



Ashgrove Primary School Newtownabbey

Our Weekly Newsletter

ISSUE: 19

FRIDAY 26TH JANUARY 2018

Rights Respecting Schools

Article 14 (freedom of thought, belief and religion) "Every child has the right to think and believe what they choose and also to practice their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying their rights"

In school we pride ourselves on our ethos of tolerance and respect, we also value our Christian ethos and invite local Churches and organisations to speak at Assembly.

Parent Teacher Consultations

Our Parent Teacher Consultations will take place on **Monday 25th, Tuesday 26th and Wednesday 27th February.** **ALL CHILDREN WILL GO HOME AT THE EARLIER TIME OF 12.30 PM (LUNCHES WILL STILL BE SERVED).** In the coming weeks you will receive a text from school prompting you to select a date and time which suits you. We appreciate and encourage the attendance of all our parents and carers at these important interviews.

Primary 7, School Transfer Interviews

I wrote to all Primary 7 parents offering a date and time (next week) to come to school and complete the Post Primary Transfer Forms. It is not compulsory for you to attend, but many parents appreciate some guidance. If you are not able to attend, we can send the Transfer Form home to you, but his **MUST** be returned to school by **MONDAY 5th FEBRUARY.**

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Learning, Caring, Growing Stronger Together

NI Children's Commissioner to school

On Tuesday, the NI Children's Commissioner (Koulla Yiasouma) and some of our Governors visited school to celebrate our significant achievement of gaining the Rights Respecting School's Award, Gold Standard. We are the first school in Newtownabbey (and indeed one of very few in Northern Ireland) to gain this standard. Thank you to Mrs Carberry for leading and developing this work in our school.



Primary 1 Admissions for September 2019

There is only one more week to apply for Primary 1 places for September 2019. The EA application portal will close on Friday 31st January. Please remember to send us copies of your child's BIRTH CERTIFICATE and any other supporting documentation by Friday 8th February.

If you need help with the application process or would just like to visit our school please call in at any time!

Congratulations Mr Hutcheson

On behalf of everyone in school we pass our congratulations to Mr Hutcheson on the birth of his beautiful and healthy baby daughter!



How to Raise a Concern in School...

If you are worried or have a concern about any aspect of school life, you should follow the procedure below...

1. Speak with the class teacher – most often concerns can be addressed and resolved at this stage.
2. If the concern is not resolved, speak with the Head of Key Stage (Miss Morrison or Mrs Torrie) or Vice Principal (Mrs Flaherty).
3. Address the concern to Mr. Smith (Principal).
4. Following the steps above, if the concern has not been resolved, you may write to the Board of Governors.

World Book Day Celebrations- Friday 8TH March

On **FRIDAY 8TH MARCH** we will celebrate **WORLD BOOK DAY**. World Book Day celebrates the joy and value of books and reading, especially for children. To help mark the occasion we are asking all pupils and staff to come to school **dressed as their favourite book character**- this could be Horrid Henry, Gangsta Granny, Little Red Riding Hood, Alice in Wonderland..

Please remember, we do not expect parents to buy expensive costumes for this occasion, a homemade costume or something you have at home is great!

AQE Results- Good Luck!

We will be thinking of our Primary 7 pupils on Saturday morning as they receive their AQE and/or GL results. Transfer Interviews for P7 pupils will take place next week. P7 parents have been invited to come to school to complete the Transfer Form for Post Primary School applications.

The result posted to you is a standardised score, a whole number between 55 and 145, with an average of 100. Grammar Schools have published what AQE/GL results they accepted last year, and these results are available online.

If your post does not arrive at your registered home address, the **AQE Office (028 9022 4002) will be open from 2.00 pm on Saturday 26th January** to allow for verbal results to be given over the phone (security questions must be passed). AQE will unfortunately not be able to answer any further questions other than that of your child's result. All other issues can be taken up from **Monday 28th January**.



Science in Ashgrove Primary School...

As part of our School Development Plan, we are focusing this year on the development of Science and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths)

Science Technician

Thank you to all of the P7 children who applied to be Science Technicians in our school. All remaining applications should be given to **Miss McDowell by Monday 28th January**. Thank you!

Science Mascot Competition...

We are asking pupils from P4 to P7 to create a Science Mascot for our school to use on noticeboards, school newsletters etc. Design sheets will be sent home with children and should be completed and returned to **Miss McDowell by Monday 4th February**.

