



Ashgrove Primary School Newtownabbey

Our Weekly Newsletter

ISSUE: 01

FRIDAY 30TH AUGUST 2019

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!

Parents & Carers,

We hope you all had a happy and healthy Summer break and are looking forward to the challenges and opportunities of this academic year.

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new Primary 1 pupils and other pupils who have joined Ashgrove Primary over the summer months, can you believe that we welcomed 65 new pupils to our school since June!

The past few days have been very useful in helping embed those all-important routines and expectations in school. We very much encourage and expect our pupils to come to school prepared with the correct equipment and uniform.

We hope you will find the information in our Weekly Newsletter useful - we recommend you keep these in a safe place as often key dates and events are shared with everyone at home.

The **Diary Dates** section of our website is very useful to keep you up to date with all that's happening. Our Newsletter will be emailed to you each Friday. Alternatively, it is also to download each from our website and Ashgrove App, we will also share a link to it on our Facebook Page and Twitter accounts.

Finally, I wish you all a very happy and successful year with us in Ashgrove Primary School.

R Smith



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Learning, Caring, Growing Stronger Together

Upcoming Events in School- Dates for your Diary

W/C Mon 2nd September

P6 pupils start swimming this week

Friday 6th September

AQE registration CLOSES

W/C Mon 9th September

Standardised Testing Week

Tuesday 10th September

P1-4 Curriculum Information Afternoon 3-4pm

Wednesday 11th September

P5-7 Curriculum Information Afternoon 3-4pm

Thursday 12th September

Interviews for House Captains & Vice Captains

W/C Mon 16th September

Teacher led Clubs commence

Tuesday 17th September

P7 to St. Michaels (Shared Education)

Thursday 19th September

School Council Meeting

W/C Mon 23rd September

P1 pupils stay to 1.15pm

Tuesday 24th September

Cool For School individual & family photographs

Thursday 26th September

European Day of Languages

Friday 27th September

SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT

W/C Mon 30th September

P1 pupils stay to 2.00pm

Thursday 3rd October

Mr Smith & Mrs Carberry to monitor attendance

Tuesday 8th October

NO TEACHER LED CLUBS TODAY

Wednesday 16th October

NI Water Assembly

Thursday 17th October

School Council Meeting

Friday 18th October

P6 Assembly, time TBC (**P6 parents may attend**)

Monday 21st October

Parent Teacher Consultations, children go home @ 12.30pm

Tuesday 22nd October

Parent Teacher Consultations, children go home @ 12.30pm

Wednesday 23rd October

Parent Teacher Consultations, children go home @ 12.30pm

Friday 25th October

School Councillors visiting the Houses of Parliament! (London)

Monday 28th October

SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Tues 29th-Fri 1st Nov

SCHOOL CLOSED FOR HALF TERM

Monday 4th November

School recommences

OUR FULL HOLIDAY LIST IS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE & APP



School Morning Routines...

At the beginning of a new school year it is important we establish good routines- this gives a sense of stability and security to our pupils. **As a reminder, all pupils must be in school for 8.55 am-** the bell rings at this time and marks the beginning of the school day. Pupils arriving after this time are late.

Pupils are welcome to enter the school grounds from **8.40am** when adults will be on duty in the Playgrounds. Please take note that pupils **MUST NOT** be left unsupervised in the school grounds before this time.

BREAKFAST CLUB is available in the Dining Hall for £2.00 per day from 7.45am.

Pupils may enter the main building via the Primary 1 entrance, this door will be closed at 8.55 am as soon as school starts. **We kindly ask Primary 2 parents to use the Primary 1 entrance rather than the main lobby.** If you are late please use the main entrance at Reception and an adult will take your child to class.

AS OF NEXT WEEK, WE EXPECT ALL PUPILS TO WALK TO THEIR OWN CLASSROOM BY THEMSELVES FROM P2-7.

Safeguarding/ Child Protection – HIGH IMPORTANCE

If you have any worries or concerns about the welfare of your child or any other child in Ashgrove Primary you should speak with either Mrs Luney (Primary 5 Teacher) or if she is not available Mrs Coulter (Primary 1 Teacher).

Mrs Luney (P5) is the Designated Teacher for Child Protection.

Mrs Coulter (P1) is the Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection.

The Governor with responsibility for Safeguarding is Mr Edwards.

Our website contains our Safeguarding/Child Protection Policy and important information about the roles and responsibilities of the Safeguarding Team.



