



Ashgrove Primary School Newtownabbey

Our Weekly Newsletter

ISSUE: 20

FRIDAY 1ST FEBRUARY 2019

Rights Respecting Schools

Article 15 (freedom of association) "Every child has the right to meet with other children and to join groups and organisations, as long as this does not stop other people from enjoying their rights."

In school we offer a wide range of Clubs and Associations which our pupils are free to join, these include School Council, RRSA Steering Group, After School Clubs etc

Diary Dates & Reminders

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| Monday 4th February – | Local Police talking to P2, people who help us! |
| Tuesday 5th February – | P7F Assembly, Safer Internet Day! |
| Thursday 7th February – | P4 & P5 Shared Education with St Michael's |
| Friday 8th February – | P3 Shared Education, P2 to Fire Station & P1 application supporting documentation to be handed in |
| Monday 11th February – | P6 Shared Education with St Michael's |
| Tuesday 12th February – | P7 Shared Education with St Michael's |
| Thursday 14th February – | P2 Shared Education. School Council Meeting |
| Wk/c Mon 18th February – | Half Term (School Closed) |
| Mon 25th Feb – Wed 27th Feb – | Parent Teacher Consultations |

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Learning, Caring, Growing Stronger Together

Half Term Break!

It is hard to believe that the February Half Term is almost upon us. As a reminder, school will be CLOSED the week beginning **Monday 18th February and reopen on Monday 25th February.**

AQE & GL Assessment Results

The long wait for AQE & GL Assessment results is now finally over! We achieved an excellent set of results this year which is testament to the hard work of teachers and pupils alike. It was a pleasure meeting the parents of our P7 pupils this week to complete the Post Primary Transfer Forms- thank you all for your kind and supportive comments about the work and life of our school.

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).** Next week, you will receive a text & link prompting you to select a day and time of your choice to attend the consultations. We appreciate and encourage the attendance of all our parents and carers at these important interviews.

Collecting Children during the school day

Occasionally, parents request to collect their children early during the school day e.g. medical appointment. If this is the case, you must write a letter to the class teacher informing them of the **time of collection and the reason.**

FOR SAFETY CONCERNS ALL CHILDREN MUST BE COLLECTED FROM RECEPTION – we will not allow children to walk unaccompanied to meet you in the carpark or outside the school gates, thank you for your understanding with this.

Adverse Weather

This week we experienced some poor weather conditions but thankfully nothing to disrupt the smooth running of school. Please make sure we have your most up-to-date contact details. Thank you!



Primary 1 applications, September 2019

The closing date for Primary 1 applications for September was yesterday. Please remember to submit birth certificates and supporting documentation to us by **Friday 8th February**.

If you are late in applying for a Primary 1 place, please contact us immediately for a paper application form.

Safer Internet Day...

On **TUESDAY 5TH FEBRUARY** we will be marking Safer Internet Day in school – I have attached some tips and hints about keeping safe online. Mrs Flaherty will hold two special Assemblies in school (upper and lower school) to raise awareness of internet safety. **Primary 7 parents may attend the Assembly, 9.15 am.**

Shared Education

Next week, various year groups have Shared Education visits with our friends in St Michael's. Please refer to the Dates section of our Newsletter. Teachers will add news and pictures of our visits to our website.

Attendance Reminders...

Mrs Carberry and I met yesterday to monitor the attendance of all pupils in our school. We are thankful that overall we have excellent attendance and appreciate the support we receive from our parents in this regard.

We will write individually to parents where we have a concern about pupil attendance. Please help us by sending in notes (or an email) giving a reason for absence.

If following an initial letter home attendance does not improve, our Attendance Policy requires us to refer the matter to the Education Welfare Officer.

Mrs Carberry and I will also send home reply slips for any absences which require a written explanation. We appreciate your help in completing and returning these.



Safer Internet Tips for Parents, 0-5 yrs

Online safety tips for parents of pre-school children 0-5 Year Olds

Checklist

Put yourself in control

Make use of the parental controls available on your home broadband and any internet-enabled devices. You can find out how at your broadband provider's website or by visiting internetmatters.org.

Search safely

Use safe search engines such as swiggle.org.uk or kids-search.com. Safe search settings can also be activated on Google and other search engines as well as YouTube. You can find out more at google.co.uk/safetycentre.

Set boundaries

It's never too early to start setting rules about when and for how long your child can use devices and start to introduce the subject of internet safety at the same time. Encourage children to use devices in a communal area, keep other devices out of reach and use passwords so they can't go online without asking you first.

Explore together

Set your homepage to a child-friendly site such as CBeebies and give them a user account which only allows access to sites and apps you've chosen.

Help them learn through games

Games are a great way for young children to explore the internet and learn about the world around them. You can choose safe, fun and educational games free of charge from providers such as Fisher Price or about their favourite characters like Peppa Pig.

Pre-school children are online for an average of 71 minutes a day*



Children can now have a digital footprint before they learn to speak and often before they're even born.

