



ASHTREE PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY



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4 October 2019

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NEWSLETTER 5

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to this week's newsletter.

**Ashtree Primary School and Nursery – Opening Evening
September 2020 Intake
Open Evening!
Monday 14 October 2019
3.30pm – 5.00pm**

An excellent chance to see our Nursery and Reception classrooms and meet the staff. Come and explore the wider school and see all the amazing opportunities we can offer you and your children.

Everybody is welcome to come along.

It will be lovely to see you all!

Reception Application Deadline: 15 January 2020
Nursery Applications: Open now on a first come, first served basis

Summer Reading Challenge 2019 (Space Chase) / Ms Kirwan's Summer Writing Challenge. I was very pleased to reward these children with their 'Headteacher Award' stickers so very well done to the following children:

Pupil Achievements

Year 3: James, Mali

Governor Vacancies

We currently have opportunities for new parent governors to join our governance team. If any parent/carers would like to express an interest in this role please contact the school office 01438 351090 and your details will be passed to The Chair of Governors, Mr W Spicer. Mr W Spicer will be very happy to outline the duties of the role and elections to the posts will be held as appropriate.

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.

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 –

We have a few spaces available for Reception. 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.

Y6 Secondary School Applications

I have been asked to remind our Y6 parents that the final deadline for Secondary School Applications is **Thursday 31 October 2019**.

Kingswood 2020

Just a reminder, please can we have the Kingswood deposit by 7 October 2019.



Headlice

Please check your child as there have been a large number of 'sightings' recently!



Parking

I would like to remind you that parent vehicles are not allowed on site (including the driveway near the main gate) unless in cases of emergency or through prior arrangement with the office due to medical reasons. Green passes are issued on these occasions, and a log of vehicle registrations is kept. If you have a green pass, please inform the office if your vehicle registration has changed, as we do carry out spot checks. I am sure you understand that the safety of your children is our prime concern. **Please also be considerate to our neighbours and do not park across their driveways.**



Girls' Football Tournament at Marriotts on 27 September – Reported by Mr Allen



The girls played very well at the competition - even in the torrential rain! We were very unlucky not to get through the group with 4 close games. Player of the Tournament goes to Demi for her excellent goalkeeping.



Boys' Football Tournament at Marriotts on 2 October – Reported by Mr Flynn



The boys played very well at the competition. A draw and two very closely contested defeats. Player of the Tournament goes to Enoch. His first game for the school and he was fantastic. Well done all the boys.



Photographs

I would like to remind you that the family and individual photographs will be on **Thursday 17 October**. I am sure that the children will look as smart as they normally do on this occasion.



Parents/Carers Consultations – Monday 21 October and Tuesday 22 October



Please see the letter with information about how to book online via schoolcomms, that has come out today with the Newsletter.



FOA Welly Walk & Cake Sale

The total raised from the cake sale was £122.40. Sponsor money for the welly walk is still coming in, the total amount raised will be in the next week's Newsletter.



Harvest Festival



The Harvest Festival will take place on Friday 18 October at 2.15pm. This year we are again supporting the Stevenage Community Food Bank, therefore we are asking children to bring in items from the following list: **Breakfast Cereals, Baked Beans, Garden Peas, Tinned Meals, Tinned Spaghetti, Tinned Meat, Tins of Fruit, Tea, Coffee, Tinned Sweetcorn, UHT Milk, Custard, and Soup.**

By donating food in this way, it will be much easier for the staff at the food bank to cater for the needs of their clients. We would be happy to receive donations from Monday 14 October. These can be donated to your child's class. If you would like to find out more about this group please go to <http://stevenagecommunityfoodbank.org.uk>

We would also be grateful for any beautifully presented boxes of produce; these will go with some of our Year 6 pupils to Silkin Court on the afternoon of Friday 18 October before the Harvest Assembly. I know that the residents there will be delighted to receive them and they often write lovely thank you letters as a result.

World Mental Health Day – Thursday 10 October

This year we are raising awareness of 'World Mental Health Day' by supporting #helloyellow – youngminds.org.uk. Pupils are invited to come to school wearing 'yellow'. This can be just a splash of yellow such as a hair band or head to toe in yellow! Any donation towards this important cause would be greatly appreciated. At some point during the day, pupils will be participating in some mindfulness activities.

Harvest Festival Menu

There will be a menu change on **Thursday 17 October 2019**. The options on the day are as follows:
Red = Chicken and Gammon Pie, **Green** = Crispy Topped Vegetarian Bake, both served with roasted vegetables and sweetcorn and steamed Autumn fruit pudding.

There will be no yellow option or blue option (jacket potato) on this day.



Free School Meals for Children in Year 3 or older



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.

If you are already registered for free school meals you will not need to reapply.

Aldi Vouchers

The school has registered for this Aldi promotion; any stickers would be grateful received. Closing date is 3 November 2019.

KS1 & KS2 Playground

Please remember, for the safety of others that bikes/scooters are not to be ridden on school grounds. Also, the trim track and tyre park are out of bounds before and after school as they are not being supervised by staff at these times



Dinner Behaviour Awards



The winners for this week are Classes 5 & 8.



Attendance Cup



The winner for this week is Class 8 with 99%.



Effort Cup



Congratulations to Oliver from Year 2.

E. Kirwan

Academic Year 2019/2020

Autumn Term 2019:

Wednesday 17 October	-	Family & Individual Photographs
Monday 21 October	-	Parents Consultation Evening 5pm-7.30pm
Tuesday 22 October	-	Parents Consultation Evening 3.30pm-6.00pm
Friday 25 October	-	INSET Day 3 - school closed to children
Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November	-	Half Term
Friday 20 December	-	Last day of term - finish at 2.15pm

Spring Term 2020

Monday 6 January	-	First day of term
Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February	-	Half Term
Monday 24 February	-	INSET Day 4 - school closed to children
Friday 3 April	-	Last day of term - finish at 2.15pm
Monday 6 April – Friday 17 April	-	Half Term

Summer Term 2020

Monday 20 April	-	First day of term
Friday 8 May	-	BANK HOLIDAY
Monday 25 May – Friday 29 May	-	Half Term
Friday 17 July	-	Last day of term - finish at 2.15pm
Monday 20 July	-	INSET Day 5 - school closed to children
Tuesday 21 July	-	Occasional Day - school closed to children

KS1 – Y2 Testing window is the whole month of May 2020.

KS1 – Y1 Phonics is 8 – 19 June 2020.

KS2 – Y4 Multiplication Test is 8 – 26 June 2020.

KS2 – Y6 11 – 15 May 2020.

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