



Ashford Hill Primary School Newsletter



September 8th 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is a very warm welcome back to school this term and all of the children have settled in beautifully already. It was a real joy to watch the children in their bright white t-shirts and shirts playing happily on the field at lunchtime this week.

Year R started on Wednesday and were quick to explore their brand new classroom. It is a wonderful new space and we hope that you have time to check it out next time that you are in.

We have also had some new staff members this term which makes us fully staffed for the year ahead. Welcome to Miss Hudson (Vice Principal and SENCO) and Miss Bamford (Maple Class Teacher). We were also lucky enough to be joined by Rev Dodie on Thursday who told us all about her trip to Uganda.

The weather has been kind to us but also extremely hot. Please can you ensure that children are sent to school with **full** bottles of **water only** and please can you make sure that they have hats and sun cream applied. We are also extremely lucky to have had another ice cream Friday today. Thank you to the PTA for arranging this, this afternoon.

Safeguarding:

Safeguarding is our number one priority. Together we want to ensure that all children are safe, happy and secure at all times. If you have any concerns about another child or your own, please do not hesitate to contact one of our Safeguarding Leads.

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

In assembly this week children have been taught about our lanyard system. Please speak to them and ask them what a blue, green and red lanyard mean when adults wear them around school.

Golden Sparkle Badges This week

The school value that is the focus for this half term is Active and Motivated learning. The two children who wowed us with their motivation to work this week were **Albert** (Maple Class) and **Adrianna** (Chestnut Class). Congratulations for showing us your great attitudes to learning.

Attendance:

The start of the new year gives us the opportunity to ensure that attendance remains high from the very start. Great schools have good attendance. Our school target is to keep attendance between 100% and 97%. Miss Hudson will be leading on attendance this year, so if you have any concerns regarding your child and their attendance, please do not hesitate to speak with her on the gate to book an appointment with her. She will be sending out a copy of our attendance policy and procedures to you next week. You can also contact the school office to book an appointment.

Homework:

This week your children will have reading books in their bags for this week. Next week homework will begin for years 1-6 and will include spellings and some short maths tasks on Times table rockstars or Numbots. Children will be provided with their passwords next week and phonics reading books will also be sent home with a covering letter on Friday.

Clubs:

Thank you to those of you who have signed up to the clubs for this half term – some clubs have been extremely popular and unfortunately have a waiting list. Children on the waiting list will have priority for next term. Teacher led clubs will begin next week and will end on the 1st December. External clubs will have different end dates – please contact the external provider for this information. A huge thank you to the teachers for providing these clubs voluntarily.

Pick up points for teacher led clubs: **Cooking:** Oak
Construction Club: Hornbeam **PE Club:** Chestnut

Matilda Photos and Brochures:

We are due to receive the Matilda brochures next week. Please ensure that you have paid for these on your school money account and once paid they will then be sent home with your children. Individual photographs will also be sent home next week.

Outstanding Dinner Money:

If you have any outstanding dinner money or trip money from last term, please can you clear this as soon as possible. If you have any queries regarding this, please contact Mrs Marchetti in the admin office and she will be able to help you.

Emails:

Teachers are often busy in the morning welcoming their classes into the school ready to settle them into their day. If you would like to speak to or book a meeting with a teacher, Miss Hudson or myself, please contact the school office and they will forward your emails admin@ashfordhill.hants.sch.uk. Teacher's emails should not be used unless previously agreed.

Student Leadership:

At Ashford Hill we are great believers in growing and developing our children to become great leaders. In order to do this, they must have the opportunity to learn, practise and develop their leadership skills therefore, allowing them to fulfil our school vision and be the best that they can be. This year there are several exciting opportunities available for our children to do just this.

Below is a table of student leadership roles that children are able to apply for. We encourage children to read through the job descriptions below, with their parents, and decide if there is any role that they would like to commit to for the year ahead. It is important to note that each role requires training and a high level of commitment throughout the year rain or shine.

We hope to develop leaders who:

- Can live out our school values every day
- Are kind, fair and organised
- Keep an open mind and consider the ideas of others as well as their own
- Learn from mistakes and use them to develop themselves further
- Understand the needs of others and are inclusive of all
- Seek knowledge
- Can collaborate and communicate well with others to achieve shared goals

Role	Year Group eligible	Roles and Responsibilities	Leading Team Member	Application Process and Deadline
Head Student 2 Places available	Year 6 only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting an example to other students across the school. • Meeting visitors and representing the school. • Participating in School Council meetings. • Selecting children to be awarded merit certificates in celebration assemblies. 	Mr Dixon	Letter addressed to Mrs Kingham . Letter to include why they would like to be a Head Student and how they can support the school. Children will then be selected for interview.
Sports Ambassador	Year 6 only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting an example of positive sporting attitudes. • Supporting some classes in PE lessons. • Leading sports and games during lunch break. • Sharing which class has won Sports Class of the week by liaising with the sports coach. 	Mr Walker	Letter addressed to Mr Dixon to include why they would like to be sports ambassador and how they can support the school. Children will be selected on the power of their letter.
Team Captain	Year 6 Only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting an example of positive attitudes. • Leading team assemblies – first Thursday of each month. (Themes to be decided each month) • Leading their team during sports day – keeping the team spirit up! 	Mr Dixon	Your child will need to prepare a speech to give at team assembly and will be chosen through a short voting process.
Digital Leader	Year 6 Only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining a safe working environment with the school's digital equipment. • Supporting the use of technology in assemblies. • Supporting some classes with their computing lessons. 	Mr Dixon	Letter addressed to Mr Dixon to include why they would like to be digital leader and how they can support the school. Children will be selected on the power of their letter.
Student Councillor (..... Lunchtimes)	All Year Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly meetings with Mrs Wildman and Mrs Avery. • Listening to their peers' ideas and sharing them with the school council. • Sharing plans and decisions made by the school council with their class. 	Miss Hudson	Your child will need to prepare a poster to be displayed in school and a speech to give to their year group. The councillors will be chosen through a short voting process.
Young Leader Initial training: Tuesday Lunchtime and two afternoon sessions	Year 5 and 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To work with the Sports Ambassador to provide support to sports across the school • Playground games organisation at breaks and lunchtimes • Motivate other children to engage in activities during their break times • Work with the school council to ensure that 	Mr Dixon and Mr Walker	Letter addressed to Mr Dixon and Mr Walker to include why they would like to be a Young Leader and how they can support the school. Children will be selected on the power of their letter.
Librarians 10 spaces (KS2)	Years 3 – 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To complete a weekly shift in the library ensuring that it is tidy and organised ready for borrowers. • To add and remove books from computer systems • To recommend books to other children and help them to make great choices about their borrowing • Help staff to design and create library displays • Be a reading role model 	Miss Hudson and Mrs Walker	Miss Hudson and Mrs Walker would like you to create a library poster that will encourage children to borrow books. Children will be selected on the power of their poster.

All applications must be received by the class teachers on Thursday 14th September at 3.25pm.

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 26th Sept – all day - Oak class to Hillier Garden

Tues 26th Sept – 6.30pm Meet the teacher evening Yr-6

Wed 27th Sept – 6.30pm Parent Volunteer Meeting

Wed 4th Oct - 7pm - Reading Meeting with Miss Hudson

Friday 6th Oct – TBC – Harvest Festival (provisional date tbc)

Mon 9th Oct – 9.30am - Open Day for New Parents

Tues 17th Oct – Parents' Evening

Thursday 19th Oct – Parents' Evening

