



Ashgrove Primary School Newtownabbey

Our Weekly Newsletter

ISSUE: 28

FRIDAY 8TH APRIL 2022

EASTER HOLIDAY

As a reminder, school finishes for Easter at **staggered home times on Wednesday 13th April**, no lunches will be served. School recommences for the Summer Term on **Wednesday 27th April** at the usual times.

STAGGERED HOME TIMES ARE AS FOLLOWS

11.40AM 11.50AM 12.00PM

We wish you all a relaxing Easter break!



ASHGROVE PS, BELFAST MARATHON FOR ACTION CANCER

We are very aware in Ashgrove that so many of our families, friends, children and staff in school have been touched by cancer either directly or through a loved one... Unfortunately, a number of our Ashgrove Community are living with cancer and going through treatment – we keep them in our thoughts. Many of our families have also lost loved ones too early. However, this has galvanized our staff to come together to do something positive and in a small way show our support.

This year, we are entering a team from Ashgrove PS to run in the Belfast Marathon to raise funds for **Action Cancer**. Mrs Torrie is setting up a Go Fund Me page to raise sponsorship and monies for this worthwhile cause... We would so appreciate it you could share our Go Fund Me page with relative and colleagues when this is ready – thank you all for your support!

ASHGROVE ROAD, NEWTOWNABBAY, CO ANTRIM, BT36 6LJ

T: 028 9084 8734

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

WWW.ASHGROVEPRIMARY.COM

Learning, Caring, Growing Stronger Together



MAY BANK HOLIDAYS & ELECTIONS

Please remember school is CLOSED on **Monday 2nd May** for the Bank Holiday and **Thursday 5th May** for the local elections.

In June, we are closed on **Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd** for the Bank Holiday and Jubilee Celebrations. Monday 6th June is also a Staff Development Day – school will be closed to pupils.

SPORTS DAY 2022...

We have initially penciled Sports Day into our school calendar for **Friday 17th June** (weather permitting). As we plan to have this event outdoors, we want to have parents present – due to the pandemic, it has been a few years since we have had parents in the grounds to see Sports Day.

To help manage the number of adults in school grounds we will schedule three Sports Day events as follows:

- Foundation Stage, P1&2
- Key Stage 1, P3&5
- Key Stage 2, P5-7

More information, along with times etc will be sent home in due course.

P1 TO STREAMVALE FARM

Recently, P1 Parents should have recent a SchoolMoney payment request for our P1 visit to Streamvale Farm on **Wednesday 18th May**. Thank you for making your payment to date, as a reminder, please make your payment by Wednesday 11th May.

Miss Morrisson and Miss Woods will write to you nearer the time with more details of arrangements for the day.

CONNECT FOUR TOURNAMENT

Over the past couple of days we very much enjoyed our P5-7 Connect Four Tournament in school... firstly I would like to thank Mr Kelly for organising the tournament which we hope will become an Ashgrove annual tradition.

Today our ultimate Connect Four Champion was found – we are all so proud of River Gormley (P5, Mrs Luney's Class), many congratulations River!



P6 NEWS...

During Term 2, all children are required to present a prose piece to their class. This is part of the curriculum and is designed to start building their confidence when speaking to an audience. We were so pleased that most children came to school with a prepared, and rehearsed, piece.

Five finalists were chosen from each classroom and, on Monday, P6 came together in the hall to listen to them compete. They were nervous but did a marvellous job in front of their peers.

The results are as follows:

- 1st equal - Amelie Hastings and Jacob Douglas
- 2nd - Bella Craig
- 3rd - Bobby Lucas

DOODLE MATHS

Today, the first certificate was given out to one of our P7 pupils for achieving a 500-day streak in Doodle Maths. Well done, Hannah. This means that Hannah has worked on Doodle Maths every day since it was introduced to the school. A wonderful achievement!

MRS CARTMILL

At the beginning of May Mrs Cartmill (P2) plans to retire from teaching... She has been in Ashgrove as highly valued member of staff for many years. During her time here she has taught hundreds of children and taken good care of each and every one of them. She still has such a passion and enthusiasm for her job – so much so that it's hard to believe she is anywhere near retirement! I'm sure all our Ashgrove families who know Mrs Cartmill join me in thanking her for dedication and service to our school. We all wish her a long, happy and healthy retirement.

(Mrs Cartmill will be back in Ashgrove after Easter, her last day in school will be Friday 29th April).

Mr Cassidy who teaching P2C Monday-Wednesday, will teach P2C Monday-Friday commencing Tuesday 3rd May.



UPDATE ON COVID RESTRICTIONS IN SCHOOL

After Easter we are in a good position in school to move forward and begin to relax some of our COVID restrictions in school. Having updated our risk assessments, the following changes will commence on return in the Summer Term;

- While playing outside, year groups may mix together during their allocated playtimes;
- P7 Playground Buddies and Dining Hall Helpers will be used once again;
- **Staggered arrival and departure times from school will remain until the end of June**, but will be reviewed for the beginning of the new academic year;
- Temperature checks- after Easter we will no longer conduct temperature checks for every child as they enter school. Instead, we may check the temperature of a child if we think they are unwell. However, there will still be members of staff at each gate/entrance point in the morning. Parents should continue to leave their children at their allocated entrance gate.
- Following updated guidance from DE, we will take steps to reintroduce Assemblies in the Assembly Hall. This will be start on a small scale e.g. Key Stage Assemblies.
- Sports Day... parents will be invited to attend.

School Dinner Menu, £2.60 per day

Vegetarian Options are available – refer to Menu on Website

<u>Monday 11th April</u>	<u>Tuesday 12th April</u>
Salmon Cakes, Peas & Mashed Potatoes ~ Ice Cream & Oranges	Chicken Bits, Beans & Chips ~ Watermelon & Yoghurt
<u>Wednesday 13th April</u>	<u>Thursday 14th April</u>
School Closed for Easter	School Closed for Easter
<u>Friday 15th April</u>	
School Closed for Easter	

Please remember to login to your SchoolMoney account to book meals for your child for the week ahead. Both PAID and FREE school meals should be booked online before midnight of the day ahead!

