



Ashford Hill Primary School Newsletter



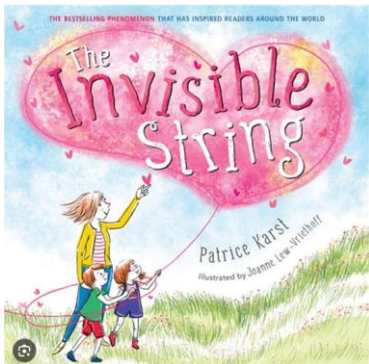
October 13th 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a great week at Ashford Hill this week. Hello Yellow and Mental Health has been high on the agenda this week and children have engaged in several tasks during the week together while considering the impacts of mental health and how we can share our worries and look after our mental health.

On Monday we shared the beautiful book 'The Invisible string' with the children.

'As long as love is in your heart, the invisible string will always be here. When Mum tells her children that they're all connected by an invisible string. It is an invisible string made of love. Even though you can not see it, you can feel it deep in your heart and know that you are always connected to the ones you love.'



[Here](#) is the link to a video of the reading of the story if you would like to share this again with your children.

This story was particularly special this week when I was teaching in year 1. My aim was to teach a fabulous French lesson... The children were sharing how sometimes they missed their families when they were at school. One child said 'my mummy says that it is just 6 hours a day, then we can see each other again'; another then said 'just pull on your invisible string everyone and we can feel their love!'

A powerful moment!

Attendance:

We had a brilliant week for attendance last week. We achieved 98.8% for the week. Thank you for keeping this as a priority for our children. Year to date we are still sat at 97% and we would love this to shift further towards 98-99% as the year progresses.

Primary Parent Trustee:

Previously we have sent you the details of the Primary Parent Trustee role. There are 3 candidates and an online election. Please follow the link to place your vote. The closing date is Friday 20th October at 12pm.
<https://forms.office.com/e/hDn2rgNxdk>

Christmas Card Design Project

This week, we have sent home your child's Christmas card design. The orders will need to be back in school on Monday 16 October...

We hope as many of you as possible will choose to order the wonderful items for Christmas and help raise funds for our school.

Sports Event Next Week:

There are lots of sporting events booked in this year for all year groups. Next Thursday 19th October we will be starting our year of sport by taking 6 Year 2 children to Park House School for a multi skills event. The children will be able to enjoy different skills based games competing against other schools from our School Games Network in West Berkshire. We will be leaving school at 3:15 and returning by 5:45. Best of luck to the children involved! See to Mr Walker if you have any questions.

Chestnut Class Local Visit 20th October:

Chestnut class will be visiting the local water meadow next Friday 20th October to enhance their learning about Our Wonderful World in Geography. They have been learning about human and physical features, settlement types, woodlands and hedgerows, aerial photographs and of course meadows. The visit will bring to life all of the learning they have been doing in the classroom and around the school. Please ensure all the children have a pair of wellies ready for the walk! We are also looking for a parent volunteer to join us. See Mr Walker to volunteer or if you have any questions.

Parents' Evenings Next week:

As I am sure that you are aware, we have been trialing a new parents' evening system. Thank you for your patience and understanding and we have certainly learned a thing or two about the benefits and restrictions of the system. Hopefully now, we are all set

to go next week and we look forward to welcoming you into the school.

Book Fair - 8, 9 & 10 November

As you know, we love to read and reading is our main priority across the curriculum. We will be running a Scholastic book fair in school. There will be more details will come closer to the time.

PTA AGM:

Thank you to those of you who came to the AGM this week – it is always wonderful to see what a dedicated team of parents we have. There are many dates to come and a save the date for events this term will be sent to you. These will also be added to the school diary early next week.

Future Term Dates:

Please see the end of the newsletter each week for new dates. New dates are added in red each week. Over the coming weeks I will be sharing dates for the rest of the school year. These dates are also on our website.

World Mental Health Day - Hello Yellow



Maths Problem:

This week we joined the North East Hampshire Maths Hub. Maths will be a very big focus for our school improvement this year and I look forward to sharing further plans with you after half term. During the training we were shown this task. Please have a go yourself and think about how you might start to answer this. The answer is at the end of the newsletter. I would love to see some workings out if you have done them with your children. Remember '*the answer is just the beginning*'. If you are not sure- you can always start with the answer and find out how to get there!

FAMILY PHOTO

In a family photo you see:

- 1 grandfather
- 1 grandmother
- 2 fathers
- 2 mothers
- 6 children
- 4 grandchildren
- 2 sisters
- 2 brothers
- 3 sons
- 3 daughters
- 1 father-in-law
- 1 mother-in-law
- 1 daughter-in-law

What's the fewest number of people possible that are in the photo?

Meet some of our school leaders:

At Ashford Hill Primary School we believe in creating leaders of the future. We strive to empower children to see the importance of their social responsibility and their place within our society and ever-changing world. It is at this time that our student leaders are interviewed and elected and we are proud to introduce you to some of our student leaders this year.

James – Head Student

I am James and I am one of the Head Students of Ashford Hill Primary School. I really enjoy PE, History and Science because our Teacher (Mr Dixon) makes lessons so much fun and it is interesting for the whole class.

