



Integrity – Determination - Community

Ashford Hill Primary School Newsletter

Ashford Hill Primary



'Be the Best We Can Be'

June 14th 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a busy week here at Ashford Hill. It has been lovely to have the whole school back together again along with picnics outside and lots of activity on the school field. We are starting to get ready for sports' day and our Young Leaders and Sports Ambassadors are busy getting all of the equipment ready for the big day. Please see the note below from Mr Walker about the day itself - it is sure to be a day of celebration and community and we are hoping that the sun will shine for at least part of the day!

Kerry McIntosh visited us this week and talked to us all about being an author, the editing and publishing process and read to us from her book *Rory Green, Secret Agent to the Queen*. What a fantastic story it was. Kerry then signed copies for our budding readers. Thank you to Kerry for a fun filled assembly.



This week our children have been out to visit the pre-schools in the area to promote a collaborative community art project. Our children worked with the pre-school children to make their very own hand print animal. All of the work will be displayed for their parents to come and enjoy in a huge art display. This is an opportunity for us to welcome families in to our wonderful school and showcase our classrooms, children and teachers. This event will take place on Wednesday 3rd July at 3.45 -4.30pm. There will be the art display, ice creams and games and we are hoping that our children will be able to give a short performance from

Frozen Jr. A letter will come home early next week regarding the event.



This week Year 1,3,4 and 5 have had their end of year assessment week. They have worked tirelessly this year to be the best that they can be and they showed great resilience and concentration as they completed their papers. Next week, Maple class will be doing their end of year assessments. As a school we use assessments to inform future planning and to evaluate the effectiveness of our curriculum. Teachers will gather information from them to design bespoke curriculums to adapt to the needs of our children moving forward. For the children it is an opportunity to show off what they know and also to give them a good experience of assessments and support exam technique before these assessments are statutory. We look forward to sharing the outcomes of these assessments with you in our school reports before the end of term.

We hope you have a lovely weekend and look forward to seeing you bright and early on Monday morning.

Kirsty Kingham
Principal

Attendance

Attendance % (whole school target 97%)							
Whole School	YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
97.7	99.5	100	93.5	100	100	98	95.3

Well done Y1, Y3 and Y4 children for being in every day.
Amazing attendance this week!! Well done to everyone.

Sports' Day – A note from Mr Walker

We are all excitedly preparing for Sports Day in school: running, jumping and throwing our way through PE lessons to be ready for the big day. Sports day will take a very similar format to previous years. The children will be taking part in a number of events in the morning – each team will be split into two parts and the events will focus on teamwork and a variety of different skills.

At 12pm the school will be open to families and the children are excited to share a picnic with family members who can make it at that time or with the rest of their class and team if not. Then from 1pm we will be hosting running, relay, retrieval and obstacle events on the track. Families are invited to come and watch and cheer on the children for the afternoon. Please do bring picnic rugs, chairs, umbrellas, and your loudest cheering voices. There will be space for you all to spread out along the far side of the track from the school and the children will be sheltered from the sun (or rain) under gazebos on the school side of the track.

Thank you to those who have already offered gazebos for the day, I think we still need a few more please! We aim to finish by the end of the school day and will be grateful for any help tidying up, so that we can get the children back to class and release them from class to you as normal. Please ensure your children come in to school in a t-shirt coloured for their team (Yellow for Coltsfoot, Red for Poppy, Blue for Speedwell and Green for Saxifrage), as well as with sun cream and water bottles.

Residential News

James :

PGL Recount The Journey to the Isle of Wight

From the 3rd of June to the 7th, me, my class; one teacher and 2 LSA's went to the Isle of Wight. During drop off and registration I was buzzing with excitement as I waited patiently to see the bus through the window. Upon the departure of the bus to Portsmouth, the whole school lined up to wave us off to our adventurous week.

Early afternoon and we had arrived at Portsmouth to board our ferry. This was one of the most memorable moments of the trip was when we went up to the top deck of the ferry and watched mainland England slowly get further and further away. After a 45 minute boat ride, we docked at

Ryde and had a 2 minute coach ride through the hilly terrain of the Island to PGL.



The Activities

Buggy Building

During the week, we took part in buggy building which required a group effort to build a makeshift buggy using: large wooden poles; short wooden poles; 2 large barrels and a metal pipe for the axel.

We created the buggy and lined it up at the back of the basketball court where we pushed 2 people across the length of the court. Then they would try to shoot a ball into the basketball hoop; whoever made a successful shot, won.

Matrix

Matrix was my favourite activity as we had to work in a group to figure out puzzles to get into different rooms. Each of these rooms had different puzzles depending on the style of the room.

Some of these rooms included: A pirate room where you had to steal their jewels; a detective's house, where you had to figure out a riddle about a crime and a many more differently themed rooms.

Rooms

The rooms were split up into groups of 4, 5 and 6. I was in a group of 5 with: Finlay, Alex, Lou and Dexter. On most nights we stayed up and played a game of cards called "SHED"

which is a game where you have to be the first person to have no cards left. Sometimes we had a room inspection to see whose room was the cleanest, we won every time with an average score of 9.5 out of 10.

Our rooms were split up into 3 rooms: the main bedroom, which contained 2 bunk beds; the second bedroom which had 1 bunk bed and the bathroom which had a toilet shower and sink with additional towel hangers.



Finlay:

My PGL Recount

The way there.

We went to PGL (at the Isle of Wight.) The trip there was about 1 hour 45 minutes. I sat next to my best friend, James, this was my first time going to the Isle of Wight so I didn't know what to expect so my hopes were high.

About one hour thirty minutes in we got onto the ferry. The wind was very strong so my hat nearly flew off. I enjoyed my sweets and ride until we got to our destination. We got back on the bus for a 3-minute drive to PGL.

