



Ashford Hill Primary School Newsletter



6th May 2023

Dear Parents,

Friday brought a coronation celebration around the school for the afternoon. Although the weather forecast prevented a family picnic in the afternoon, the children had a wonderful lunch and coronation themed events and lessons in the afternoon. Thank you to our marvellous ladies of the PTA for decorating the hall. On the run up to the special event for our country the children have been learning about our British Values in assembly and in classes.



Next week is the beginning of the statutory assessments across the school. This will begin with our year 6s on Tuesday. They have worked extremely hard to get themselves ready for this week and we are very proud of their achievements, perseverance, and resilience so far. Year 2 will also be completing statutory assessments during May.

For the rest of the school (year 1,3,4 and 5) our final assessment of the year will take place after half term. As I have explained previously, these assessments support us to make adaptations to teaching and learning in order to support our children in the best way possible. As we move to next year, I will share the assessment schedule with you so that you can see what this looks like for the year ahead.

Holiday Dates and Inset Dates for Next Academic Year

The term dates and Inset days can be found at the link [download.asp \(ashfordhillprimary.co.uk\)](https://ashfordhillprimary.co.uk/download.asp) or [Ashford Hill Primary School - Term Dates](#). You will need to scroll to the end of the page on the second link. Hopefully this will be helpful when planning holidays and childcare for INSET days.

Attendance

This week we will be sending home letters to parent of children whose absence falls below 95%. Any attendance rate below 90% is seen as a persistent absentee. It is important to us that children attend school every day as this gives them the best chance of success as they move through their schooling. If children are persistently absent then they will be missing the teaching of fundamental skills and knowledge that they require in the future. We aim to achieve a whole school attendance of 97- 98%.

Large Playground Gate

Since Covid the large playground gate has been used to support a one way system. As there is no longer a need for a one way system, the gate will now be shut and all parents are to use the children's gate (outside Maple Class, to the right of reception) for drop offs and pick ups.

PGL – Osmington Bay, Parent briefing

Mr Dixon, Mrs Avery and I are looking forward to going on the residential this year with Hornbeam class. Mr Dixon will be meeting with parents next week via Zoom. Mr Dixon will be in touch with the zoom code and to confirm final arrangements for the PGL trip.

Ronnie and Hallie Climb Snowdon



Hallie and Ronnie made it to the top of mount Snowdon. We are so very proud of them!

As a joint effort with their cousin, they managed to raise £1,250 plus gift aid for cancer research.

They walked over 30,000 steps in the process. They powered through blisters, aches and tiredness. Well done girls - you are a credit to our school community!

We love to hear about and share your children's achievements outside of school, so please share with us if your child has achieved something special and we will shout it from the rooftops with pride.

Staffing News and Recruitment

I am please to share with you that Mrs Lang has been successfully appointed as a Class teacher for next year. Mrs Lang has become an integral part of our team from the day she started. She brings with her a wealth of experience (over 20 years), creativity, dedication and a great sense of humour. She is passionate about school improvement, English and being part of our journey to excellence. The children in Maple class have truly thrived since she began after February half term and it has been an absolute joy to see their progress over these past few months. Welcome to the team permanently Mrs Lang!

Mrs Dixon, who has been at the school for many years and has touched the lives of many of the children at Ashford Hill, will be leaving us at the end of the summer term to become a music teacher. We know that Mrs Dixon is so passionate about the teaching of music and we wish her well as she moves on to the next chapter of her teaching career. Shortly, on the school website, there will be an advert for the vacancy of a part time/full time class teacher to replace Mrs Dixon from September. If you know of any passionate, talented and dedicated teachers who may be looking for a move to a wonderful school with a clear vision and fabulous children, please do share the advert with them.

PTA Quiz Night – 12th May

This week brings the PTA quiz night at the church on Friday evening. I look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible in what I have been told is always a night to remember.

Staying Safe Online

We work hard with the children to understand how to be safe online. This week I am sharing a factsheet for parents to support your children at home also. Our children are safer when we work together. The children will revisit online safety through our curriculum and assemblies consistently throughout the year. As always, if you have any concerns about your child or the safety of another child, please do not hesitate to contact us, the police if there is immediate risk or children's services if this is out of school hours.

PARENT FACTSHEET – May 2023

10 tips to stay safe online

1. Be careful about talking to people you don't know and trust in real life – anyone can pretend to be a child online. If you do talk to people you don't know, don't give away personal information – such as what street you live on or where you go to school, or share your location with them. Say no to any requests they send you for images or videos of yourself, and stop talking to them
2. Set your profiles to private, to limit what others can see
3. Think carefully about what you share and with who. Once you've shared an image, you've no control

over what the other person does with it. Remember, it's **illegal** to take, share or view sexual images of under-18s, full stop

4. Be mindful of your digital footprint. What you post online now could come back to bite you later, like when applying for jobs, college or university
5. If you see something upsetting, or someone bullies you, tell an adult you trust. Report it too
6. When reading news online, ask yourself what the source is, when it was published, and whether it could be a hoax or made up. Read beyond the headline too
7. Remember, people try to make their lives look more exciting and interesting online. There's a lot people can do with photo editing to make their photos look better. So don't assume everything you see is a true-to-life representation
8. Watch out for hoaxes and scams, like messages you're meant to forward on or that ask you for payment details or your password
9. Take any content that seems to glamourise gang lifestyles with a very large pinch of salt – it's not as glamorous as it looks. Be wary of schemes promising easy cash for receiving and transferring money too, they're almost definitely criminal activity
10. Watch out for loot boxes or other parts of games where you pay money to take a chance on getting a reward – you can get sucked into spending lots of money on them

Don't feel confident starting a conversation with your child about what they're up to online? Read this advice from the NSPCC: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety>

Further information

- > ['Ban kids from loot box gambling in games', BBC News, 12 September 2019](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-49661870)
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-49661870>
- > [How to spot fake news, Childline](https://www.childline.org.uk/get-involved/articles/how-to-spot-fake-news/)
<https://www.childline.org.uk/get-involved/articles/how-to-spot-fake-news/>
- > ['Rescue and Reponse county lines project: strategic assessment 2019, Greater London Authority](https://www.london.gov.uk/mopac-publications/rescue-and-response-pan-london-county-lines-service)
<https://www.london.gov.uk/mopac-publications/rescue-and-response-pan-london-county-lines-service>
- > [Home, Money Mules](https://moneymules.co.uk/)
<https://moneymules.co.uk/>
- > [Sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education settings working with children and young people, GOV.UK – Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, UK Council for Internet Safety](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/614447/GOV.UK_-_Department_for_Digital,_Culture,_Media_and_Sport,_UK_Council_for_Internet_Safety)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sexting-in-schools-and-colleges>

I hope that you have a wonderful long weekend and look forward to seeing you all next week.

Kirsty Kingham

Principal

Dates for your Diary:

Please see the website for further information:

PTA Quiz Night: **Friday 12th May**

Ice Cream Fridays: From 5th May (Ice creams from £1)

SATS Week: 8-12th May

Hornbeam Residential: 15th-19th May

Matilda Production Meeting: 22nd may 7pm

Sports Day: **Thurs 22nd June** – Parents invited from 12pm –

Races to start from 1pm

Matilda the Musical: Thursday 13th July at 5.30pm

PTA School Fete: Date to be confirmed - July 2023

Topic Showcase: Tuesday 18th July 2.45pm

Last Day of Term: Friday 21st July

Plase follow the link to view the calendar. [Ashford Hill Primary School - Calendar](#)