



# 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: 36**

**DATE: 30 June 2023**

Dear Parents & Carers,

On Saturday we all had a great time at the Summer Fair, I even managed to win a prize on the tombola, which doesn't often happen! The weather held out and the Friends of Ashtree did a fantastic job organising the day. I know that the staff and children really appreciate the support that they give the school. If you are interested in helping next year or becoming a member of the PTA, please contact them at [PTA@ashtree.herts.sch.uk](mailto:PTA@ashtree.herts.sch.uk)

On Monday evening we welcomed parents into school for the Open Evening where you get to meet the new teacher and see the classroom. Mr Mark Lewis from the Hart Schools Trust was there to talk a little more about the trust and answer questions. I hope that those who attended found this useful.

The children in KS1 and EYFS, this week, have been learning to be independent. They have started to scrape their own plates just like the KS2 children. Independence skills are important, and it was lovely to watch the children feeling very grown up as they sorted the cutlery and beakers into the right trays. I have also been spending time in the KS2 dining room, eating my lunch, and talking to the children, and out on the KS1 and KS2 playgrounds where they have been teaching me their games.

I would like to thank Mrs Cox, Megan Cook and Mrs Cook for all their enthusiasm and hard work with our netball teams and clubs. The teams have improved their skill and grown in confidence, later in this newsletter you can read about what the teams have achieved. Thank you again.

Mrs Cox has also been looking at how to encourage reading across the school. Yesterday some Y8 children from Marriotts, the Reading Rangers, visited to read with our KS1 children. A lot of fun was had by everyone.

Finally, I would like to thank Mrs Chambers and Miss Butt who will be moving onto new jobs in September. Mrs Chambers has supported children on the playground and in class during her time with us and I know that the children that worked with her found her support very helpful. Miss Butt has been our Nursery and Reception teacher since 2016 and has helped children to learn to read, grow in confidence and be ready for their next step at Ashtree. I know that the children will miss her very much.

Mrs M Janes - Headteacher

## Netball:

Thursday saw our last netball session of the season and it was wonderful to end our netball year with a celebration. As well as personal awards for our Y5 and Y6 players, we were able to announce that we were runners up in the Year 5/6 mixed league and we awarded the team their medals. The Year 5/6 team were, Evangeline, Kirsty, Rachael, Ibrahim, Charlie, Sienna, Ben, Oliver, Cara, Emmanuella, Niamh and Edie.

Thank you to all the Y5 and Y6 players (and their parents!) for giving up your time to come to training and matches, for travelling to other schools to play and for showing amazing dedication to our club.

This was the perfect way to celebrate all that our netballers have achieved this year and we are very excited for the new season.





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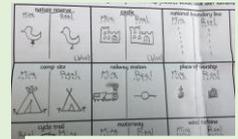
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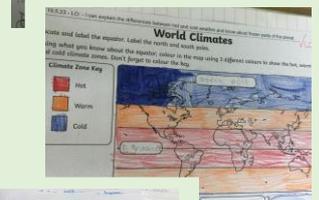
Deputy Headteacher: Ms P. Ruprai

## Geography & History:

This week, I have had the chance to look at some of the wonderful History and Geography work across the school. In EYFS, children have been learning about time periods including now and next. This has progressed moving to the different days of the week, months and the four seasons.



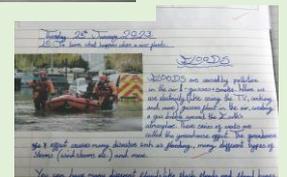
In KS1, Y1 and Y2 children have produced some excellent work about some different explorers including Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong. Y1 children were keen to point out that Christopher Columbus was not the nicest explorer at all! Children in Y1 have also shown good understanding of climate zones.



In KS2, Y3 children have just finished looking at Roman Britain and how they built roads and introduced coins to our country. Y4 have investigated the Ancient Egyptians earlier this year and it was very interesting reading about the mummification process. In class, they even had a chance to mummify some different fruits!



Year 5 children have been investigating the Victorians this term and it was amazing to see some of the discussions and research about school life. Some of the children were shocked to learn about consequences of bad behaviour at school during the Victorian times. Y5 have also looked at the water cycle, including some great explanations of floods and how they can impact us. Y6 children have explored the different biomes that can be seen in the Americas during their Geography this year. Children explained their work well and used diagrams to support their explanations.