I love this school because it is a kind and caring community and what is best is that we all have a passion for learning which makes this school the best place to be. This year, I am looking forward to the end of the year show – Frozen Jr and helping others to progress in their learning, especially Willow Class. It makes me really happy to see others thrive in their work too.

In my role this year, I am going to make this school an even better place to be by helping others to never feel worried or down and to help to enhance our mental health and wellbeing assemblies with new ideas. We would love you to come and visit our school if you are looking for a place for your children.

Questions to ask your child

Supporting Parents | YOUNGMINDS

- What things are you looking forward to?
- Is there anything you want to talk about?
- When was the last time you were very happy?
- What makes you feel calm?
- How are you finding things at school at the moment?
- What difficulties are you facing now?
- What can I do to help?
- Where is a place you feel safe?
- What things would you like to do in the future?
- Would it be helpful if we planned each day together?
- Do you have any worries about the coronavirus?
- Where in our home do you feel like you can have your own space?
- What are you worried about when you lie in bed and can't sleep?
- Can you show me what you like about gaming?
- How do you feel about things changing?
- What do you think could help you to feel better?
- What have you enjoyed about today?

Grace – Head Student

I am Grace and I am proud to be a Head Student this year along side James. I adore learning art and French because I have always seen the work through colours; I think it is always important to understand that art is a way to express your emotions. I love learning French because French is like the language of art. Something that I love about this school is that everyone looks out for each other and we have a positive attitude about everything. We are always happy for one another even if we did not come first ourselves but we always try our best. Our school motto is to 'Be the best we can be' and all of us, children and staff, try to do this every day.

I am looking forward to performing our show at the Haymarket theatre again this year, last year we did a breath-taking recreation of Matilda the musical and I can not wait to go on our school residential later in the year – it is always so much fun and challenges us in the very best ways.

One of my goals to make our school even better this year is to take part in the library project. Myself and my fellow student librarians have been reorganising the library to ensure that it looks great and that our lovely books are borrowed frequently. We will also be working on our reward systems at school for brilliant learning behaviours. I love Ashford Hill Primary School and hope that you come and have a look around if you would like to be at our school.

Imogen - School Council Co-Chair

I am Imogen and I am a Co-Chair of the school council. I absolutely love Maths, PE, English and Drama because I am very creative and love a challenge. Ashford Hill is an amazing, small village school with a kind, caring and fun atmosphere. The teachers always look out for the children. Last year, we did a phenomenal performance of Matilda the Musical at the Haymarket Theatre. I took great pleasure in playing the acrobat. This year, we are planning a sensational production of Frozen, which I am really looking forward to. I am also enthusiastic about the residential later in the year -how could it be even better than last year?! One of my goals for over the next school year is to redecorate our outdoor classroom to make it more inviting and attractive. I am very proud of the amount of eco-friendly things that we have all around school but would be delighted to add more living plants around the school. I hope that this has given you a better insight into life at Ashford Hill Primary School.

Elodie – School Council Co- Chair

I am Elodie and I am one of the School Council Chairpersons. My favourite subjects are Drama, Art and English. I like these because I have a passion to learn. My teacher Mr Dixon helps me to accomplish in my learning every day. What I love about Ashford Hill is that all of the teachers are extremely supportive and caring. The pupils are the

same and we all work towards having outstanding learning behaviours. If you have any worries at all, there is always an adult to help.

I am looking forward to so many things this year but one of my favourites is the school show. I was Matilda last year! This year, I want to make the school an even better place to be by making it more eco-friendly - we would love to have even more lessons outdoors in our wonderful grounds. I hope you have enjoyed my views on our school and hope you come to have a look around.

Open Days for Year R 2024:

It is that time of year again. We have open days for the year R September 2024 intake. If you or you know anyone who would like a place next September, please share these dates:

Wednesday 8th November 9.30am

Monday 27th November – 9.30am

Ashford Hill Primary School
Year R September 2024 Open Days and Tours

Monday 9th October at 1.45pm - Wednesday 8th November at 9.30am - Monday 27th November 9.30am

We warmly invite you to visit our school and look inside and to meet our team and wonderful children.

Please contact the school office on 0118 981 3822 or email admin@ashfordhill.hants.sch.uk to book a place on the tour. Individual tours also available by request.

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:

Mrs K. Kingham Principal	Miss. C. Hudson Vice Principal	Mr B. Dixon UKS2 Teacher
Designated Safeguarding Lead	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

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

Tues 17th Oct – Parents' Evening

Thursday 19th Oct – Parents' Evening

Book Fair - 8, 9 & 10 November

Tuesday 28th Nov – 10am – Corn Exchange Panto

TEACHER LED CLUBS END: 1st December

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

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 - 20th – 24th May 2024

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Years</u>
Thu 19 th 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 13 th 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 18 th June	Table Tennis	Willink	5/6
Tue 2 nd July	Dodgeball	St Barts	KS2 Girls
Tue 9 th Jul	Multiskills	Theale	1/2

FAMILY PHOTO: SOLUTION

There are EIGHT people total...

4 kids (2 boys and 2 girls)

Their mom and dad

And their grandma and grandpa

(This is the dad's parents.)