



Ashtree Primary School & Nursery



Chertsey Rise, Stevenage, Herts SG2 9JQ

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Headteacher: Mrs M. Janes

Deputy Headteacher: Ms P. Ruprai

Assistant Head: Mr R. Yates

Newsletter 9

Date: 15 March 2024

There has been a lot to be proud of this week, with the progress that the school is making, the beautiful, neat work from the children and the donations that we have made towards supporting the community.

Last week we were all dressed in our pyjamas and this week we are all dressed in red! To celebrate Red Nose Day and support the fundraising for good causes we all came in today with everything ranging from a red pair of socks to people dressed completely in red. Red Nose Day donations go to help adults and children here and abroad. Thank you for your donations.

We have all been working hard on our handwriting, with our Writing Lead Mrs Allen researching handwriting interventions and styles. Even some of the adults have had to practice forming our letters correctly, I am still working on joining my f's. The focus for our Learning Behaviours trophy this week was neat work, and the winner is Mrs Cox's class, Kestrels. I saw examples of the neatest work and the most improved handwriting in this class. Well, done Kestrels.

This week the governors held their Full Governing Body meeting. During the meeting they discussed the developments and improvements in the school particularly looking at Phonics, Reading and the wider curriculum. They were very pleased to see how well this is developing at Ashtree, their visit next term will be looking at writing.

Mrs M Janes - Headteacher

World Book Day at Ashtree

Last Thursday, it was wonderful to see so many of the pupils (and adults) take part in World Book Day. Not only did the Ashtree community dress up in their pyjamas for the theme of 'Bedtime Stories', but they also had the opportunity to take part in different reading related activities. This included 'Story Raids', where our Year 6 Reading Ambassadors would go to a classroom unexpectedly and read a book to the class. We also had the book fair at the end of the day, run by our wonderful PTA, the Friends of Ashtree, who sourced the books and made it possible for each Ashtree pupil to receive two free books. It was fantastic to have so many children come and show me what books they had chosen. Many thanks to everyone who helped make this day a success.

Maths Update - Mr Yates

This week has been a very busy week of Maths at Ashtree. Year 6 have been exemplary when completing their mock SATS tests, which included three Maths papers. Year 3, 4 and 5 have also been completing Maths tests all week. These tests are for diagnostic purposes and allow teachers to see which concepts pupils have secured over the Spring Term, and which concepts pupils need revisiting.

In addition, I have been able to spend some time in Maths lessons with our younger pupils. Milly H in Year 2 explained how to use a tally chart to build a block graph of pupils' favourite colours; Oscar K in Year 1 showed me how to use Cuisenaire rods to represent the value of coins; and in the Early Years, Reggie G taught me how to play the Numicon game - ordering amounts from 1-5.

This week's whole school homework is based around numbers. The teachers are looking forward to seeing what calculations pupils can come up with based on what they can see in the pictures.





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Nursery & Reception

The children in Nursery and Reception have been looking at the story 'The Snail and the Whale'. We thought about all the different places the Snail and the Whale visited on their adventures together.

This week the Nursery children looked in closer detail at some of the cold places. The children have been learning about life in North and South Pole and how to prepare for a visit there. They have been busy sorting out suitable clothes and thinking about what they need to take that might be different from their usual school uniform.

The children in Reception have been looking at the humid jungle and thinking about how it is different to Stevenage. The reception children have compared the climates of both places, as well as animals and their habitats that we might encounter if we went there!

Sports Day 2024

We have allocated Tuesday 25 June as our school Sports Day. In the case of inclement weather on this date, Tuesday 2 July will be our reserve date for Sports Day. Please add this date to your diaries. More information about Sports Day will be communicated to you in the Summer Term.

Reminder: Please can we ask that children do not play on the playground equipment before and after school – Thank you.

Music Performance 28.3.24 – Miss Hembra

Pupils in the choir and recorder club should have received a letter this week regarding our upcoming performance. Please return these asap in order to book your space.

Boys Football Team – Mr Yates

The boys' football team had an impressive 4-1 victory on Thursday after school. They all worked tirelessly and listened well to each other's instructions. The goal scorers were:

⚽ Babatounse

⚽ Eliseo

⚽ Ciaran

Player of the Match: Lloyd - For his excellent intercepting and switching of play.

Ashtree v St Nicholas Year 5 Girls League Match – 14.03.24

Our Year 5 team were looking forward to this match and to playing against the St Nicholas team again. It is always great to see how much the girls have improved and progressed in their netball skills.

This was a very close game, with both teams having many opportunities to score. We saw some fantastic channelling of the ball down the court and some great speed and movement. Unfortunately, we lost the game 0 – 1, but as such a close match, it will be interesting to see what happens when we meet the St Nicholas team again next term.

Our captain for this game was Melika and the Player of the Match, as chosen by the St Nicholas team, was Amira, for working hard in marking her player and intercepting the attacking passes.



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House Points - Special Mention:

Emily (Kestrels) has shown an excellent learning attitude in her Maths work over this term. This is evident by the improvement in her gap analysis scores for both arithmetic and reasoning this week. Miss Tobin and I are super proud of you, Emily! **Awarded by: Mr Allen**

Eshaal (Kestrels) has earned an instant house point for always taking pride in the presentation and the content of her work. She always does the best she possibly can, and her work is always of a high standard. Well, done Eshaal! **Awarded by: Mrs Cox**

Hida (Kestrels) has earned an instant house point for showing real resilience and pride in her work. This has had a positive impact on her handwriting and presentation, which she has worked hard to improve. Well, done Hida! **Awarded by: Mrs Cox**

Niyah (Buzzards) was awarded an on-the-spot house point for being a kind friend. She was mature, friendly, and sensible whilst taking care of another member of the Ashtree community. **Awarded by: Mrs Allen**



Attendance Cup: The winner for this week is **Red Kites** with **99.6%**

This week's trophy winners are:

Community - Niyah (Buzzards)

Resilience - Hida (Kestrels)

Class	Authorised / Unauthorised Sessions Missed
Eagles	8.7
Hawks	9.5
Falcons	12.7
Robins	7.9
Swifts	8.4
Buzzards	9.6
Penguins	13.9
Kestrels	13.0
Wrens	22.8
Harriers	10.0

Monday 18 March	Tuesday 19 March	Wednesday 20 March	Thursday 21 March	Friday 22 March
Menu 1 12.30-1pm Warriorz Street Dance 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 Sc 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 Chess Club (lunchtime) 12.30pm