



ASHTREE PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY



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10 May 2019

NEWSLETTER 30

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to this week's newsletter.

Nursery Admissions

Applying for a school Nursery place for 2019-2020 (For children born between 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016).

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 2019 can be downloaded from our website.

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.

SATs

We wish everyone, good luck, particularly in Year 6 and Year 2, with their SATs tests and tasks which are now underway. The children in Years 3, 4 and 5 will also be working on assessment materials and staff across the whole school will be using their knowledge of pupils to make judgements on progress. With the report writing season ahead of us, I thank the staff for the extra hours that they somehow manage to find. Pupils in Year 6 have already brought home their timetable for their tests next week. Please ensure that pupils are in school in good time in the morning so that they have every opportunity to do their best. If, due to an unforeseen emergency, your child is going to be late, please inform the school as soon as you can, as we will still be able to make provision for your child to take the test.

Y6 Parents Kingswood Meeting

There will be a meeting for this year's Kingswood visit on **Monday 13 May 2019 at 5.45pm** in the Junior Hall. We anticipate T-shirts and parent packs will be given out at this meeting. Medical Forms and Contact Numbers **MUST** be back by this meeting. Please come in via the Junior Playground doors. We still have some outstanding basis that need to be cleared, please.

Free School Meal

For general enquiries about Universal Infancy Free School Meals, Free School Meals, Music fees, applications or to check pupil data please contact us at howcanwehelp@hertfordshire.gov.uk. For enquiries about this article please contact us at CS.enquiries@hertfordshire.gov.uk. Please refer to the Free School Meals Guidance for information about the introduction of Universal Credit and the phasing out of other income based benefits.



Dinner Money – Summer Term

£2.60 per day £13.00 per week

1st half term £59.80 2nd half term £91.00

Please note this price change from the 6 April 2019.

We have a number of people who continue to take dinners without payment. Please be reminded that dinners must be paid for in advance. Where a letter/text has been issued notifying that no further meals will be provided please ensure that you send your child in with a home packed lunch each day until the debt is cleared. 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. Please ensure all outstanding balances are cleared by the end of term. Thank you for your understanding. It is still possible to pay dinner money through Schoolcomms when school has closed.

Hertfordshire County Show - 25 & 26 May 2019

We have been given 35 children (5-15 years) tickets for the Hertfordshire County Show at Redbourn Showground. If you would like one of these free tickets (sale price £10.00), please come to school office to collect one – first come first served.

Parental Engagement and Awareness of DSPL - Survey

The following questionnaire is for Parents, Guardian or Carers of a child/children or young person that lives within the Area of DSPL 2 (Delivering Special Provision Locally)

What is DSPL 2?

This is a Hertfordshire-wide partnership approach where parents, carers, staff in early years settings and schools, further education colleges, local authority officers and representatives from other agencies, work together as part of an Area Group, to ensure there is a range of provisions and support services available, within their local community and therefore creating a more positive and connected community.

We've made this questionnaire to help us understand what members of the local community know about the DSPL and what we do.

Please see the link for completing the survey: <https://forms.gle/rksm55D5ekNjXQXj7>

Do you enjoy singing as part of a group? - See Mrs Clark in school for any further details.

Let's Sing Children's Choir

The Stevenage Music Centre 'Let's Sing' Project is a community initiative currently sponsored by Stevenage Arts Guild, Stevenage Community Trust, The Youth Mayor, and several Stevenage Councillors. The Let's Sing Choir is an all-inclusive, non-audition group for 7-18 year olds where the repertoire is varied and exciting and encapsulates all genres of music.

As well as being a fun activity, choral singing stimulates a child's musical and aural development while improving sight-reading and co-ordination skills. Singing is an essential part of our children's musical education and can also enhance their learning of an instrument.

If any of your family are interested in joining the choir please email stevenagemusicenquiries@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Family Taiko Workshop

Taiko is a group of Japanese percussion instruments –if you'd like to give them a try there is a family workshop on Thursday 13th June 2019 from 6-7pm at the Stevenage Music Centre at The Nobel School in Mobbsbury Way. For tickets (cost £3.83) visit the Herts Music Service website and search Stevenage Taiko.



Diving Active in Luton

I have received the following report from the Diving Development Officer.

"We have finished our phase 2 diving selections, the standard was very high and we are delighted to inform you that the following children have been selected.

Daisy and Olivia – Little Rippers Squad (training 4-6 hours per week)

Amira – Mighty Minis Squad (training 2.5 hours per week)

Brianna – TID Pre Squad (training 1 hour per week)

The children will start their diving journey on 20 May and we look forward to seeing how they progress. Thank you for participating in our 2019 diving talent search and we look forward to working with you again in the future".



Stevenage Cycle Hub

The Stevenage Cycle Hub is running a Bikeability course during the May half term holiday, from Tuesday, 28 to Friday 31 May. Bikeability is today's cycle training programme. It's like cycling proficiency, but better! It's about gaining practical skills and understanding how to cycle on today's roads.

The course is being run in conjunction with the Herts CC Cycling Team and covers Bikeability Levels 1 & 2. It is the same course as they run in schools and is delivered by their instructors. We are offering the course as a catch-up for those that didn't achieve at Level 2 last time, and for any that don't have the chance to do the course through their school.