## Y6 PGL:

The Year 6s, who came to PGL, amazed us with their awesome teamwork, bravery, and enthusiasm whilst away. Pupils pushed themselves out of their comfort zones by facing their fear of heights, challenging themselves to take the next step and were fantastic role models for Ashtree. All staff thoroughly enjoyed their week away with them and everyone has wonderful memories of a brilliant week.



A big shout out and heartfelt thanks to a parents' very generous donation of glue sticks to Ashtree! Teachers know that glue sticks are worth their weight in gold dust, and with their support, we're sticking together in creative triumph! We're forever grateful for your glue-tastic contribution.

## Reading Rangers:

Swifts class had some exciting visitors on Thursday, as the Y8 Reading Rangers from Marriotts School came to Ashtree. This project aims to develop a pleasure of reading for all, as well as to develop reading skills. The pupils in Swifts were eager to read to the Reading Rangers and all who took part were delighted to see the enthusiasm and enjoyment shown by the children. We look forward to future sessions with them.



Total raised from the Cake Sale: £136.90.

Thank you everyone!



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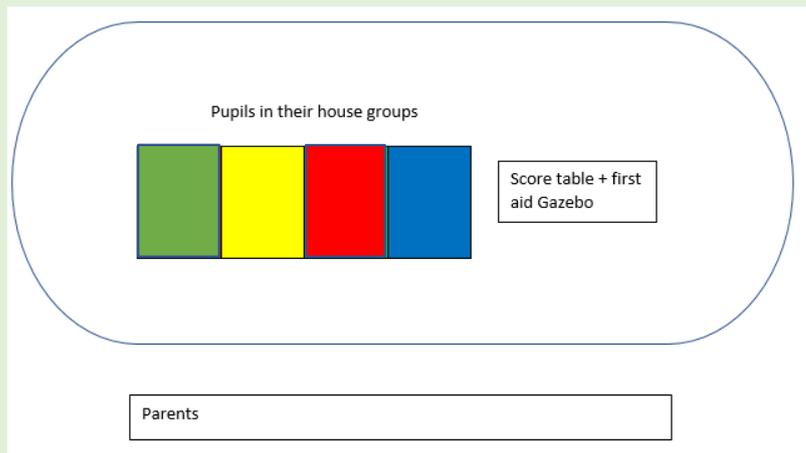
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Key Stage 2 playground

Sports Day and our Family Picnic will take place on **Thursday 6 July 2023**.

## **Timings:**

- Key Stage One: 9.30am – 11am
- Early Years: 10.15am – 11am (Pupils will join the Key Stage One pupils)
- Key Stage Two: 1pm-3pm

## **Location:**

This year, Sports Day will take place on a single track (pictured above), which is located on the Key Stage Two end of the field.

Parents/Carers will sit on one side of the track only. This will be the side of the track that is nearest to the Key Stage Two playground. We encourage you to bring picnic blankets to sit on, however we will also provide chairs for people to sit on.

Pupils will sit in their house groups, in the centre of the track. Whilst the Sports Day is taking place, please do not cross the track to approach your child.

## **Collection:**

To collect your child at the end of the Sports Day, either for the Family Picnic, or to take home, please make your way to the usual end of the day collection point for your child's classroom. Pupils will be released to you by their class teacher, from their classroom, or playground door, as is usual practice.



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## Attendance Cup:

The winner for this week is **Robins**

Class	Authorised / Unauthorised Sessions Missed
Robins	4
Owls	9
Harriers	10
Parrots	10
Kestrels	20
Buzzards	20
Red Kites	22
Hawks	23
Swifts	23
Magpies	24
Eagles	28
Wrens	31
Falcons	58

Monday 3 July	Tuesday 4 July	Wednesday 5 July	Thursday 6 July	Friday 7 July
<b>Menu 2</b>		Strike Day	Sports Day	Strike Day
Monday 10 July	Tuesday 11 July	Wednesday 12 July	Thursday 13 July	Friday 14 July
<b>Menu 3</b>				Y6 Swimming
Monday 17 July	Tuesday 18 July	Wednesday 19 July	Thursday 20 July	Friday 21 July
<b>Menu 1</b>				<b>LAST DAY OF TERM 1.30PM FINISH</b>

### Term Dates Academic Year 2023

<b>Friday 21 July 2023</b>	-	<b>Last day of term – 1.30pm finish</b>
<b>24 July 2023 - 31 August</b>	-	<b>Summer Holiday</b>
<b>Friday 1 September</b>	-	<b>INSET Day 1</b>
<b>Monday 4 September</b>	-	<b>Start of term</b>
<b>23 October – 27 October</b>	-	<b>Half-term Holiday</b>