



# Ashtree Primary School & Nursery



Chertsey Rise, Stevenage, Herts SG2 9JQ

Tel: 01438 351090 Fax: 01438 353464

Email: [admin@ashtree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@ashtree.herts.sch.uk)

 Facebook: Ashtree Primary School Nursery

 Twitter: @AshtreeSchool

Headteacher: Mrs M. Janes

Deputy Headteacher: Ms P. Ruprai

## *Newsletter 3*

*Date: 26 January 2024*

This week I have been talking with the children about their learning. During assembly on Friday, I will be reminding them about some of the things that help us learn from the lists I spoke about in last week's newsletter.

I also had the pleasure of talking to Year 5 and Year 6 about their learning, the teachers can be very proud of what they are doing in class because the children were so excited about learning. They spoke to me about how much the Working Walls in class help them to remember the facts that they have learnt or the methods they have used. They are finding the widgets that we are using to illustrate key vocabulary really helps them to remember the words.

They mentioned how helpful their teachers and the teaching assistants are and that the way the adults teach, and model work makes them enjoy challenging themselves because they feel that they are so well explained. We also spoke about handwriting and how much they are enjoying the new handwriting interventions. They were even keen to tell me and show me their favourite letters to write!

It was a joy to speak to children that were so polite, well-spoken, and enthusiastic about their learning.

A reminder that the RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch is coming up this weekend. I know that I will be taking part, it is a shame that I can't do it from the school field, just this week I have seen parakeets and red kites.

Mrs M Janes - Headteacher

### **Emotion Based School Avoidance - Parent Workshop**

Do you have difficulty in the morning with your child not wanting to come to school? Does your child display a range of emotions throughout the morning routine? The NHS Mental Health Support Team are delivering a parental workshop at Ashtree School on Wednesday 31 January, 2.45-3.25pm. Please see the attached flyer for information.

The survey will ask for views on subjects such as weight management, fitness, nutrition, and overall health. The purpose of gathering this information is to give services users an opportunity to feedback as well as enable effective commissioning and service delivery that meets the needs of Hertfordshire residents.

The survey should take 5 -10 mins to complete, the closing date is 4 February.

### **Writing at Ashtree – Mrs Allen**

Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 have been really enjoying their new writing units. Thanks to the Friends of Ashtree, we were able to purchase some new books for some exciting new writing units and the outcome has been amazing. In addition to this, Key Stage 2 have been trialling a new handwriting intervention with great improvements seen in their joined-up handwriting and stamina for writing. Some of the children in Year 6 said how they feel they are now able to write more in less time, that their handwriting looks neater and that they've been able to focus on improving it more than ever. I'm very excited to see all the work on writing at Ashtree this term.



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## For Parents/Carers

If you have had experience of our children and young people's Healthy Weight Service (provided by BeeZee Bodies), or you have views on this topic, we want to hear from you.

Your views are important and can help us understand how to provide services in the future.

Our survey will ask you about things like weight management, fitness, and nutrition, and you'll have the chance to win a £50 food voucher.

<https://surveys.hertfordshire.gov.uk/s/CYPHealthyWeightServiceParentCarer/>



## For children and young people

If you are a young person aged 8-18 living in Hertfordshire, we want to know if you have been helped by our Healthy Weight Service and what you think about things like being a healthy weight, keeping fit and eating well.

Please fill in our survey. Your ideas will help us understand how to help people in the future.

You can ask a parent or carer to help you if you want to.

You'll have the chance to enter a prize draw to win a £50 sports shop voucher.

