

Ashgrove Primary School

Ashgrove Road, Newtownabbey, Co Antrim, BT36 6LJ
Principal: Peter B Waddell B Ed Dip Sc Ed
website: www.ashgroveprimary.com
e-mail: info@ashgroveps.newtownabbey.ni.sch.uk
telephone: 028 9084 8734 fax: 028 9084 4483



Newsletter

December 2009

Christmas



As we approach the end of term the excitement of Christmas has well and truly arrived.

The children's Christmas dinner was a great success with record numbers enjoying their special meal. Many thanks to the kitchen staff for all their hard work.

Primary 7 pupils have been distributing cards from the school post-boxes. This will continue until Friday 18 December.

Christmas craft and artwork decorates every room and corridor. I am grateful to the teachers and classroom assistants for all their creativity and energy.

As usual both Nativity Services were in great demand. Over 300 parents, family and friends turned up to encourage the children and to share in the joy that they brought with singing, reading, playing instruments, and acting.

End of Term – Start of Term

The term will end for all children at 12:30pm on Tuesday 22 December. There will be no dinner that day. The new term will commence on Wednesday 6 January 2010.

Children are not expected to wear uniforms on the last Monday or Tuesday of term.

Thanks to you as parents for your support during this term and particularly at this busy and exciting time. I hope the Christmas season will be a time of peace and happiness for you all.

PTA Christmas Fair

Many thanks to all who made the Christmas Fair so memorable. As well as being a great social event more than £2200 was raised. This money will go towards the education, care and entertainment of the children.



After-School Clubs

Please note that after-school clubs have now ended for this term. They will recommence during the week beginning Monday 11 January 2010.

Primary 1 for September 2010

The prospectus and application forms for next year's Primary 1 classes are now available; the closing date being 20 January.

Please encourage anyone interested in a place for their child to contact the principal or the secretary for a form, an informal chat or a tour of the school.



Letters of confirmation will be posted out in later March.

Mrs McBride

Best wishes go to Mrs McBride for her return in January, when she will share responsibility for one of our Primary Two classes with Mrs Cartmill.

Half-Term Holiday

A full holiday list was sent home earlier in the year but I would remind you that our half-term holiday will be from 15-19 February. School will close at the usual times of 2pm and 2:50pm on Friday 12th.

Public Consultation

The Department of Education has asked schools to remind parents about its consultation document: 'Every School a Good School: The Way Forward for Special Educational Needs (SEN) and Inclusion'. This policy proposal is available online at www.deni.gov.uk and following the "consultation" links at the right-hand side. The period of consultation has now been extended to 31st January 2010.

Contributions to School Fund

With strong backing from parents in response to June's questionnaire we have asked each family to contribute £20 this year. Once again all money will be used for the purchase of interactive whiteboards. If you have not already done so, please send your contribution in an envelope marked for the attention of the teacher, secretary or principal.

Cinema

Would Primary 5, 6 and 7 parents please make sure that their children wear coats and hats for the walk to the cinema on Monday 21 December. You are also encouraged to send a change of clothes in case the weather turns wet.

Sam Bremner 1933 - 2009

It was with sadness that we learned of the recent death of our school crossing patrolman, Sam Bremner. Many of you will remember his generosity, his smile, his kind words, his love of dogs and his practical care for the children as he crossed them over the Burnthill Road. Our thoughts are with the family.