

## Ashgrove Primary School

Ashgrove Road, Newtownabbey, Co Antrim, BT36 6LJ  
**Principal: Peter B Waddell MEd BEd DipScEd PQH**  
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# Newsletter

## May 2011

### School Closures – Reminder!

**School will be closed for School Development Days on 26 and 27 May. It will also be closed for the Spring Bank Holiday and in lieu of the Royal Wedding on 30 and 31 May.**

### Sports Day

Weather permitting, Sports Day will be held on 7 June, with P1 – P4 in the morning and P5 – P7 in the afternoon. Further information will follow.

### News from the Canteen

Please note changes to the Wk. 4 menu:

#### Wednesday 1 June:

Beef Burger, Chips & Beans Or  
Salad Wrap & Chips

#### Arctic Roll



### Family Fun Night

Keep the evening of 16 June free to join us for our Family Fun Night. Always great craic, come along to meet your friends, enjoy the atmosphere and make the most of the usual games and stalls.

### PTA Disco

Don't forget the disco on 25 May, £1.50

P1 – P3: 6:30pm – 7:45pm

P4 – P7: 8:00pm – 9:15pm

### 2011/2012 Calendar

Please note that a date provided by CCEA for next year's teacher training has made it necessary to change one of the exceptional closures from 4 May to the 2 May. I apologise for any inconvenience that this will cause.

Next year's closure list is attached.

### Annual Questionnaire

We would be grateful if you would take time to complete and return the attached questionnaire. Many thanks to the outgoing school council, in particular to Jack McCrory (P5) and Amy Parker (P5), for their help designing the pupil questionnaire.

## School Council Election

After the successful establishment of a school council a year ago, we held our second election day on Friday. The Mayor of Newtownabbey, Alderman Paula Bradley, was kind enough to spend the morning in Ashgrove, talking to the candidates and the voters about the process of democracy as well as the fun and responsibilities it brings.



Congratulations to all those who were elected to represent their classes on the Ashgrove School Council next year:

Eva McCrory  
Ryan Lowry  
Gemma McAuley  
Joshua Simpson  
Danielle Wilson  
Jonathan O'Reilly  
Lauren Hetherington  
Philip Moore  
Emma Bainbridge  
Christopher Pollock  
Sophie Pierce  
Jack McCrory  
Lauren O'Donnell  
Ryan Hogg  
Holly Clyde  
Mark Diamond

Sincere thanks to all those members of the school council who contributed their ideas and opinions during the last year. Their honesty, confidence and co-operation were greatly appreciated.

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## Parent Questionnaire 2011

This questionnaire has been compiled to provide you with an opportunity to feed into our planning for school improvement. In order to encourage a true reflection of your thoughts we do not require your name. Please tick one box per question unless you have different views in relation to individual children. The space at the end may be used for comments. You may want to discuss some of the questions with your child/ren and include their opinions; however members of the school council have produced a questionnaire specifically for children. Please encourage your child/ren to complete this with personal opinions.

Please tick which year group/s your child/ren are in.

