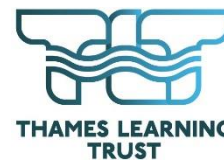




# Ashford Hill Primary School Newsletter



14<sup>th</sup> January 2023

This week has flown by as we are well into our learning. During the week, I have had so many proud children come to share their work with me. Three children came bounding into the office full of excitement to share their learning around significant people in history. I was told all about the Dawson's model (a model which determines which people are seen as significant 'Movers and Shakers' in history). The children explained that they all believed that the most significant historical figure was different for all of them. One decided that Neil Armstrong was most important because he landed on the moon and showed us that we can visit space; another believed that it was Christopher Columbus' discoveries that brought the unknown world together. Rosa Parks was most significant to the third child, as she stood up for her rights and helped to bring equality to the forefront of the minds of others. These children were Year 2! As you can imagine, to see young minds inspired to learn about the rich history of the world along with their own thinking around the importance of each figure was incredible: a real moment of success in their learning and thinking. I can not wait to see how their project progressed.

## Car Parking for Drop Offs and Pick Ups

It has come to my attention that there have been some issues with the car park opposite the school. Please can parents use car parking spaces in the area and ensure that access to other land and gates are completely clear during these periods.

## Attendance

Nationally, attendance is a key focus and this is the same for us at Ashford Hill. We are committed to minimise the days of education lost and maximise attendance. Good attendance is a key factor in long-term educational success and every day counts.

Whilst we understand that sometimes there will be situations that are unavoidable, it is important that children are at school on time. Learning starts as soon as the children enter the classroom.

## Special Lunch Menu – Theme Day – Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023

Thursday will be 'Children's Favourite Day!'. The amended menu is:

- Beef Burger and Chips, Chicken Nuggets and Chips or Tomato Pasta with Cheese all with lashings of salad or baked beans of peas. Followed by an ice bun.

Meals can be booked on the day itself.

## Topic Showcase – Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023 – 2.45pm

Our end of term topic showcase will take place from 2.45pm for all classes. Willow class parents are also invited to spend some time with their children in class.

## PE Kit Days for Key Stage 2

The PE kit seems to be a hit – although one child has explained that if the PE days are back to back, then eating tomato soup and spilling it is not a wise idea. If you would like more PE uniform just in case soup is on the menu, then please contact Fiona from the PTA via the school admin office; she is always happy to help as we have second hand uniform which is a cost efficient way of adding to your PE collection.

To check out our PE uniform supplier please follow this link:

[Ashford Hill Primary School - Uniform](#)

## O2 – Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January

On Monday, the day that the choir has been waiting for has arrived. Parents should have received the final letter from Mrs Dixon this week to explain the order of the day and what the children require. We can not wait to hear all about it and will update you next week on how it went.

## Music Lessons

Guitar lessons were sold out within minutes last week and there is now a waiting list. The children have also had a singing workshop with Jonathan Eio (our singing teacher) and have the opportunity to sign up to lessons if they would like to. If you would like to sign your child up to singing lessons, please complete the form that has been sent to you before Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January.

## Educational Visits/ Experiences Coming up

**29<sup>th</sup> March** - Matilda the Musical – London West End – Year 2 -6

We have been able to secure highly discounted tickets for this event and you will be receiving a letter this week with further information.

Years R and 1 will be having a Lion King workshop provided by Breaking Barriers on the same day where they will be creating masks and learning to dance and perform as if they were in the show!

We look forward to sharing further information this week.

### Parent Meeting with Richard Kearsey CEO

We were joined by CEO, Richard Kearsey and Catherine Morley, Director of Primary Education on Friday afternoon. It was lovely to see so many parents attend this meeting and thank you for the lovely emails and comments that followed the event. Many parents have commented on how helpful the meeting was to understand further about the vision and values of the Trust itself. If you were unable to make the event, Richard Kearsey's presentation can be found via the following link: [Ashford Hill Primary School - Newsletter & Letters](#)

### Board of Trustees Thames Learning Trust– Parent position

Thames Learning Trust have a board of trustees and there is currently a vacancy on the board for a Primary Parent Trustee who will represent the three primary schools within the trust. If you are interested in this role, you can find out more about the trustees via this link: [Thames Learning Trust - Members and Trustees](#). Please contact the school office if you would like to share your interest in the role before 20<sup>th</sup> January and we will forward your details on to our central offices.

### Clubs

During the parent meeting on Friday, there was discussion around after school provision and clubs. We are aware of the lack of childcare in the area which can make timings difficult for working parents. As we look into longer term solutions, we are investigating a wider range of after school club opportunities for all children. As every teacher already runs a club, it is important that we understand the need for extra clubs to make them viable for the outside agencies to run. Because of this, I will be sending out a form over the next week to gather information about when clubs would be helpful to support our children and parents.

### Covid 19 Seasonal Flu and Scarlet Fever Update:

I'm sure you will all be aware that there are very high levels of illness circulating in the UK at the moment – COVID-19, seasonal Flu and scarlet fever (caused by group A streptococcus). The high levels of illness are putting increased pressure on the NHS and their frontline services. It is expected that this situation will continue for a number of weeks into the winter. The [UK Health Security Agency](#) (UKHSA) has issued guidance in relation to helping to minimise the spread of illness through communities such as schools – the guidance can be found [here](#). Key points are as follows:

- If your child is unwell and has a fever, they should stay home from school until they feel better and the fever has resolved.
- Good hand hygiene is key, so regular handwashing with soap and warm water is important. Catching coughs and sneezes in tissues then binning them is another simple way to help stop illness from spreading.

- Adults should also try to stay home when unwell and if you do have to go out, wear a face covering. When unwell don't visit healthcare settings or visit vulnerable people unless urgent.
- The flu vaccination is still available for all eligible groups. Getting your child vaccinated protects them and others they come into contact with.

We hope that this is useful. We will be doing what we can to protect our community and minimise any potential disruption for pupils.

Have a restful Sunday and we look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Kirsty Kingham

Principal

### Dates for your Diary:

The school website now has diary dates included – you are also able to subscribe to this to ensure that you are always up to date on dates coming up over the term.

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