



# Ashgrove Primary School Newtownabbey

## Our Weekly Newsletter

ISSUE: 13

FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2019

### RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS

*Article 9 "Children must not be separated from their parents against their will unless it is in their best interests. Children whose parents have separated have the right to stay in contact with both parents unless this could cause them harm"*

**In school we work hard to respect all parents and careers in school. We ask parents to help us by keeping us informed if family circumstances change.**

### OPEN DAY FOR NEW PRIMARY 1 PARENTS

On **TUESDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY** we have an **OPEN DAY** in school for new parents to come and see our lovely school. Tours of the school will take place at **9.30am and 11.30am.** You be able to see our classrooms in action.

During the Open Day, our ICT Suite and ipads will be available to assist with the new online application process. Members of staff will be on hand to help with the application process... if you need any guidance with the application process at any stage, you are very welcome to call in to school at any time.

We always appreciate when our school is recommended by word of mouth... if you know families who are due to start P1 in September 2020, please let them know about our Open Day.

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[WWW.ASHGROVEPRIMARY.COM](http://WWW.ASHGROVEPRIMARY.COM)

**Learning, Caring, Growing Stronger Together**

## SCHOOL CLOSURE

As a reminder, school is CLOSED on **THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER** for the General Election – Ashgrove PS will be used as a Polling Station. Please make alternative childcare arrangements for this day.

## CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY REMINDER

The last day of term is **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December**, all children will go home at **12.00pm**- no school dinners or packed lunches will be served. Breakfast Club will be available on the last day of term, but After School Club will not be available. School will reopen to pupils on **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January** at the usual time.

## SCHOOL COUNCIL CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY...

Our School Councilors have organised the above for **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December** – children should donate £1.00 to the School Council. Thank you for your support!

### MISS SCHOOL=MISS OUT!

The Department of Education has shared information on why attendance at school is so important. Here are some of the ways parents can help in ensuring good levels of attendance...

- Establish a good routine in the morning and evenings so your child is prepared for the day ahead.
- Make sure your child goes to school regularly and follows the school rules.
- Ensure your child arrives to school on time- not late.
- Arrange dental and medical appointments outside of school hours when possible.
- Always inform the school if your child is absent due to illness- this should be followed up with a written note.
- Do not take family holidays during term time.
- Talk to your child about school and take an interest in their school work (including homework).
- Attend parent teacher consultations and school events.
- Praise and reward your child's achievements at school.
- Always support school staff in their efforts to control; difficult or challenging behaviour.



# EXCEPTIONAL WEATHER PROCEDURES

To date this winter, we have not experienced exceptional weather such as snow, ice or very hard frost. When needed, our paths in school are gritted and Mr Douglas works hard to keep us all safe in school grounds.

IF THERE IS ICE OR SNOW, PLEASE STICK TO THE GRITTED AREAS FOR SAFETY, BUT STILL TAKE CARE.

Should our school be forced to close in very heavy snow or treacherous conditions during winter, please note the following:

- 🌱 An early notice will be posted on our website: [www.ashgroveprimary.com](http://www.ashgroveprimary.com)
- 🌱 Downtown Radio/Radio Ulster will be informed to make an announcement.
- 🌱 A text message concerning the closure will be sent to each parent on our 'Class Parents' list/ or the First Contact given by parents to our School Office.
- 🌱 Messages will be posted on our Social Media accounts – Facebook, Twitter and our school app (download the app from our website, itunes or Googleplay).

You will appreciate, this will be an exceptional circumstance and the school will only be closed if absolutely necessary. Working parents should ensure emergency child care is put in place and phone numbers are up to date should we need to contact you at any time.

## SCHOOL COUNCIL CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

The School Council are organising a Christmas jumper Day on **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December**, £1.00 per pupil. All monies raised will go towards the School Council- they will choose how to spend the monies raised!

PLEASE DO NOT BUY CHRISTMAS JUMPERS JUST FOR THIS OCCASION!

If you don't have a Christmas jumper some tinsel on a regular jumper is perfect!





**Royal Mail**

# **Ashgrove School Council Christmas Post**

Deliveries Monday-Friday

*Remember to write the  
name and class for delivery  
on the envelope!*

**10p per letter or £2.00  
for class set**





# ASHGROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN DAY

*for Primary 1 enrolment*  
*Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020*



*Tours of the school available at 9.30 & 11.30am*

***Help will be available with the new Education Authority online application procedure.  
Ipads and ICT suite will be available for Ashgrove applications.***

***Remember to bring your child's Birth Certificate!***

*Download our Ashgrove App the apple store or googleplay*

**[www.ashgroveprimary.com](http://www.ashgroveprimary.com)**

**[info@ashgroveps.newtownabbey.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@ashgroveps.newtownabbey.ni.sch.uk) Tel: 028 90 848734**





**“The school is Outstanding” UNICEF 2018**

**“The pupils are articulate and confident”**

**“Strong leadership from staff, parents and governors”**

**“The school has a strong ethos and ambassadorial role in the community”**

**“The standards the children attain are high” ETI**

**Winners of “Overall Best Primary School Award 2018”**

**Winners of UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools Gold Award**

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## EVENTS IN SCHOOL NEXT WEEK...

<b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December</b>	P7 Shared Ed visit to Hillsborough
<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December</b>	P1-4 Nativity, The Magical Christmas Jigsaw
<b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December</b>	P1-4 Nativity, The Magical Christmas Jigsaw
<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December</b>	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR THE ELECTION
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December</b>	World of Owls to P3

**THERE ARE NO TEACHER LED AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS NEXT WEEK -  
RECOMMENCING AFTER CHRISTMAS**

**Various dates for January 2020 have been added to our website including dates for parents to come to school to complete P7 Transfer Forms for Post Primary admissions – please take note of these dates!**

### **SCHOOL DINNER MENU, £2.60 PER DAY**

**(VEGETARIAN OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE – REFER TO WEBSITE)**

#### **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December**

Fish Fingers, Baked Beans & Chips  
~  
Fresh Fruit Salad & Yoghurt

#### **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December**

Steak Burger, Salad, Coleslaw & Spiced  
Cubed Potatoes OR Chilli Chicken Pasta,  
Salad & Wheaten Bread  
~  
Chocolate & Pear Sponge with Chocolate  
Sauce

#### **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December**

Roast Chicken, Stuffing, Diced Carrots  
& Parsnip, Mashed Potatoes, Oven  
Roast Potatoes & Gravy  
~  
Fresh Fruit & Yoghurt

#### **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December**

**SCHOOL IS CLOSED FOR THE  
GENERAL ELECTION**

#### **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December**

Pasta Bolognese, Carrots & Crusty OR  
Chicken Goujon Wrap & Tossed Salad  
~  
Yoghurt & Fruit

**HEALTHY BREAK  
P1-4, 30p per day**

Tuesday: Toast, Green Apple & Celery  
Friday: Crusty Bread, Melon & Carrot