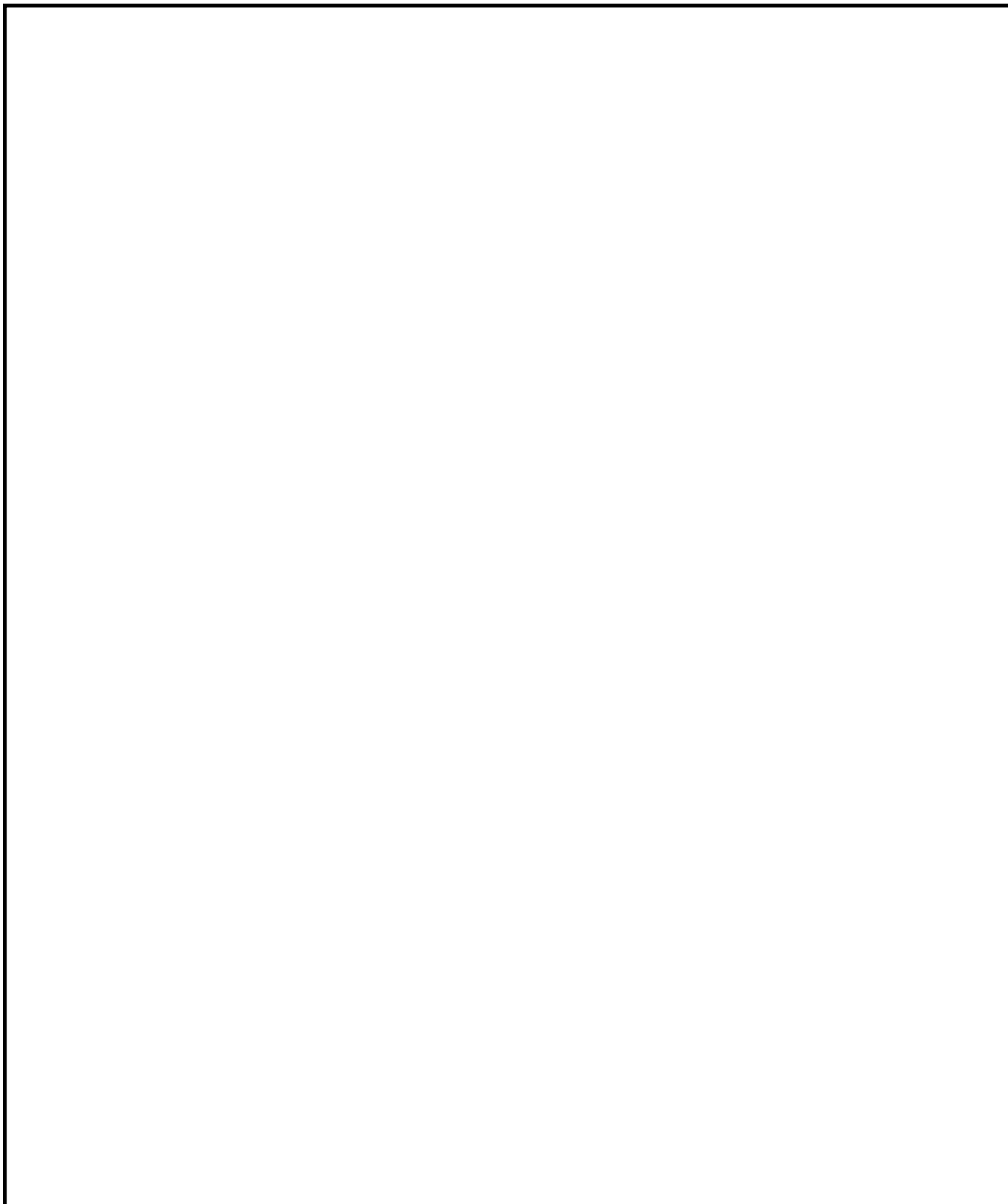
	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7
			Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Don't Know	Agree	Strongly Agree
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
13							
14							
15							
16							
17							

- 1 Ashgrove Primary School has a happy atmosphere.
- 2 I feel welcome when I come into school.
- 3 My child enjoys school.
- 4 The school has a good reputation.
- 5 I feel valued as a member of the Ashgrove community.
- 6 The items of uniform available in school are good value for money.
- 7 I am happy to send a healthy break with my child every day (no chocolate bars, crisps or fizzy drinks).
- 8 Allowing for the odd seasonal treat or social event, the school encourages healthy eating.
- 9 The school delivers the curriculum in an appropriate and effective manner.
- 10 I get enough information about the curriculum that my child is following.
- 11 The school has sufficiently high expectations of my child.
- 12 The school enables my child to achieve a good standard of work.
- 13 I generally understand the homework expected from my child.
- 14 The amount and level of homework seems about right for my child.
- 15 Children with special educational needs are well supported.
- 16 Staff members encourage my child to become independent.
- 17 Children are encouraged to look after each other.



You may use the space below to make any additional comments regarding the strengths or weaknesses of the school or ideas for further development, please. Once completed, please return the form to Mr Waddell in a sealed envelope.

Many thanks for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for the respondent to write additional comments regarding the school's strengths, weaknesses, or ideas for further development.

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## Pupil Questionnaire

If you are a pupil in Ashgrove, we want to know what you think so the school council has written this questionnaire just for you. Your ideas may very well help make the school a better place for everyone.

Brothers and sisters should use the same sheet or, if you prefer, you may request additional copies from Mr Waddell.

Please tick which year group/s you are in.

P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7
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<b>Never</b>	<b>Sometimes</b>	<b>Always</b>
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1	Do you feel safe in school?			
2	Could you find a friendly person to help you if you had a problem?			
3	Does your teacher help you when you are stuck?			
4	Would you do anything to change the playground arrangements? If so...what?			
5	Are the other children kind to you?			
6	Do you feel that homework is set at a suitable level of difficulty?			
7	Are there any after-school activities you would like to add?			
8	Would you like more choice for school dinners?			
9	Are there enough resources in your classroom?			
10	What other activities would you like to do in class?			
11	Do you feel this questionnaire was helpful?			
12	Any other comments?			

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