



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

Acting Headteacher: Mrs M. Janes
Acting Deputy Headteacher: Mr R. Yates

NEWSLETTER 4

DATE: 1 October 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

This week Mr Yates, Mrs Cox and I were pleased to be able to show our Improvement Partner around the school to see what we do in Science. We thoroughly enjoyed talking to the children about their work. They told us all about the investigations they were doing, the knowledge they had learnt and what they remembered learning in other year groups. When we went into Year 4 they were learning about how the teeth grind up the food using a potato masher, in Year 3 they were learning about metamorphic rock by putting pressure and heat onto sweets to join them all together. Year 1 have been learning about carnivores, herbivores and omnivores, look out for next week's newsletter to find out more.

The children's behaviour and manners during the day was exemplary and the adults were all very impressed. Well done to Mrs Cox who is our Science Leader and all the staff and children. We had a practise fire drill this week, which went well and I even managed to turn the fire alarm off afterwards!

This week in assembly we spoke about Harvest Festival and the importance of caring about everyone in our community because we are unable to collect food in school this year we are asking for a donation to one of the following: [Food Shed](#) [Feed Up Warm Up](#)

Have a lovely weekend, I hope it is not too wet!

Mrs Janes – Acting Headteacher



In **Year 2** - We have been learning about The Great Plague of 1665. This person is a plague doctor. Would you like to visit this doctor? We sketched a picture using different methods of shading.



Our **Year 5** - Topic in Science is Forces. In the lesson about water resistance, they experimented with different shapes to discover how streamlined shapes reduce water resistance and how bouyancy (upthrust) helps keep a boat afloat.

In the next lesson, they will make parachutes to investigate air resistance.





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Summer Reading Challenge - Wild World Heroes

Children have been speaking to me when they complete the Summer Reading Challenge. If any other children have completed the challenge, please let your class teacher know.



I have been asking children about their favourite book, if you are able to send in a picture of the front cover I will be displaying them in my office. I am hoping to have lots of suggestions to read over the half-term.



Nursery - This week as part of our "enrichment curriculum" Nursery were visited by Ross, the guitar teacher. The children were very excited to learn about the different sounds a guitar makes. As a class we sang some nursery rhymes while Ross played along. It was lots of fun!

Thank you to everyone who has returned their "All about me" sheets. We are waiting on a few more so please do return them to Nursery staff as soon as possible.

Also, a polite reminder to bring in wellie boots for your children as we will be doing our learning in the outdoor area in all weathers. These will remain on the premises so please make sure they are labelled.

Please ensure your child has a green book bag as we will be sending letters and children's work home often.



Fairlands Valley Park Winter Athletics Festival - We are delighted to send Natalie, Amira, Georgia, Lexi, Laney, Remai, Zach, Abou-Bakr, Harry, Elias, Dawson, Joe, Bobby Oliver, Louis, Luke, Max, Kirsty, Evangeline and Rachael to our Cross County on Thursday 7 October 2021 – 12.00pm – 2.30pm.

We have no doubt they will represent the school well!

Out of School Achievements

The children of Ashtree School have been telling us about all of their achievements outside school. This week we found out about: - Jack was signed up to the football league, along with Aaron, Jacob and Devon. They play for Bedwell Rangers. Recently Jack and Aaron played against Stevenage Borough and their team won. They both played amazingly and Jack got awarded 'Man of the Match'. **Well done Jack, Aaron, Jacob and Devon.**

Oliver plays for local football team 'Walkern Whites' U10s as the goalkeeper, last weekend he got 'Man of the Match'. **Well done Oliver.**

Also Brooke from Reception was 'Gymnastic of the Week' for her beautiful front support on the bars. **Well done Brooke.**

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#HelloYellow 2021 – Mental Health

On the Friday 8 October, we will be having a wear yellow for Mental Health. Children are asked to wear anything yellow for the day in school/class they will be learning about positive mental health and wellbeing.

