



Ashgrove Primary School Newtownabbey

Our Weekly Newsletter

ISSUE: 25

FRIDAY 8TH MARCH 2024

RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS ARTICLE 21 (ADOPTION)

“Governments must oversee the process of adoption and make sure it is safe, lawful and that it prioritises the children’s best interests. Children should only be adopted outside of their country if they cannot be placed with a family in their own country.”

In school, we work with a range of agencies to ensure that all children in our care can access and enjoy their rights.

ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

In school we very much value high levels of attendance and good punctuality. These are great habits to form for life and in school helps to ensure a smooth start to our day for everyone. High levels of attendance allows our pupils to make the most of the opportunities in school, both academically and socially.

Next week in Ashgrove we are focusing on punctuality. As a reminder, school gates open at 8.40am and children should be in class for 9.00am. Children arriving to school after 9.00am are late. From Monday 11th – Friday 15th March, all pupils arriving to school on time will receive a house point every day.

We do thank our families for being punctual – this helps our teachers and children have a calm start to their morning in school.

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Learning, Caring, Growing Stronger Together

BALLYCLARE MUSIC FESTIVAL

Congratulations to all our pupils who took part in the Ballyclare Music Festival this week. We mention a special word of congratulations to the following pupils who were placed in the competition:

Lydia Murphy – second place in the P7 solo piano
Molly Murphy – third place in the P6 woodwind class
Rosa Child – third place in the P4 recorder class

WHAT DO I DO IF MY CHILD IS ILL?

It is common in schools for bugs and coughs to circulate. If your child has an illness, which means they cannot come to school, please inform us by completing our online Absence Form or by ringing the Office on the first morning of non-attendance and selecting the option to explain an absence. We ask all parents follow this up with a brief explanatory note when your child returns to school.

The following guidance is in our Attendance Policy, which is available to view on our website:

Chicken Pox	5 days absence from onset of rash
Whooping Cough	5 days absence from onset of rash
Scarlet Fever	5 days absence from onset of rash
Diarrhoea/ Vomiting	Until symptoms have settled for 24 hours
Headlice	None (treatment required)

(This Information is provided by the Health Protection Agency)

The Board of Governors recently to update and ratify our Attendance Policy.

EASTER HOLIDAY!

As a reminder, school finishes for Easter **Friday 22nd March (Half Day staggered home times)** - there will be NO lunches served. School will recommence for the Summer term on **Monday 8th April** at the usual times. Please remember that a full list of our Holiday Dates are easily available on our website under the "Parents" section.

SAINT PATRICK'S DAY REMINDER

As a reminder, school will close early for St Patricks Day on 18.03.24. **No school meals will be served on Monday 18th March. No after school clubs will be available on Monday 18th March.**

Staggered home times will apply as follows:

Year Groups	Home Time
P1&2	12.00pm
P3&4	12.10pm
P5-7	12.20pm



HOLIDAY LIST, 2024-2025



AUTUMN TERM, 2024

School commences:

Wednesday 28th August (Half Day)*
Thursday 29th August (Half Day)*
Friday 30th August (Half Day)*

School Development Day 1: Friday 27th September (School closed to pupils)

School Development Day 2: Monday 28th October (School closed to pupils)

HALLOWEEN: Tues 29th Oct – Fri 1st November (inclusive)

School recommences: Monday 4th November

CHRISTMAS: Friday 20th December (Half Day)*
Monday 23rd Dec – Thurs 2nd Jan 2025 (inclusive)

School Development Day 3: Friday 3rd January (School closed to pupils)

SPRING TERM, 2025

School recommences: Monday 6th January 2025

School Development Day 4: Monday 10th February (School closed to pupils)

HALF TERM: Tuesday 11th Feb – Fri 14th Feb (inclusive)

St Patrick's Day: Monday 17th March (Half Day)*

EASTER: Friday 11th April (Half Day)*
Mon 14th April – Friday 25th April (inclusive)

SUMMER TERM, 2025

School recommences: Monday 28th April 2025

MAY DAY HOLIDAY: Monday 5th May (School Closed)

School Development Day 5: Friday 23rd May (School closed to pupils)

MAY BANK HOLIDAY: Monday 26th May (School Closed)

End of School year: Monday 30th June (Half Day)*

*Half Day- School closes at 12.00 pm, lunches will not be served. The above holiday dates are all inclusive.





Punctuality

**HOUSE POINTS
GIVEAWAY!**

**Monday 11th-Friday 15th
March**

**Earn House Points for
every day you are
punctual to school!**

DOORS OPEN 8.40AM

BE IN CLASS FOR

9.00AM



READING WEEK!

Next week is Reading Week in Ashgrove! Mrs Luney (Literacy Leader) has organised lots of fun activities to inspire and foster a love of reading. The Travelling Book Fair will be in school and Mrs Luney has arranged lots of Literacy activities and competitions. Storytellers will also be joining us during the week

We are looking forward to seeing all your wonderful creations from home - either a Book in a Jar or a Spoon Book Character.

Teachers too are decorating their classroom doors as book covers!



SCHOOL DINNER MENU (£2.55 PER DAY)

Monday 11th March

Oven Baked Pork Sausages with Gravy,
Baked Beans/Peas and Mashed Potato

~
Ice Cream & Two Fruits

Tuesday 12th March

Pulled Pork Pizza Wrap, Sweetcorn/Baton
Carrots with Chips/Garlic & Paprika Wedges

~
Jaffa Cake Pots

Wednesday 13th March

Roast Beef, Stuffing & Gravy with Seasonal
Greens & Mash/Oven Roast Potatoes

~
Fresh Fruit Salad & Yoghurt

Thursday 14th March

Breaded Fish & Lemon Mayo with Garden
Peas/Carrots and Baby Potatoes/Jacket
Potato

~
Fruit Sponge & Custard

Friday 15th March

Beef Burger/Bean Burger in Bap with
Onions, Corn on the Cob/Pasta Salad with
Chips/Steamed Rice

~
Lemon Shortbread & Melon Wedge

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO BOOK BOTH FREE
AND PAID SCHOOL MEALS FOR THE
WEEK AHEAD...**



I opened a book...

I opened a book;
Who did I meet?

A giant, a wizard - so many to greet!
A talking flamingo, a kind chimpanzee;
I was simply astounded by what I could see!

I opened a book;
There was nothing to lose.
I had freedom to do whatever I choose!
I could climb a high mountain;
I could swing through the trees;
I could fly to the moon or sail the high seas.

I opened a book;
What was inside?
A chance to escape, a safe place to hide.
A great dose of courage, when I didn't feel brave.
A chance to be naughty when I had to behave.

I opened a book;
What did I find?
For a while, I could leave all my worries behind.
There were places to visit when I must stay at home
And someone to talk to when I felt all alone.

I opened a book;
What did I see?
A world of adventure,
Waiting for me!



We have started a new section in our Newsletter – Weekly Wellbeing, here we will find a Weekly Challenge and a motivational quote! These are some activities we can do in school or at home to connect with others, develop friendships and reflect on what qualities make us more resilient.

BE KIND TO YOUR MIND **BE CREATIVE** **WEEKLY WELLBEING** **HEALTH IS WEALTH**

Weekly Challenge

Call a friend you haven't played with in a while...

Motivational Quote

"A person who never made a mistake, never tried anything new!"
Albert Einstein