Voluntary Contribution to School Funds

We are once again at the start of another busy year in school. At the start of each year we ask parents to make a small voluntary contribution of £5.00 per child (maximum of £10.00 per family) to our school.

We do appreciate this can be an expensive time of year for parents and carers buying new uniforms, stationery etc. However, every penny is precious in school and this money will be used with the sole purpose of buying resources to enhance the education of your child/children.

We will send out a text soon with a link to make the payment via SchoolMoney.
THANK YOU!

Mobile Phones & related technology in School...

We discourage children from bringing mobile phones to school, however we do understand that some may require these to keep in touch with parents after school. If a child must bring a mobile phone, this **must remain switched off** and stay in the pupil's schoolbag throughout the day.

If you need to contact your child urgently while they are in school, please ring the Office where the Secretary will be happy to help.

Standardised Testing...

In our Diary Dates section of the newsletter you may have noticed we will have Standardised Testing commencing **Monday 9th September**. The purpose of this is to establish a very clear baseline of where each child is in academically. Teachers and adults will then use this information to help plan for the needs of all children and tailor their teaching strategies to ensure that all learners make excellent progress.

While these tests are important, we do not want the children to feel anxious or worried. During our Staff Development Day on **FRIDAY 27th SEPTEMBER** teachers will examine the results.



School Dinner Menu, £2.60 per day

VEGETARIAN OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE EACH DAY – Refer to website

Monday 2nd September

Chicken Nuggets, Sweetcorn & Chips

~

Melon Wedges & Yoghurt

Tuesday 3rd September

Salmon Fish Cakes, Baked Beans or
Mushy Peas & Mashed Potatoes OR
Chilli/Chicken Pasta topped with
cheese, Sweetcorn & Crusty Bread

~

Fresh Fruit & Yoghurt

Wednesday 4th September

Roast beef & baton carrots, broccoli,
mashed potatoes, roast potatoes &
gravy

~

Fresh fruit & ice-cream

Thursday 5th September

Chicken curry, boiled rice, naan bread
& carrot sticks

~

Chocolate brownie & fresh fruit

Friday 6th September

Chilli beef, garden peas, wedges & rice
OR BBQ chicken pieces, salad &
coleslaw

~

Sponge topped with fruit & custard

HEALTHY BREAK

30p per day

Tuesday: Toast, Red Apple &
Cucumber

Friday: Crusty Bread, Orange & Pepper

School Collection Times...

For the month of September all Primary 1 pupils will go home at 12.00pm, as of **MONDAY 30th September** Primary 1 pupils will stay in school to 2.00pm.

Primary 2 pupils leave school at 2.00pm every day from Monday 2nd September.

Primary 3 pupils go home at 2.00pm on Monday and Thursday afternoons, all other days Primary 3 pupils stay in school to 2.50pm.

Primary 4-7 pupils stay in school to 2.50pm every day from Monday 2nd September.

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT UNCOLLECTED CHILDREN WILL GO TO OUR AFTER SCHOOL CLUB, THERE IS A CHARGE OF £2.50 PER HOUR OR PART THEREOF.



Healthy Breaks

Pupils should not eat sweets, chocolate, biscuits, crisps etc for break. Fruit, vegetables, yoghurt cheese or bread based products may be eaten. Please do not send NUT BASED products in to school.

AQE Registration

The closing date for AQE registration is **FRIDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER**. **If you wish your Primary 7 child to sit the AQE test, you MUST register their details with AQE by this date.** Registration forms are available to download on the AQE website: www.aqe.org.uk. You also need to send a photocopy of your child's Birth Certificate, two passport sized photographs and payment.

P4-7 PE Kit

Before the start of the new term I shared with parents and carers our required PE kit. As a reminder this is as follows : plain white polo or t-shirt, black shorts or track suit bottoms, trainers or plimsolls. Children **MUST** wear their PE kit during PE lessons.

Medication in school

If your child requires medication in school, you must complete an Administration of Medication Form. **NO MEDICINE WILL BE ADMINISTERED UNLESS THIS IS RECEIVED.** It is the sole responsibility of parents to ensure that medications are in date and we have an adequate supply of medicine for a child. Please note, medication can **ONLY** be administered according to the prescribed instructions from a GP or according to a Care Plan.

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE OR FROM THE OFFICE

LABELLING SCHOOL ITEMS

Please remember to label all items of uniform with your child's name and class. This helps us to return lost items to their correct owner quickly.

(Don't forget about lunchboxes and school bags!)