The course takes place at the Cycle Hub over 4 days with 1 two-hour session per day (09:30 – 11:30). The first session will be Level 1 and will be in a traffic free situation, where we ensure participants have the skills needed to go on the road. The other sessions take place on local quiet roads, looking at how to move in traffic and negotiate parked cars, side roads and junctions. The course costs £28 per child (payable in advance) and

there is a maximum of 10 places available. All participants must be in Year 5 or above (aged 9 years or older). The course can be booked online using the following link:<https://stevenagecyclehub.org.uk/events/bikeability-level-2-stevenage-may-2019/>

KS2 MSA Vacancy

We have a full time vacancy in KS2 (6hrs 15mins per week 11.55am-1.10pm daily) term time only. Please contact the School Office for a Job Description and Application Form. Closing date is Monday 20 May 2019 with interviews to be held on the afternoon of Thursday 23 May 2019.

Sporting Fixtures



Girls' Football - Reported by Mr Allen



The girls played very well and were very unlucky to lose out to St Vincent de Paul on Tuesday, losing 3-1. Player of the match goes to Ruby for her excellent effort in midfield.



Boys' Football - Reported by Mr Yates



Ashtree 2-3 Woolenwick – Thursday 9 May

The boys' team battled tremendously well against a strong Woolenwick side. Ashtree were unlucky not to finish the game with at least a draw as goals from Joy and Daniel were not quite enough. A great spirit was shown throughout by the team who played some excellent football. Player of the Match goes to Daniel for his tenacity in midfield and his range of passing to set up attacks.



Girls' Netball - Reported by Mrs Cox



Peartree v Ashtree B League Netball Match – Thursday 9 May

The B League squad played their first match of the Summer term against Peartree this week. With only a few of the girls having had regular match practice, this was an opportunity to give the team a league game experience. And they did the school proud!

The excitement and focus they demonstrated was amazing, as was the support they showed for the rest of their team. The improvements they made to their game in each quarter was amazing, preventing the opposing team from making more gains on us.

Unfortunately, we lost 10 – 3 but, as I previously mentioned, the majority of the goals scored by Peartree were in the first quarter, before Ashtree had settled into their play.

Player of the match, chosen by the Peartree team was Cheryl, who was also our captain. Cheryl is a great goal defence. She reads the game well to intercept threatening passes and listens carefully to the guidance given by our coach. It is due to her and the other defence players that we were able to keep the score as low. Special mention should also be made to Lily, Demi, Nicoleta and Jasmine, as this was their first match experience. They were fantastic, checking the rules and instantly responding to advice. Overall, a really positive experience. Well done!



Dinner Behaviour Awards



The winners for this week are Sunshines & Class 8.



Attendance Cup



The winner for this week is Class 10 with 100%.



Effort Cup



Congratulations to Farida from Year 4.

E. Kirwan

Academic Year 2018/2019



Diary Dates for Summer Term



Summer Term 2019:

Wednesday 1 May – Friday 24 May

Monday 13 May – Friday 17 May

Monday 27 May – Friday 31 May

Monday 9 June – Friday 14 June

Monday 10 June – Friday 14 June

Wednesday 19 June

Thursday 27 June

Friday 28 June

Monday 1 July

Thursday 4 July

Friday 5 July

Thursday 11 July

Friday 12 July

Friday 19 July

Monday 22 July

Tuesday 23 July

Wednesday 24 July

- Y2 SATs Test Period
- KS2 – Y6 - SATs Week
- **Half-term**
- Y6 Kingswood Trip - Isle of Wight
- Y1 Phonics Test Week
- Y3 Trip to St Albans Museum
- New to Reception/Nursery Parents/Carers Evenings
- Summer Fayre 3.15-5.00pm
- Open Evening
- EYFS / KS1 Visit to Whipsnade
- Annual pupil reports to parents
- Y6 Transition Day
- Family/Picnic & Lunchtime followed by afternoon Sports Day
- Last day of term - **finish at 2.15pm**
- **INSET Day 4 - school closed to children**
- **INSET Day 5 - school closed to children**
- **Occasional Day - school closed to children**

Academic Year 2019/2020 (next year)

Autumn Term 2019:

Monday 2 September

Tuesday 3 September

Wednesday 4 September

Friday 25 October

Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November

Friday 20 December

Spring Term 2020:

Monday 6 January

Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February

Monday 24 February

Friday 3 April

Monday 6 April – Friday 17 April

Summer Term 2020:

Monday 20 April

Monday 4 May

Monday 25 May – Friday 29 May

Friday 17 July

Monday 20 July

Tuesday 21 July

- **INSET Day 1 - school closed to children**
- **INSET Day 2 - school closed to children**
- First day of term
- **INSET Day 3 - school closed to children**
- **Half Term**
- Last day of term - **finish at 2.15pm**
- First day of term
- **Half Term**
- **INSET Day 4 - school closed to children**
- Last day of term - **finish at 2.15pm**
- **Half Term**
- First day of term
- **BANK HOLIDAY**
- **Half Term**
- Last day of term - finish at 2.15pm
- **INSET Day 5 - school closed to children**
- **Occasional Day - school closed to children**

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