



Ashgrove Primary School Newtownabbey

Our Weekly Newsletter

ISSUE: 04

FRIDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER 2021

PHA GUIDANCE AND UPDATES

I wrote to all families at the beginning of this week to keep you informed of the recent updates with Track and Tracing from PHA. As you are aware PHA are now responsible to conduct Track and Tracing where a positive case is identified in a school setting.

WHAT DO I DO IF MY CHILD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19?

If your child tests positive for COVID-19, they should self-isolate for 10 days and not attend school during this time. The Public Health Agency Contact Tracing Service (PHA CTS) will be in touch to determine who your child's close contacts are, and will ask for contact details for them so they can be advised appropriately.

If your child tests positive for COVID-19, you should inform the school, who may issue Warm & Inform letters to the class.

WHAT IF MY CHILD TESTS NEGATIVE FOR COVID-19?

If your child tests negative for COVID-19 they can return to school as normal, provided they feel well enough to do so.

WHAT DO I DO IF MY CHILD'S FRIEND TESTS POSITIVE?

If you do not hear from the PHA CTS, then there is no requirement for you or your child to self-isolate. The PHA CTS will identify all [close contacts](#), and follow them up directly. If your child has been identified as a close contact, then the PHA CTS will make contact with you or your child and provide advice. However, if your child develops symptoms, then they must self-isolate and not attend school, until they have had a negative test.

GENERAL REMINDERS

- Friday 24th September we are celebrating European Day of Languages
- AQE Registration closes Friday 24th September.
- Monday 27th September – Friday 1st October, Bike to School Week
- P1 stay for school lunches week commencing Monday 27th September
- School is CLOSED for staff development on Friday 1st October.
- PARENT TEACHER CONSULTATIONS will take place on Monday 18th, Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th October.

E: INFO@ASHGROVEPS.NEWTOWNABBAY.NI.SCH.UK

WWW.ASHGROVEPRIMARY.COM

Learning, Caring, Growing Stronger Together

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Our annual school photographs took place yesterday. Thank you for giving consent online. **If your child was absent from school for any reason and did not get their photograph taken, Cool For School are returning to Ashgrove in January** – any missed photographs can be taken then.

FLU IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME

The Flu Vaccination programme in schools will be going ahead this year in the Autumn Term. The date initially set by the community nurse to administer this in Ashgrove is **Monday 8th November**.

The School Health Team will be visiting the school on **Monday 8th November** for the flu immunisation programme. Consent forms will be sent home to you with children in the coming weeks. You **MUST** complete the consent form for the vaccine to be administered.

The programme has been introduced to give protection to children against flu, which can be a very unpleasant illness and can mean that they have to take time off school. It will also help to stop the spread of flu and so will protect people around them as well. The vaccine is usually given to children by a simple **spray into their nose** and they can return to their lessons very quickly afterwards.

Information about the programme and leaflets in other languages can be found at:

<http://www.fluawareni.info>

A short video aimed at children explaining the programme has been developed by the Public Health Agency and can be found on the following link: Vaccinate kids as the first line of defence against flu.

What are the arrangements for parents consenting to vaccinations?

The Trust school nursing teams will provide schools with an envelope for parents that contains a letter explaining the programme, the PHA flu vaccine for children information leaflet and a consent form for signature.

P5-7 PERMISSION TO WALK HOME

Thank you to our P5-7 parents and carers who have completed our online permission slip for children to walk home unaccompanied. This closing date for the submission of this form was last week. We have shared this information with staff who supervise children leaving the school grounds.

If in the following weeks and months ahead, you choose to give permission for your P5-7 child to leave school unaccompanied, you must inform us in writing.

Please be aware that we can not release pupils into the care of juniors aged 16 or below.

As you know, we have worked hard to establish a safe routine for the dismissal of children at the end of the school day. **We ask that you remind you child each day what their arrangements are for home time. If an adult is collecting them, please tell them who it will be.**



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SCHOOL COUNCILLORS!

