



Ashford Hill Primary School Newsletter



November 15th 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a great day at school today in our PJs. Thank you to all of the children and team for turning up in their comfy nightwear and still working really hard all day without getting sleepy. We have managed to raise over £120 for Children in Need. I hope that you get to watch the show tonight to see where our donations will go to.



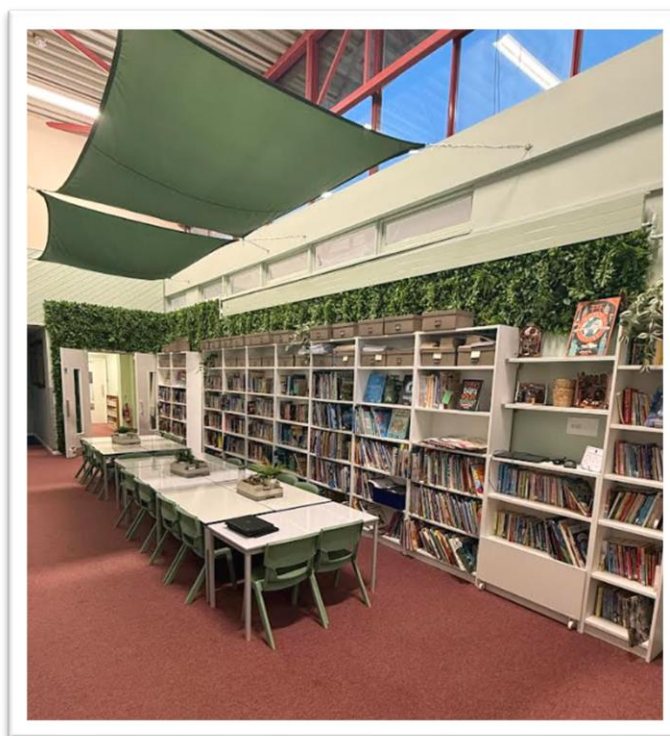
This week, we have had a visit from the School Nursing Team, who have shared the Healthy Me assembly with us. Our children were very engaged in the assembly and were able to share so many ways to stay fit and keep healthy. We were all interested to learn about the blue light in computer games and on smart phones and tablets that really affect our brain chemistry leading to disturbed sleep. We learned that in order to get to sleep well, an hour before bed should be technology free.

Our Young Leaders and Sports Ambassadors have done brilliantly in their launch of the new playground routine. Children have been engaging well with team activities and our Young Leaders have certainly risen to the challenge.

Today, I have met with Mrs Jesney and our Student Digital Leaders to discuss our strategy for the launch of our Smart Phone Free Childhood project. There will be a short survey arriving in your inbox later this evening that we would encourage you to complete to help us to raise awareness on the issues around smartphones and screentime. Mrs Jesney and our Digital Leaders will share more about the project with you over the coming weeks including some events that will be happening in school over the coming academic year. This is a great initiative and we are extremely proud to support it.

The library is now very close to completion with just a few tweaks to happen over the holidays. The transformation of the library has made a huge difference to our school life and our children's learning and has now become a very useful learning space. Maths is taught there daily along with phonics, interventions and school council meetings every few weeks; the new area is a joy to teach in and I look forward to it every day. We have also reorganised all of our books to compliment the Accelerated Reader programme and it has storage areas for our class Master Reader texts that are used at different points yearly.

These changes make a huge difference to our school development and our children so we must extend a huge thank you to our parent body and hardworking PTA for funding this project. The impact has already been incredible. Thank you!



There has been so much fantastic learning going on across school this week and it has been wonderful to see the children so engaged in their English writing and learning journeys. Hornbeam have been studying Shakespeare's Macbeth and Mrs Lang gave her best performance as a witch from the play as the children shared their own rhyming couplets in the woods!

Local authority comparison

Compare your attendance and absence in the same phase of education (primary or secondary) in your local authority. Data is from schools sharing daily attendance data with DfE. It is updated every 2 weeks.

Results show data for compulsory school age pupils in the academic year-to-date.

[How we calculate your position.](#)

Filters

Special educational needs (SEN) support

☒ Results for whole school

☐ Pupils with SEN support

☐ Pupils with no or unknown SEN support

Free school meals (FSM)

☒ Results for whole school

☐ Pupils with FSM

☐ Pupils with no or unknown FSM

Attendance measure	Percentage	Ranking
Overall attendance	97.8%	You are ranked 11th out of 418 schools
Overall absence	2.2%	You are ranked 11th out of 418 schools
Authorised absence	1.6%	You are ranked 12th out of 418 schools
Unauthorised absence	0.6%	You are ranked 97th out of 418 schools
Persistently absent	6.1%	You are ranked 28th out of 418 schools
Severely absent	0.0%	You are ranked 1st out of 418 schools

Attendance % (whole school target 97%)

Whole School	YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
97.5	100	100	97.3	100	93.8	100	92

What a fantastic Attendance for YR, Y2, Y3 and Y5 this week.

Although we are in a positive position, we have slipped slightly in the rankings across the county. We hope to finish off in the top five in all areas by the end of the year. So please continue to be mindful of unauthorised absences as this does have a huge impact on children's learning.

Shrek Production News

We are still waiting with our fingers crossed on whether we have attained the licence to perform this show. I will let you know, hopefully by next week. The children are checking in daily to see if we have heard yet...




Christmas Hampers - PTA

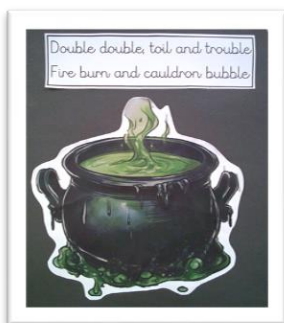
The PTA Christmas Hamper Event will run this year and there will be a Non-school uniform day on the 29th November for children to bring in hamper goodies. Please look out for more information nearer the time.

Safeguarding:

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

Our Designated Safeguarding Leads are as follows:

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



It is such a joy to see such interactive and engaging learning going on in school. These kinds of experiences give children purpose for writing and also great memories to hold forever.

Over the coming weeks our Key Stage 1 children and our Early Years children will begin to start work on the nativity. This is a really special time of year when the whole school and parent body come together as a community at the church. Please keep an eye out for lines to learn coming home and information about tickets over the coming weeks.

We hope that you have a wonderful weekend and we look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Kirsty Kingham

Principal

Attendance

Dates for your diary

29th November – Non School Uniform Day for Christmas Hampers

10th December – Whole school trip to Pantomime

11th and 12th December - Nativity Performance (please remember cash for the PTA refreshments)

18th December – Christmas Lunch and Parties

19th December – 2.45pm Curriculum Showcase for Parents

20th December AM – iRock concerts

20th June- Sports' Day

Summer Fayre and Car Show - TBC

3rd July – Performance at the Haymarket Theatre (year 2-6)
