code of Conduct and Home School Agreement are also on the website.



PE Kits

Children will now NOT need to bring a PE kit to be kept at school. Children will be required to wear their PE kit to school on their class PE days. **Nursery children do not need a PE kit at all.**

The PE kit consists of a white T-shirt and bottle green shorts. However, during this current time, you may wish your child to wear plain jogging bottoms and their bottle green school jumper. Footwear on a PE day should be trainers.

PE days are as follows:

Reception - Tuesday and Wednesday

Year 1 - Monday

Year 2 - Wednesday

Year 3 - Tuesday and Wednesday

Year 4 - Monday and Wednesday

Year 5 - Tuesday and Wednesday

Year 6 - Wednesday



Ms Kirwan's Summer Story Challenge



Please ensure any work has reached me by Friday 18 September. Children will get a special mention in the September Newsletters.

Well done to Eddie from Class 9 for his wonderful story which I really enjoyed reading.

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 a hardcopy is 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.

Reception Places – September 2020

We have a few spaces available for Reception 2020 starters. Please let family or friends know and they can contact the school office on 01438 351090 or admin@ashtree.herts.sch.uk if they are interested.

FSM Vouchers

If anyone's circumstances have changed and you are now able to register for FSM, please see the information below.

Your child could get a free school meal if you receive any of the following:

- **Income Support**
- **Income-based Jobseekers Allowance**
- **Income-related Employment and Support Allowance**
- **Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999**
- **The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit**
- **Child Tax Credit** (as long as you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and you don't get more than **£16,190** a year)
- **Working Tax Credit run-on** (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- **Universal Credit** (with annual earned income of no more than **£7,400** after tax and not including any benefits you get).

Apply today if you receive any of these benefits. It takes **5 Minutes** and in most cases we can tell you straightaway if your child can get free meals at school.

Have your National Insurance number or Home Office number to hand when you apply.

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they'll remain eligible until 2022, or until they finish their current phase of schooling (primary or secondary), if that's after 2022.

School Uniform

Order forms are available from the school office - **correct payment needs to be made at the time of ordering**. If Parents/Carers prefer to purchase school uniform from other outlets, then please continue to do so. We have a small stock of second hand uniform available. Please contact the school office, in confidence, if this would be a support to you.

Registration Form for Universal Free School Meals

If you haven't already done so, please can you return back to the school office as soon as possible. Thank you.

Finally, welcome to our new families this term and we are wishing our old Year 6 pupils all the very best in Year 7. Some of you have visited us already and you all look so grown up in your new uniforms.



Dinner Behaviour Awards



The winners for this week are Classes 4 & 11.



Attendance Cup



The winner for this week is Class 13 with 99%.



Effort Cup



Congratulations to Millie from Year 6.

E. Kirwan

Term Dates Academic Year 20/21 (next academic year)

Provisional (dependent on any further Government Update)

Autumn Term 2020:

Friday 23 October

Monday 26 October – Friday 30 October

Friday 18 December

- INSET Day 3 - school closed to children
- Half Term
- Last day of term - finish at 2.15pm

Spring Term 2021:

Monday 4 January

Monday 15 February – Friday 19 February

Friday 26 March

- First day of term
- Half Term
- Last day of term - finish at 2.15pm

Summer Term 2021:

Monday 12 April

Tuesday 13 April

Monday 3 May

Monday 31 May – Friday 4 June

Wednesday 21 July

Thursday 22 July

- INSET Day 4 - school closed to children
- First day of term
- BANK HOLIDAY
- Half Term
- Last day of term - finish at 2.15pm
- INSET Day 5 - school closed to children

Academic Year 2021

KS1 – Y2 Testing window is the whole month of May 2021.

KS1 – Y1 Phonics is 7 – 18 June 2021.

KS2 – Y4 Multiplication Test is 7 – 25 June 2021.

KS2 – Y6 10 – 13 May 2021.

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