Internet Matters is a free online resource for every parent in the UK. We'll show you the best ways to protect your children online as they grow up - with information, advice and support on all the big e-safety issues.

internetmatters.org

*Source: Ofcom Children and parents: media use and attitudes report 2016



Safer Internet Tips for Parents, 6-10 yrs

Online safety tips for parents of primary school children 6-10 Year Olds

Checklist

Put yourself in control

Make use of the parental controls on your home broadband and any internet-enabled devices. You can find out how at your broadband provider's website or by visiting internetmatters.org.

Search safely

Use safe search engines such as swiggle.org.uk or kids-search.com. Safe search settings can also be activated on Google and other search engines as well as YouTube. You can find out more at google.co.uk/safetycentre.

Agree boundaries

Be clear what your child can and can't do online - where they can use the internet, how much time they can spend online, the sites they can visit and the type of information they can share. Agree with your child when they can have a mobile phone or tablet.

Explore together

The best way to find out what your child is doing online is to ask them to tell you about it. Encourage them to use devices in communal areas so you can see what sites they're visiting and share with them.

Check if it's suitable

The age ratings that come with games, apps, films and social networks are a good guide to whether they're suitable for your child. The minimum age limit is 13 for several social networking sites, including Facebook and Instagram.

Over 65 % of parents are most concerned about their 6-10 viewing inappropriate content online*



Know this stuff matters, but don't know where to turn?

Internet Matters is a free online resource for every parent in the UK. We'll show you the best ways to protect your children online - with information, advice and support on all the big e-safety issues.

internetmatters.org



Safer Internet Tips for Parents, 6-10 yrs

Online safety tips for parents of 11-13 Year Olds

Checklist

- Put yourself in control**
Make use of the parental controls on your home broadband and any internet-enabled devices, including your child's mobile phone. You can find out how at your broadband or mobile network provider's website. Find out how to setup safe search in Google by going to google.co.uk/safetycentre.
- Agree boundaries**
Have a family agreement about where they can use the internet, how much time they can spend online, the sites they can visit and the type of information they can share.
- Have a conversation**
The best way to find out what your child is doing online is to ask them to tell you about what they do and what sites they like to visit. Discuss with them what they might come across.

62% of 11 year-olds
and 69% of 12 year
olds have a Facebook
profile despite the
minimum age of 13

13

- Check if it's suitable**
The age ratings that come with games, apps, films and social networks are a good guide to whether they're suitable for your child. The minimum age limit is 13 for several social networking sites, including Facebook and Instagram.
- Get them clued up about social networking**
Talk to children about the benefits and risks of social networking before they join any sites. Let them know that anything they upload, email or message could stay around forever online.

Help them to be critical of things they see online and judge the quality and reliability of online sources.

Know this stuff matters, but don't know where to turn?

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**internet
matters.org**



Carpark Safety

Firstly, I would like to thank the majority of parents who use the Carpark facilities in our school responsibly. We are fortunate to offer this to our families. However, I would like to remind everyone that the safety of our pupils is paramount and as adult drivers we all have responsibility to put our children first.

Please observe our Code of Conduct:

There is a 5 mile per hour speed limit in school grounds

1. If you have park your car in school grounds, please walk to the usual collection point where the teacher will hand your child over to you.
2. Once a child is handed over to you please supervise your child in the school grounds. Please DO NOT let them run!
3. All children and adults must walk on the footpaths NOT on the road.
4. Please show consideration to other drivers and pedestrians.
5. Drivers – please be careful when reversing out of spaces.
6. Drivers should only park in the designated spaces. Please do not park on hazard lines or on crossings.
7. Please be courteous to all users e.g. do not double park hemming in other drivers.



School Dinner Menu, £2.60 per day

Vegetarian Options are available

Monday 4th February

Sausages, Beans, Chips & Tomato
Sauce

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Yoghurt & Fruit

Tuesday 5th February

Savoury Mince, Sweetcorn, & Mashed
Potatoes or Pizza, Sweetcorn & Salad

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Flake meal Biscuit & Milkshake

Wednesday 6th February

Roast Chicken, Diced Cabbage, Oven
Roast & Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

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Rice Pudding & Fruit

Thursday 7th February

Chicken Curry, Boiled Rice, Naan Bread
& Carrot Sticks

~

Canadian Tart & Custard

Friday 8th February

Pasta Bolognaise, Cheese & Crusty
Bread **OR** Fish Fingers, Peas & Mashed
Potatoes

~

Pear & Chocolate Favoured Sponge &
Custard

HEALTHY BREAK

30p per day

Tuesday: Toast, Red Apple & Cucumber

Friday: Crusty Bread, Orange & Pepper

Safeguarding & Child Protection reminders

Safeguarding and Child Protection is very important to us in Ashgrove Primary. As such I would like to remind parents about how to report any Safeguarding concerns you may have...

1. If you have any worries or concerns about the welfare of Safeguarding of any child in our school you can report your concern to the class teacher.
2. If you are still concerned speak with Mrs Luney (Designated Teacher for Child Protection). If she is not available speak with Mrs Coulter (Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection).
3. If you are still concerned you can write to the Chairperson of the Board of Governors- Mrs Karen Thompson.
4. At any time you can talk or write to a Social Worker or the Police.

