

Ashford Hill Primary School Newsletter



November 24th 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a very busy Friday around school. Children came in this morning with very many donations for the famous Christmas Hampers. All morning our wonderful PTA members have been wrapping and arranging hampers for the draw. They look fabulous and are now in my office waiting for their new owners. The PTA will be sharing information very soon about how to enter the hamper prize draw!

As a teaching team this week, we too part in some PE training. The aim was how to bring outdoor activities such as caving, archery, orienteering and problem soving to our curriculum PE lessons. It was a fantastic experience with Jamie from Park House. I have already seen year 1 doing some indoor caving in their PE lesson this week and even had a go myself! It was a brilliant experience and am looking forward to seeing the rest of the school take part in these activities over the coming weeks.

As I am sure you are aware we have been thinking about afterschool provision and wrap around care at school for a long time and how we are able to meet the needs of our families. Next week we will be informing you of clubs that will be held next term and ask for you to sign up. There will also be a questionnaire sent around regarding wrap around care. Please take your time to answer this questionnaire even if you are not wishing to use wrap around care in the future. Thank you to Mr and Mrs Halsall for working with us on this.

Attendance

Attendance % (whole school target 97%)								
Whole School	YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	
94%	79%	93%	100%	95%	100%	98%	97%	

Huge congratulations to year 2! 3 weeks in a row 100% attendance! Super Stars!

Nativity - Tickets

A form was sent out on Wednesday for you to chose your tickets for our nativity which will be held on Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th December. As always, we appreciate any parent help to escort the children from school down to the church and back up again. Please let the office know if you can help out on either of those days. We will be in touch at a later date to confirm your allocated tickets

Xmas Jumper Day - Thurs 7th December

This year we are taking part in Christmas Jumper Day to raise money for Sebastians Action Trust. Sebastians Action Trust are a local charity supporting families with seriously ill children emotionally, mentally, and practically. They passionately believe seriously ill children should be able to have quality time together with their families, never having to face life alone. Their mission is to ensure lives, however short, are lived to the full.



Back in September, Thomas (Oak) and Rowan Tordoff's (Willow) 8 year old sister Juliette very sadly died at home in the arms of her Mum and Dad. Juliette was born in 2015 with severe brain damage and was given a poor prognosis, but managed to live and enjoy life beyond what was expected. She is very sorely missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing her. The family were supported throughout her life and now after her death by Sebastians Action Trust and this is a charity truly close to their heart.



Sebastians Action Trust receive no government funding and rely fully on donations and fundraising efforts. We look forward to seeing the children in their jumpers on this day.

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The Big Ambition- a survey from The Children's Commissioner

All schools in England have been invited to complete an online survey for all 6-11 year olds from the Children's Commissioner. Parents are being encouraged help their children complete the survey, which can be found here. More information about this national survey can be found on their website.

Visit from Rev Dodie – Mr Dixon's Update

This week we had Very positive assembly from Dodie about her recent trip to Uganda, she also came back to Hornbeam and answered hundreds of questions so it was a real and meaningful experience for the children.



Hornbeam loved reading the letters and the boy/girl card cuts outs they received in return to their own letters written earlier this year. There was also a school report written by the head teacher with a bit about how the school is structured.



Hornbeam were left buzzing and are keen on writing more letters and answering their Ugandan peers' questions as well as starting new projects.



Residential trip – Hornbeam June 3rd – 7th

We have now secure PGL on the Isle of Wight for our school trip to PGL this year. Letters will be with year 5/6 parents on Monday so please do keep an eye out. The payment is an installment plan starting from January. If you do have any concerns with regard to payments, please do let us know- we are here to help.

Flu Vaccinations

Our Nasal Flu Immunization session this year will be on Friday 8th December. Please complete the online form sent out this week, even if you decide to you do not wish your child to receive the vaccine against flu.



Open Days for Year R 2024:

We welcomed new families in this week to our open days and they could see just what makes our school special. We have one more open morning, so please do share this with anyone that may be a school starter for next September.

Monday 27th November - 9.30am



Safeguarding:

Safeguarding is our number one priority. Together we want to ensure that all children are safe, happy and secure at all times.

This year our Designated Safeguarding Lead Team are as follows:



Please do have a lovely weekend and Miss Hudson and I look forward to seeing you at the gate bright and early on Monday morning.

Kirsty Kingham

Principal

Dates for your diary

28th November - Corn Exchange Panto

TEACHER LED CLUBS END: 1st December

7th December 2023 - Christmas Jumper Day

Nativity and Carol Concert – Whole school – Families invited. Tuesday 12th afternoon and Wednesday 13th Morning.

14th December - Curriculum Showcase - 2.45pm

Y4 – Minstead Residential Trip – 7th – 9th February 2024

Y3 - River trip to Minstead 8th February 2024

Y2-6 - Frozen West End Trip - Wednesday 13th March 2024

Sports Day - Friday 21st June 2024

SATS week - 13th - 17th May 2024

Y5/6 Residential Trip - 3rd - 7th June

<u>Date</u>	Event	Location	Years
Thu 19th Oct	Multiskills	Park House	1/2
Wed 22 nd Nov	Alternative Olympics	Theale	5/6
Thu 14 th Dec	BISI Badminton	Theale	3/4
Wed 7 th Feb	Speed Stacking	Theale	1/2
Tue 27 th Feb	Hockey Festival	Park House	5/6
Thu 7 th Mar	Tag Rugby Megafest	Newbury RFC	3/4
Wed 13th Mar	KS1 Cricket	Willows	1/2
Tue 12 th Mar	X Country	Newbury Showground	3/4/5/6
Tue 23 rd Apr	Kwik Cricket Dynamos Skills	Doui Abbey	3/4
Thu 9 th May	Tri Golf	St Barts	3/4
Tue 14 th May	Kwik Cricket	Falkland	5/6 Girls
Tue 4 th June	Kwik Cricket	Doui Abbey	5/6 Boys
Tue 18th June	Table Tennis	Willink	5/6
Tue 2 nd July	Dodgeball	St Barts	KS2 Girls
Tue 9 th Jul	Multiskills	Theale	1/2