<https://surveys.hertfordshire.gov.uk/s/CYPHealthyWeightService/>



## Attendance Cup:

The winner for this week is **Robins** with **97.8%**

## This week's trophy winner is:

KS1 Community Trophy - Isabella (Wrens)

KS2 Pride Trophy - Hollie-Anne (Falcons)

Class	Authorised / Unauthorised Sessions Missed
Falcons	5
Falcons	5
Hawks	9
Harriers	11
Buzzards	13
Swifts	16
Eagles	36
Wrens	41
Red Kites	44
Kestrels	64

## House Points - Special Mention:

**Isabella (Wrens)** is an amazing role model, whenever I see her around the school, she is doing the right thing without even being asked. She is particularly good at showing us how to use ABC for walking around the school. Well done, Isabella. **Awarded by: Mrs Janes**

**Hollie-Anne (Falcons)** earned a house point for completing extra homework. This was based on our English book, 'Talking Histories.' Hollie researched and wrote about an inspirational figure from the book. Great work.

**Awarded by: Mr Yates**

**Lola and Louie (Hawks)** asked if they could collect litter from the playground to make the school environment better and safer for everyone. **Awarded by: Mrs Mulqueen**



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## **Athlete Visit to School - 30 January 2024**

We're very excited to be welcoming Commonwealth Games Gold Medal Winner Steve Frew to the school to lead a sponsored fitness circuit. Steve will then be delivering a motivational assembly and a Q & A session for the pupils.

The event will both connect the pupils to an extraordinary athlete role model and raise money to improve physical activity in the school, as well as supporting both athletes and para-athletes, so that they can continue to inspire the next generation.

For more information about the organisers, please visit: [www.sportsforschools.org](http://www.sportsforschools.org)

## **New Club Alert**

Starting on Tuesday 30th January will be Dodgeball after-school club. Follow this link for full details and to book a place:

<https://www.premier-education.com/parents/venue/courses/4618-871148/?back=1&school=Ashtree>

In addition, we still have spaces available for our Thursday after-school tennis club. Follow this link for full details and to book a place:

<https://www.premier-education.com/parents/venue/courses/4618-871150/?back=1&school=Ashtree>

## **Almond Hill v Ashtree Year 5 Match – 19.01.24 – Reported by Mrs Cox**

The Year 5 team were excited to play their first game of the new year and to meet a new team. Despite the cold weather, we were looking forward to playing a league match again.

It was a good game with all members of the squad playing at least three of the four quarters and some of them trying out new positions. All our shooting attackers scored at least one goal and we won the match 1 – 5.

Our captain for this game was Aamira and the Player of the Match, as chosen by the Almond Hill team, was Melika our Centre, for her speed and energy and for enabling both the attacking and defending players of our team to receive the ball.

## **Ashtree v Woolenwick Juniors Mixed League Match – 25.01.24 – Reported by Mrs Cox**

It was lovely to welcome a new team to the Mixed League, to Ashtree on Thursday afternoon. Our squad were also pleased to say hello to an old friend on the Woolenwick team.

It was a lovely game to watch, with all the squad playing and with some players trying out new positions. Again, all of our shooting attackers scored, and we won the game 7 – 0.

Our captain for this game was Cara and the Player of the Match, as chosen by the Woolenwick team, was Emmanuella, who once again used her speed and awareness of space on the court to intercept the ball and regain possession.



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Monday 29 January	Tuesday 30 January	Wednesday 31 January	Thursday 1 February	Friday 2 February
<b>Menu 1</b> <b>12.30-1pm Warriorz Street Dance</b> Volleyball Y5/6 (lunchtime) Premier Education Gymnastics Club Rec – Y6 After School Club 3.15-4.15pm	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	Stevenage Royals Basketball Y1 – Y6 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 Girls Football Training Mr Allen Y5/6 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
Monday 5 February	Tuesday 6 February	Wednesday 7 February	Thursday 8 February	Friday 9 February
<b>Menu 2</b> <b>12.30-1pm Warriorz Street Dance</b> Volleyball Y5/6 (lunchtime) Premier Education Gymnastics Club Rec – Y6 After School Club 3.15-4.15pm	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	Stevenage Royals Basketball Y1 – Y6 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 Girls Football Training Mr Allen Y5/6 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

## School Dates 2023 / 2024

**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

## 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)