



# Ashgrove Primary School Newtownabbey

## Our Weekly Newsletter

ISSUE: 12

FRIDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2018

### Rights Respecting Schools – Gold Standard

Article 8 “Every child has the right to an identity. Governments must protect and respect this right and protect the child’s name, nationality or family relationships from being unlawfully changed”

**In School, we ensure each child is called by their proper name and registered with us by the name on their birth certificate.**

### Online safety workshops for parents & carers

St Michael’s PS are hosting an **online safety workshop for parents and carers** 9.15am on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018. This has kindly been offered to our parents and carers in Ashgrove to attend.

The hour-long workshop will help parents and carers understand their child’s online world and build confidence to have those important conversations that can help keep children safe online.

Please email us on [info@ashgroveps.newtownabbey.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@ashgroveps.newtownabbey.ni.sch.uk) to let us know that you can attend.

Until then, if you need any support or guidance, check out our [website pages](#) and [step-by-step guides online](#), call the **O2 and NSPCC Online Safety Helpline** on **0808 800 5002**, or pop into your local O2 store for help from a Guru.

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**Learning, Caring, Growing Stronger Together**

## Christmas Carol Service

Our Christmas Carol Service is due to take place in school on **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30am.**

This promises to be a very special event and will surely get us all in the Christmas spirit!

Initially, we are able to offer two tickets per family to those pupils **singing or reading** during the service. I am sure parents and carers appreciate space in the Hall is limited and we have taken the decision to prioritise tickets to those families with children involved in the Service.

## Christmas Dinner in School

Our pupils will have their Christmas Dinner in school on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December**. The cost of the meal remains at £2.60 (the same as usual school meals). This will be a very busy day for the Kitchen Staff who will have to prepare hundreds of meals! **CHILDREN NOT HAVING A SCHOOL CHRISTMAS DINNER WILL STILL NEED TO BRING A PACKED LUNCH!**

**Please remember that all School Meals should be booked for the week ahead online via SchoolMoney.**

We would like to mention a special word of thanks to Vivienne and everyone who works in the Kitchen who work hard all year to freshly prepare break-time snacks and lunches for the boys and girls in our school.

## Primary 1 Applications for September 2019

As you will be aware, the Education Authority are promoting parents to apply for Primary 1 places for September 2019 via their online portal. **The online portal will be available from 10.00am on 02.01.19.** We of course will offer parents any help they require with their online applications.

During our **OPEN DAY on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019,** our ICT suite and ipads will be available for P1 applications – staff will also be on hand to help with this process.

Alternatively, parents may if they wish, make a paper application to the school of their choice and again if parents require help with this we are happy to help in any way we can.

Please see below for key dates for the application process:

- Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2019 – EA online portal opens @ 10.00am
- Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019 – EA online portal closes
- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February – birth certificate and supporting documentation to be with first preference school



## Celebrating Positive Behaviour in Ashgrove

### STARS OF THE WEEK!

*Our focus this week: Brilliant Behaviour*

Primary 1 Miss Morrison  <i>Kylah Doyle</i>	Primary 1 Miss McLaughlin  <i>Jamie Stewart</i>	Primary 2 Miss McDowell  <i>Rose Kosinska</i>
Primary 2 Mrs Cartmill  <i>Lana Robinson</i>	Primary 3 Mrs Douglas  <i>Rosie Claydon</i>	Primary 3 Miss Crozier/Manion  <i>Willow Jamison</i>
Primary 4 Mrs Torrie  <i>Ella Claydon</i>	Primary 4 Mr Hutcheson  <i>Jessie McBride</i>	Primary 5 Mrs Luney  <i>Grace Gordon</i>
Primary 5 Mrs Carberry  <i>Yasmin Sands</i>	Primary 6 Mrs Ewing  <i>Roxy Beagan</i>	Primary 6 Mr Morrow  <i>Aimee Braiden</i>
Primary 7 Mr Agnew  <i>Ryan McCullough</i>	Primary 7 Mrs Flaherty  <i>Zara McGrath</i>	<i>Next week our focus is Numeracy</i>

### *(Goodbye AQE) Final Assessment- Good Luck!*

For the final time this year we are wishing Primary 7 the very best of luck for their last AQE Assessment tomorrow morning! You should all be proud of your fine efforts and hard work to date. I would like to thank Mrs Flaherty and Mr Agnew for their continued efforts and dedication in preparing our boys and girls.

### *Safeguarding Team in Ashgrove Primary School*

**Designated Teacher:** Mrs Luney (P5)  
**Deputy Designated Teacher:** Mrs Coulter (P1)  
**Principal:** Mr Smith  
**Safeguarding Governor:** Mr William Edwards



## Christmas Card House Competition...

We are asking our pupils to design the front of a Christmas Card for Ashgrove Primary which we will use as our official Christmas Card this year.

We will select a winning card from each Key Stage as follows:

- Foundation Stage: P1&2
- Key Stage 1: P3&4
- Key Stage 2: P5-7

The artist of the winning Christmas Cards will be awarded with 100 House Points! We hope you will enjoy completing this competition with your child – we are not looking for perfect cards but for creativity!

Please submit your cards to Mrs Carberry by **WEDNESDAY 5<sup>th</sup> December** – the winning cards will be shared with you all on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December! Good luck everyone!

## Nativity – A Midwife Crisis!

Our Christmas Nativity a Midwife Crisis will take place on **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> and Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December**. You should have received a note and text home to book a ticket online, if you have yet to book a ticket please make sure you do so ASAP as the tickets are going fast!

