

Ashgrove Primary School

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Newsletter

January 2005

New Year – New Term

2005 has arrived and it's business as usual. The children have come back fresh and happy after Christmas; pleased to see their friends again and ready to work hard in a new term. Mostly!

As always your support with uniform, homework and talking to the children about school is greatly appreciated by the staff.

Nativity

The sincere thanks of the Ashgrove school community are extended to all those whose efforts contributed to our recent nativity services – children, staff and parents. Anyone who attended will be aware of the talents of the children and staff who made each service a joyful celebration of the true meaning of Christmas.

It was wonderful to have the support of families and friends filling the hall on both mornings and then staying for a chat and refreshments in the canteen.

Carol Singing

Three visits were made by the choir to sing carols and spread a little Christmas happiness to the shoppers of the Northcott Centre and to the senior citizens of Glebe Road and Dunanney nursing homes.

Primary Ones For September

Please remember that application forms are due in school by 26 January for places in next year's Primary One classes.

In accordance with NEELB regulations, letters cannot be sent to parents until early April to confirm a child's place in Ashgrove Primary School. Please be patient!

Transfer Dates

Parents of Primary Seven pupils will be invited to interviews during February.

These interviews are a vital element of the process by which children are transferred to post-primary education.

Coloured Overlays For Reading

Recent research has shown that using a coloured, transparent overlay can help children who have reading difficulties.

A yellow, red, blue or green overlay can help with letter reversals and “shimmering” text.

A number of opticians offer a free test that will identify which colour works best for your child.

Winter Clothes

Please remind your child to wear a coat on journeys to and from school as well as during break and lunch times.

Thanks for your continuing help with footwear. It's much appreciated.

Exceptional Closure

This year's two teacher-training days have now been arranged. The school will be closed to children as follows:

- Mid-term Holiday:
11-15 February inclusive
- Teacher Training:
16 February
- Easter Holiday:
21 March – 1 April
- May Day Holiday:
2 May
- Teacher Training:
6 May

School Meals

The Primary 3-7 cafeteria has been doing very well this year and the children seem to be enjoying the service, however we have recently become concerned about the choices that some of our children make. Please keep talking to your children about the eating habits you want them to have. We can encourage sensible eating but only you can insist!

In order to avoid the possibility of a daily diet of waffles or chips the cook has reintroduced a set meal on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Primary 1 and 2 children continue to be served a set meal every day. You should have received a copy of the four-week menu sheet last week. Please send the correct money for the week each Monday.

Parent Teacher Association

A family table quiz will be held for adults and children (P4-P7) in the school at 7.30pm on Thursday 24 February.

More details will follow.

Sri Lanka Buy-A-Boat Appeal

Thanks to your generosity the total collected by our children has now passed £1000.

We hope to raise £1750 to buy a fishing boat for use by three of the many Sri Lankan families that suffered as a result of the tsunami.