



Ashford Hill Primary School Newsletter



February 9th 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

This half term has just flown by and this means that we are half way through the academic year already. It has been a wonderful half term with lots of great learning happening in classrooms.

This week our year 4s have been on their residential trip to Minstead. On Thursday, they were joined by the rest of their class to spend the day together pond dipping and learning about the classification of pond and river life. Thank you to Mrs Lang, Mrs Pickthall and Mrs Walker for making this trip possible and for having a few sleepless nights! Our year 4s will be writing an article for you in a future newsletter. There will be many photographs to follow.

Today, our year 5s have been out at St Gabriels' completing a maths challenge. We came 3rd out of over 25 schools!!



The next half term is set to be a busy one with world book day, parents' evening, school trips and the Easter showcase and Egg Hunt on the horizon. Please make a note of the key dates in your diary.

19th February is an Inset day so we look forward to seeing you on the 20th February at 8.45am.

Kirsty Kingham
Principal

Attendance

Attendance % (whole school target 97%)							
Whole School	YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
97	98.5	98.5	100	97.3	95	92	95
Yr 2 Well done to for having the highest attendance this week.							

Absence Messages

Child absences from school must be reported to the school office on the morning of an absence before 8am- please phone the school and use the absence answer machine, or email attendance@ashfordhill.hants.sch.uk to let us know about an absence. Please do not email teachers directly as the message may not get through to the office in time for registration.

New School Values

Thank you for your input in our School Values piece of work. Collaboratively the staff team, our children and our parents have chosen our new School Values. These will be **Integrity**, **Determination** and **Community**. We believe that these are excellent values to live by and really underpin our vision to **'Be the Best We Can Be'**. We look forward to exploring these further with our children and team as we move into the second part of the year.

Parents' Evenings - Virtual

There will be a virtual Parents' Evenings for the spring term. This will be held on the 19th and 21st March- details of bookable slots will be sent after half term. This will be followed by the curriculum showcase to view your children's work on 28th March.

Site work opposite

From next week (half term) the Antler Homes site opposite will be closing the car park and there will be traffic lights on Ashford Hill Road. On our return to school, the traffic lights should have been taken away and the car park will reopen. However, there will only be one entrance to the carpark for the week commencing 19th Feb. This will be manned by a member of the company's site team but there is expected to be traffic. If you can walk to school that week, please do. There will be delays in the car park and please be vigilant of children around the area. We will open doors to classroom at 8.35 for this week, so if you can bring your children in slightly earlier to avoid the build up in the car park.

Class Teachers and PPA Teachers.

We have a great team at Ashford Hill and we have really settled in to a great routine this half term and our children are enjoying their learning. For your reference here is a list of our class teams and PPA teachers for the rest of the year.

Class	Teacher	LSA Support
Willow	Mrs Yeo	Mrs Gough
Chestnut	Mr Walker	Mrs Avery
Maple	Miss Hudson Mrs Quirk	Mrs Huxley
Oak	Mrs Lang	Mrs Walker Mrs Pickthall
Hornbeam	Mr Dixon	Mrs Wildman Mrs Wallace
PPA and Cover Teachers		
Music / French	Mrs Farrow	
Art	Mrs Murray	
Cover Teacher	Mrs Cole	

Valentines Bake Sale

A huge thank you to our PTA, parents and children for providing such a wealth of treats for our Valentines bake sale. Love was most definitely in the air – for cake and biscuits at least!



World Book Day – Thursday 7th March

March brings us the famous World Book Day. This is always a great event in school where we celebrate authors and the characters they create. To mark the day, we ask that children and the team come dressed as one of their favourite book characters. If you would like some inspiration, please follow this link [Dressing up - World Book Day](#).

Afterschool Care – DFE initiative and parent feedback

Thank you for completing the survey at the start of this term. After school care is a problem for many schools either due to space, capacity or demand. As a result of the questionnaire, we noted that there was not a large demand for daily after school wrap around care. Companies that provide this care ask for a minimum of 12 children daily in order for the session to be viable. Unfortunately, the most demand from our results was for 7 children on one day. This therefore makes wrap around care unviable currently. However, the Department for Education are working on an initiative to support schools to provide this care by subsidising and supporting funding over the next few years. We are currently in discussions with Hampshire County Council about potential funding for the future. This initiative is currently in the planning stages nationally, and I will update you with further details as and when I receive them.

Frozen West End – Wednesday 13th March




The trip is nearing and we are looking forward to auditions when we come back. Please make your contribution on your school money account. If you have any questions regarding the trip or payments, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Curriculum Showcase and Egg Hunt

The PTA Egg hunt and the Curriculum Showcase will take place on Thursday 28th March from 2.45pm. This is always a fabulous event, and the PTA will be providing further information nearer the time.

Safeguarding

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

		
Mrs Kirsty Kingham	Miss C Hudson	Mr B Dixon
<i>Principal and Designated Safeguarding Lead</i> (DSL)	<i>Vice Principal and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead</i> (DDSL)	<i>Class Teacher and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead</i> (DDSL)

Dates for your diary

INSET DAY 19th February

Year 1 to Lego Land - Tuesday 20th February

World Book Day – Thursday 7th March 2024

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

Parents' Evenings - 19th and 21st March

Curriculum Showcase and Egg Hunt – Thurs 28th March

Sports Day – Friday 21st June 2024

SATS week - 13th – 17th May 2024

Y5/6 Residential Trip - 3rd – 7th June 2024

Date	Event	Location	Years
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
Tue 6 th Feb	Speed Stacking	Park House	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	Douli 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	Douli 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