## PTA Christmas Fair!

The PTA Christmas Fair is on **THURSDAY 6<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 6.30-8.30pm**. The PTA really do appreciate your donations and support. In particular, they are looking for donations of the following things:

1. Used good condition toys (especially the cuddly ones), toys, books, cds and DVDs.
2. Tombola items - new items such as gift sets, homeware, gift vouchers and any other gift ideas.
3. Sweets and chocolates, boxes, bags, bars, multipacks, family packs, whatever you can think of!
4. Buns and cakes (faked or baked).

If you can help with any of the above, you can drop them into school anytime week beginning Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December! Thank you for your support & let's make this the best one yet!



All children will go home @ 2.00pm on  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December!



## Christmas Holiday Reminder...

School finishes for Christmas on **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER**. All children will go home at 12.00 pm, no lunches or school dinners will be served.

School will reopen to pupils on **FRIDAY 5<sup>th</sup> JANUARY** at the usual times.

## Court Orders and Care List

Some parents have requested their child's name to be placed on our Care List which is only for pupils who have a Court Order in place to prevent them being collected by a birth parent. Please note this list only exists only for these circumstances which have been ruled by Court. For others, Staff will only permit collection from school of P1-4 pupils by the prior arrangement of parents – this has always been our practice – children are dismissed by the teacher responsible each day unless they attend our After School Club.

SHOULD YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE, it is your responsibility to keep us informed and provide us with the appropriate documentation.

P5-7 pupils often have their own arrangements for walking, cycling, or meeting with parents after school each day. Teachers will supervise their exit from school as normal.

## School Attendance

Yesterday, Mrs Carberry and I reviewed the attendance of all children in school. **We are very fortunate that the vast majority of children in Ashgrove are strong and regular attenders at school – we thank our parents for their support with this.**

If the attendance of your child at school is a concern we are required to write to you informing you of this matter in the hope that improvements will be shown in the coming weeks. Mrs Carberry and I will also send home **Absence Reply Slips** for us to record a reason for absence if your child has been off school – please complete these and return to the class teacher. It is important we record a reason for all days off school. Please remember to send a note to school informing us why your child has been off on their return, alternatively you may email school on [info@ashgroveps.newtownabbey.com](mailto:info@ashgroveps.newtownabbey.com)

**For a minority of pupils, persistent lateness is a recurring problem.** We very much appreciate and thank our parents and carers who ensure their child/children are in school on time ready to start their day. Lateness can be disruptive to the whole class and not just to the children who are late.

All pupils should be in school for 8.55am – this bell marks the beginning of the school day and pupils arriving after this time are late.



## After School Clubs

Please remember there are NO teacher led After School Clubs from next week. 2.00 – 5.30pm Club will be available as per usual. Make sure you share this information with your child and have confirmed your collection arrangements.

**Teacher led After School Clubs will recommence on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019.**

## Santa Hat Stroll & Walking Bus...

To get in the festive mood, on **TUESDAY 18<sup>th</sup> December** we are running a Santa Hat Stroll. Pupils and parents are encouraged to walk, cycle or scoot to school wearing their Santa hat (or other Christmas hats!).

For even more festive fun we are also running a walking bus on this morning – a walking bus is when a group of parents and children walk together from a designated meeting point to the school, “picking up” other parents and children along the way.

We will be meeting at the building in Glengormley Park, ready to leave at 8.30am. Our route will then take us along Carnmoney Road, Glebe Road West, Liscoole Park and Ashgrove Road to school, arriving in time for school.

This event is for pupils *and* parents/adults; all children must be accompanied **unless school holds permission for them to walk to school independently**. Please note any children on bikes or scooters should make their own way to school

## Foundation Stage Christmas Treat

As a reminder, P1&2 pupils are going to the Cinema on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you to those parents who have already given permission and payment online via SchoolMoney. Permission & payment is due by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December.



## Unclaimed Uniform and Clothing Items...

We have once again collected quite a number of lost clothing and uniform items. We are sure that many of these items are costly and we would like to reunite them with their owners! If your child has misplaced items in school please check our lost property. To help us return lost property to children, please label all items.

Before Christmas, we will have to give any remaining items to charity.

### School Dinner Menu, £2.60 per day

Vegetarian Options are available

<p><b><u>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December</u></b> Sausages, Beans, Chips, Mashed Potatoes &amp; Tomatoes Sauce ~ Yoghurt &amp; Fruit</p>	<p><b><u>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December</u></b> Savoury Mince, Sweetcorn, &amp; Mashed Potatoes or Pizza, Sweetcorn &amp; Salad ~ Flake meal Biscuit &amp; Milkshake</p>
<p><b><u>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December</u></b>  <i>Christmas Dinner!</i></p>	<p><b><u>Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December</u></b> Chicken Curry, Boiled Rice, Naan Bread &amp; Carrot Sticks ~ Canadian Tart &amp; Custard</p>
<p><b><u>Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December</u></b> Pasta Bolognese, Cheese &amp; Crusty Bread <b>OR</b> Fish Fingers, Peas &amp; Mashed Potatoes ~ Pear &amp; Chocolate Favoured Sponge &amp; Custard</p>	<p><b>HEALTHY BREAK</b> <b>30p per day</b>  Tuesday: Toast, Red Apple &amp; Cucumber  Friday: Crusty Bread, Orange &amp; Pepper</p>

## Ski Trip note home...

Mrs Flaherty & Mr Agnew have sent home a paper note today to P5&6 pupils about a planned Ski Trip in 2020. At this stage we are looking for expressions of interest from our parents.