The basics.

We stayed at cabins in Tanaka and British Columbia. Our main instructor was Jake who most of the time had a Ken

hat on. He was very friendly and always made sure we weren't bored by arranging activities in our area we could play in.

My group leader was Mrs Walker and I had my sister, Esme and James which automatically made it a good group for me. The site was very secure and had nearly everything you need to live there.

The Rooms.

Every night we would have room inspections and I thought ours would be low, but we got the best score every time, all our scores were over a 9 and kept getting better until the last night where we got an outstanding 9.99!



Matrix!

We had no idea what the matrix was so we were excited to find out what it could be. We got into groups of three and either chose jellyfish, fish or puffer fish. In my group we had to find our door and finally we found it.

Inside was our instructor Chloe after some puzzles in the Cowboy Room. I was looking around and found an open trap door which we climbed into. This was the formula we followed for every room. My favourite room was probably the laser room where we had to traverse through without touching the lasers. In the Pirate room, I opened the treasure chest and shouted "Hello?" There was no reply.

And in the same room I was looking around and a random door opened – which scared us all.

The sensory trail.

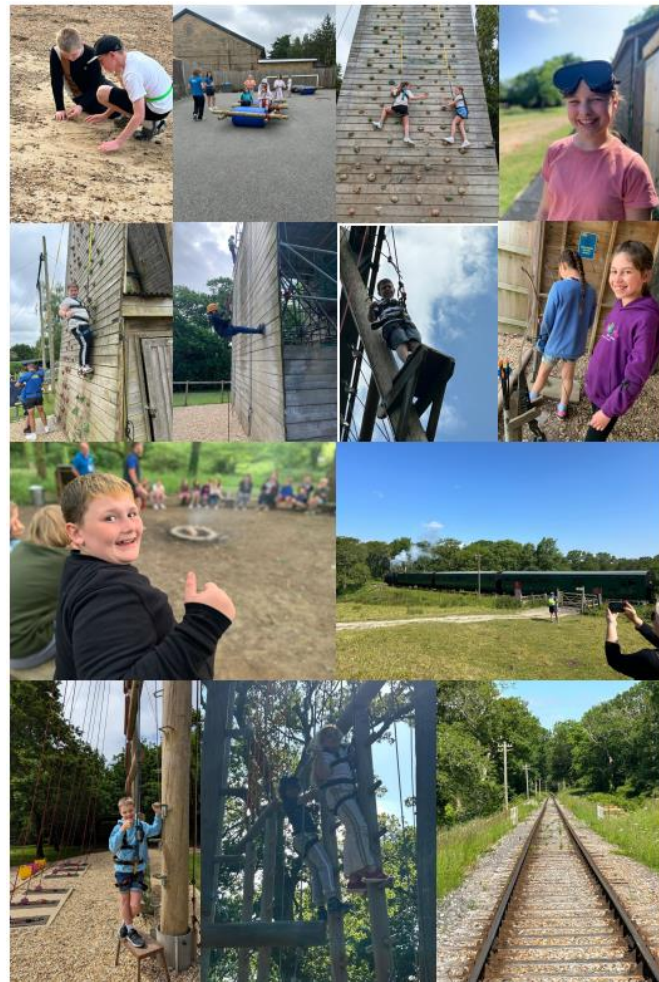
The first thing we did was someone would go in the middle of the group and had a chain, someone would try and get it from them without the blindfolded person spotting them. We all got in line and I was first. I had to follow the sound of his claps until we were told to hold a rope and follow it.

First, we had water poured on us constantly which we didn't know about. Then they put holes everywhere so our shoes got wet because we couldn't see. After that I thought it was over but I was far from right. We had to army crawl through a net with water being poured over us (there were puddles so we couldn't stand). I left that part with 2 new cuts. Mrs Avery decided to get a feather and say it was a bee to trick us. Our next big obstacle were these cut-outs that we had to go through without tripping. Our last big obstacle were the tyres - we had to crawl through them and we got extremely wet!

Finally at the end we all went to hug Mrs Walker to get her wet and muddy too.

My conclusion.

My favourite activity was most likely matrix or laser tag. I made so much good memories at PGL and I would definitely do it again when I could.



Sunscreen, Hats and Water

As the weather has started to turn, please can you apply sunscreen to children before school and make sure that they have hats and a water bottle for the school day. Children are able to fill up their water bottles throughout the day if they are thirsty.

Ice Cream Fridays



They are back! Starting on 3rd May. The PTA will be selling ice lollies and ice creams every Friday after school either on the playground or in the hall (depending on the weather!) We will also be selling on Sports Day too!

Nut Free School

Just a reminder that we are a nut free school. We do have children in school with nut allergies. Please do not send any products in lunch boxes that contain nuts. Thank you for your cooperation.

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 the wellbeing of a child, please contact us.

		
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

Sports Day – Friday 21st June 2024 – **Parents invited from 12pm**

Year R and Year 1 – Beale Park Trip -14 June

Frozen Show – Thursday 11th July

Curriculum Showcase – 2.45pm Tues 16th July

Volunteer Tea – 1.30pm Friday 19th July

Year 6 Leavers Assembly – 2.30pm – Friday 19th July

Water fight KS2 – After school Friday 19th July

Inset Days 2023- 2024 – 22nd July and 23rd July

DATES 2024
Ice Cream Friday
MAY
3 / 10 / 17 / 24
JUNE
7 / 14 / 28
JULY
5 / 12 / 19
Sports Day ice-creams
FRIDAY 21 JUNE
Summer Disco
THURS 18 JULY
Bag2School Collections
Dates to follow
Colour Run
SEPT 2024 (TBC)