Last week, pupils from P4-7 elected School Councillors to represent their Classmates at our School Council Meetings. This is a highly valued role in our school where pupils have the opportunity to have an input and consultation on matters impacting them in school.



MR SMITH AND MRS CARBERRY LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING OUR
NEW SCHOOL COUNCILLORS VERY SOON!

VISIT FROM HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT (UK PARLIAMENT WEEK)

During our School Council elections a camera crew from Westminster visited Ashgrove to see our election process taking place. This will form part of a nationwide video and promotion of UK Parliament week in November 2021. Our children talked about democracy, manifestos, fairness and the opportunity to vote.



School Council Elections



PIC•COLLAGE



Our Safeguarding Team

In Ashgrove Primary we want everyone to feel safe and happy in school.

**If you have any worries or concerns you can speak to a member of our
Safeguarding Team.**



**Mrs Luney
P5 Teacher**

**Designated Teacher
for Child Protection**



**Mrs Carberry
P5 Teacher**

**Deputy Designated
Teacher
for Child Protection**



**Mr Smith
Principal**

School Principal

Child Protection is everyone's business!



BIKE TO SCHOOL WEEK

Ashgrove Primary School is taking part in Bike to school week which will run from the **MONDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER TO THE FRIDAY 1ST OCTOBER**. We are encouraging pupils during this week to safely cycle or scoot to school.

Bike to school week is a week long event designed to showcase the benefits of cycling and scooting to school across the UK. If you cycle or scoot to school this week, we would love you to share pictures with us via school email or seesaw. This is our first initiative of the year that we are completing in connection with Sustrans. Ashgrove Primary is an active travel school, and we are working towards gaining our next level of accreditation.



Bike to School Week 2021

27 September – 1 October

- ✓ **Be active** and feel more energised
- ✓ **Help the environment** by replacing a car journey
- ✓ **Improve local air quality** and reduce congestion



Let Sustrans know your family is **cycling or scooting to school** to be in with the chance of **winning a Frog bike**.

Visit www.sustrans.org.uk/biketoschoolweek/pledge



#BikeToSchoolWeek

www.sustrans.org.uk/biketoschoolweek

Registered charity no. 320550 (England and Wales) SC054295 (Scotland). Competition T&Cs apply: www.sustrans.org.uk/biketoschoolweek/pledge



WEARING FACE COVERINGS IN SCHOOL PREMISES

Thank you to those parents and guests to school who so diligently wear a face mask or covering while in school grounds. This is an important risk mitigation measure to help prevent the spread of the virus in school premises. While I understand some adults may be exempt on medical grounds, we ask that all guests to school wear a face covering – even while outside.

MOBILE PHONES IN SCHOOL

As a general rule we discourage pupils bringing mobile phones to school as these are not required or permitted during the day. If you need to contact your child during school time, you must do so via the Office – messages will be passed on. We do however understand that some older children need a phone to contact parents or carers after school. If mobile phones must be brought to school, they must remain switched off and from next week stay in the pupil's schoolbag.

SCHOOL DINNER MENU

Vegetarian options are available if required

<u>Monday 20th September</u> Fish Fingers, Baked Beans, Mashed Potatoes & Crusty Bread ~ Forest Fruits & Yoghurt	<u>Tuesday 21st September</u> Pasta Bolognaise, Carrot Batons & Crusty Bread ~ Strawberry Swiss Roll & Custard
<u>Wednesday 22nd September</u> Roast Dinner, Stuffing, Carrot & Parsnip, Roast & Creamed Potatoes & Gravy ~ Rice Pudding & Fruit	<u>Thursday 23rd September</u> Chicken Curry, Boiled Rice, Naan Bread & Peas ~ Chocolate Cookie, Chunk of Banana & Milkshake
<u>Friday 24th September</u> Sausages, Sweetcorn & Chips ~ Fresh Pineapple Ring & Yoghurt	School meals for the week ahead should be booked online via SchoolMoney.



**You can now follow us on
Instagram
@ashgroveps**