Just a couple of reminders:

- If your child is absent from school, please either leave a message on the absence line or on schoolcomms giving your child's name and reason for their absence. This would help us as if we do not receive a message from you we do have to contact you to ask the reason for your child's absence. Thank you.
- Please be reminded that holidays should not be taken during term time, where this is unavoidable a 'Leave of Absence Form' must be completed in good time for the Headteacher to reply. Each request will be considered on an individual basis. Thank you.
- **Reception / Nursery Spaces**
We still have spaces in Nursery and Reception. Can we ask parents to share this information to any families that may be interested in a space Thank you.

Cars on Site

Unfortunately, on two occasions this week, cars driving on site have narrowly missed causing an accident. ONLY cars with an agreed pass, which is on display, will be allowed on site. Any cars driving quickly or irresponsible will have the pass removed. It is important to me to allow access for those that need it, however the safety of our children and families is paramount. **Please do not attempt to drive on the site without a pass even if you are late. Thank you for your understanding.**

Friends of Ashtree AGM

The next meeting will be held on Monday 18 October 6.30pm at school.

If you would like to join the Friends of Ashtree please come along to the meeting.



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Dinner Behaviour Awards



The winners for this week are Class 6 (for good listening) & Class 10 (for being respectful to all staff).



Attendance Cup



The winners for this week are Class 11 & Class 13 with 97.5%.

Monday 4 October	Tuesday 5 October	Wednesday 6 October	Thursday 7 October	Friday 8 October
Menu 3		ART Club Years 4,5&6 (3.20pm-4.15pm) Cheerleading Years 5&6 (3.30pm-4.15pm)	Cross Country Festival Year 5&6	Netball Training Years 5&6 (3.30pm-4.15pm)
Monday 11 October	Tuesday 12 October	Wednesday 13 October	Thursday 14 October	Friday 15 October
Menu 1		ART Club Years 4,5&6 (3.20pm-4.15pm) Cheerleading Years 5&6 (3.30pm-4.15pm)		Netball Training Years 5&6 (3.30pm-4.15pm)
Monday 18 October	Tuesday 19 October	Wednesday 20 October	Thursday 21 October	Friday 22 October
Menu 2 Friends of Ashtree AGM		ART Club Years 4,5&6 (3.20pm-4.15pm) Cheerleading Years 5&6 (3.30pm-4.15pm)	Individual Photo/Siblings	Netball Training Years 5&6 (3.30pm-4.15pm)
Monday 25 October	Tuesday 26 October	Wednesday 27 October	Thursday 28 October	Friday 29 October
HALF-TERM	HALF-TERM	HALF-TERM	HALF-TERM	HALF-TERM

Monday 1 November	Tuesday 2 November	Wednesday 3 November	Thursday 4 November	Friday 5 November
INSET Day 3 - school closed to children	<u>First day of term for pupils</u> Reception Height/Weight/Hearing Vision Screening	ART Club Years 4,5&6 (3.20pm-4.15pm) Cheerleading Years 5&6 (3.30pm-4.15pm)		Netball Training Years 5&6 (3.30pm-4.15pm)



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Term Dates Academic Year 2021



Autumn Term 2021



Tuesday 21 December

- Last day of term – finish at 2.15pm



Spring Term 2022



Wednesday 5 January 2022

- First day of term for pupils

Monday 14 February – Friday 18 February

- Half-term

Monday 21 February

- INSET Day 4 - school closed to children

Tuesday 22 February

- First day of term for pupils

Friday 1 April

- End of term – finish at 2.15pm

Monday 4 April – Monday 18 April

- Half-term - Easter Break



Summer Term 2022



Tuesday 19 April

- First day of term for pupils

Friday 27 May

- INSET Day 5 - school closed to children

Monday 30 May – Friday 3 June

- Half Term *(including the Spring Bank Holiday and additional Bank Holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.*

Monday 6 June

- First day of term for pupils

Friday 22 July

- Last day of term – finish at 2.15pm

Academic Year 2022

KS1 – Y2 Testing window is the whole month of May 2022.

KS1 – Y1 Phonics is 6 – 17 June 2022.

KS2 – Y4 Multiplication Test is 6 – 24 June 2022.

KS2 – Y6 9 – 12 May 2022.

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