Crest Awards

This year in school we are taking part in the Crest awards for Engineering. The competition is titled '**What would an Engineer do?**' If you are an Engineer or know someone who is, we are keen to invite them in to school to talk with a class about their job.

If you are involved with a scientific career e.g. Radiography, nursing, dentistry etc we would love to have you involved with our science week. If you can spare some time to talk to our children, please get in touch with Miss McDowell. **Science week will be happening in April.**

Thank you, Miss McDowell
(WAU Co-ordinator)



Science Questions...

Each month in our school Newsletter we will ask some science questions for you to discuss at home. Pupils should put their answers in the **SCIENCE BOX** outside Mr Smith's office. The winning pupil from both age groups will get 50 points for their house.

Primary 1-4 Science Question...

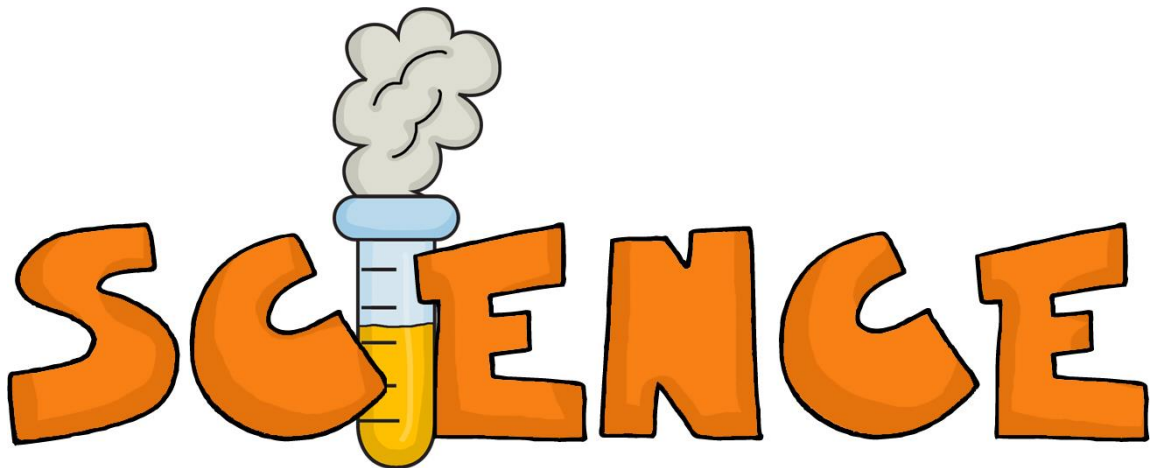


Can you guess what the item in the picture is?

Clue: it comes in lots of different colours and you can draw with it!

Primary 5-7 Science Question...

What is the human body's largest organ?



Primary 4 (Mrs Torrie's Class) Assembly

P4T are holding a special class Assembly on **Tuesday 29th January, 9.15am.** Parents and Carers in P4T are welcome to attend.

Safer Internet Day, Tuesday 5th February

Safer Internet Day is on **Tuesday 5th February.** Mrs Flaherty will take a special Assembly highlighting to children how to use the internet safely and appropriately. Earlier this year, our Anti Bullying Ambassadors and some P6 pupils produced a series of videos about how to stay safe online- you can watch them from our website.

Parents from Mrs Flaherty's class may attend a special Assembly on **Tuesday 5th February, 9.15 am.** Mrs Flaherty will write to you with an invitation and reply slip.

School Dinner Menu, £2.60 per day

VEGETARIAN OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE EACH DAY

Monday 28th January

Hot Dog, Beans, Chips, Mashed Potatoes & Tomato Sauce
~
Yoghurt & Fruit

Tuesday 29th January

Irish Stew & Crusty Bread
or
Ham & Cheese Panini Salad & coleslaw
~
Apple Crumble & Custard

Wednesday 30th January

Roast Beef, Turnip, Oven Roast & Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
~
Cracknel, Custard & Fruit

Thursday 31st January

Chicken Curry, Boiled Rice, Mixed Vegetables & Naan Bread
~
Cupcake & Fruit

Friday 1st February

Lasagne, Peas, Crusty Bread
OR
Fish Fingers, Peas, Mashed Potatoes
~
Jelly, Fruit & Ice cream

HEALTHY BREAK

30p per day

Tuesday: Toast, Pear & Carrot
Friday: Crusty Bread, Red Grapes & Celery

