



# Ashgrove Primary School Newtownabbey

## Our Weekly Newsletter

ISSUE: 21

FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2019

### Rights Respecting Schools

Article 16 (right to privacy) "Every child has the right to privacy. The law should protect every child's private, family and home life, including protecting children from unlawful attacks that harm their reputation."

In school we take data protection very seriously. Information about our pupils is stored safely and we teach children how to stay safe online, protect their identity and seek consent.

### Half Term Holiday...

Please remember school is **CLOSED** for Half Term the week commencing Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February.

School will reopen to pupils on **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February** at the usual times...



Please remember school starts at 8.55 am and pupils may enter the school grounds from 8.40 am

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**Learning, Caring, Growing Stronger Together**

## Parent Teacher Consultations P1-6

Our Parent Teacher Consultations will take place on **Monday 25<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February.** **ALL CHILDREN WILL GO HOME AT THE EARLIER TIME OF 12.30 PM (LUNCHES WILL STILL BE SERVED).** By now, you should have received a text and email prompting you to select a date and time of your choice to attend the consultation (thank you to the many parents who have already selected their consultation time). We appreciate and encourage the attendance of all our parents and carers at these important meetings. As P7 parents have recently met with Mrs Flaherty & Mr Smith the interviews are primarily for P1-6, however if a P7 parent wishes to speak with their teacher an appointment can be arranged. **There are NO Teacher Led After School Clubs the week commencing Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February.**

## Attendance & Punctuality

Throughout the year we like to remind parents of the importance of excellent attendance at school and **ARRIVING ON TIME IN THE MORNING.** Being punctual means all pupils can take part in important morning routines and their learning can start- lateness even from one pupil can disrupt class routines.

If your child is absent from school, for any reason, we require a note to explain the absence- please send this to school on your child's return. Since the September 2018, the average pupil attendance at Ashgrove Primary School is 95%.

100% Attendance	0 days missed
95% Attendance	9 Days of Absence 1 week and 4 days of learning missed
90% Attendance	19 days of Absence 3 weeks and 4 days of learning missed
85% Attendance	28 days of Absence 5 weeks and 3 days of learning missed

## What to do if you are late to School....

School opens for pupils at **8.40 am.** All pupils must in school for **8.55 am** – the bell will ring to mark the start of the school day. If you are late to school you must bring your child to Reception (no other access points to the building will be open). From the Reception area, all **pupils will go by themselves to their classroom.**

**FOR SAFEGUARDING REASONS, PARENTS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO BRING CHILDREN WHO ARE LATE TO THEIR CLASSROOMS (including**



## Absence Notes...

At the end of last week, some parents received a request to complete an Absence Reply Slip. We are required to record a reason for all absences from school on our system. If your child is absent from school please ring the Office on the first day of non-attendance and leave a message with your child's name, class teacher and reason for absence.

On your child's return to school, follow this up with a brief note to the class teacher, explaining the absence in writing. We have excellent rates of attendance in Ashgrove and thank our families for your support with this.

## Healthy Munching March!

In the month of March we are asking for help from everyone at home in providing healthy breaktime snacks for all our pupils. Eating a healthy snack at breaktime helps our children to concentrate. In contrast sugary foods cause blood sugars to spike making concentration more difficult. Children who eat a healthy snack every day in March will get a special treat... The School Council will meet next Thursday to decide what the reward should be.

## Late Collections from School

As a reminder, children who are collected late from school will be brought to our After School Club where adult supervision is provided – this is the policy of the school. (There is a charge of £2.50 per hour or part thereof for the use of this service).

Teachers wait outside with all children and ensure they are handed over to an adult at the end of the school day. Teachers hand over their pupils and any remaining are brought back in to school.

For **SAFEGUARDING REASONS** we can not allow children to remain outside or be unsupervised in the school building waiting to be collected. If another adult or family member is collecting your child from school please remind them of collection times (2.00 pm & 2.50 pm).

## Shared Education Updates...

This week, both P5 classes visited W5 with their friends in St Michael's. P4 classes also had exchange visits. Unfortunately, the P2 Shared Education visit today was postponed, we will keep you informed of when this will be rearranged.



## *School Dinner Menu (£2.60 per day)*

### Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February

Beef Burger, Baked Beans, Chips,  
Mashed Potatoes & Tomatoes Sauce

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Yoghurt & Fruit

### Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February

Buffet

2 Sandwiches, 1 chicken Goujon, 1  
Pizza, Carrot Sticks & Salad

~

Jam Sponge, Custard & Fruit

### Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February

Roast Chicken, Carrots, Roast &  
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

~

Chocolate Steamed Sponge & Custard

### Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February

Chicken Curry, Boiled Rice, Mixed  
Vegetables

~

Strawberry Mousse & Fruit

### Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February

Breaded Salmon Cake, Sweetcorn & Mashed  
Potatoes OR Lasagne, Sweetcorn & Crusty  
Bread

~

Biscuit, Fruit & Strawberry Milkshake

### *HEALTHY BREAK 30p per day*

Tuesday: Toast, Green Apple & Celery

Friday: Crusty Bread, Melon & Carrot

*Vegetarian options are available each day – refer to the menu via  
SchoolMoney & school website.*

## *After School Provision – Parent Teacher Consultations*

During the days of our Parent Teacher Consultations we have extended the provision of our After School Club. The club will be available from 1.00 pm to 5.30 pm– this is to accommodate working parents or others who require child care. If you would like to book please do so online via SchoolMoney.

## *Water bottles in school...*

We understand the need for our pupils to stay hydrated throughout the day – this helps with concentration and learning. **However, pupils should drink WATER only**, therefore dilute concentrate or other drinks should not be brought in to school. We ask that all parents observe this guidance. Thank you for your help.

## *500 Words Competition...*

BBC Radio 2 are once again looking for entries for their 500 Words Competition. This is a great opportunity to let creative writing flow! For more information visit:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/59TwwKqg3LTpRVfPlsKtx9/submit-a-story>

