



# Ashgrove Primary School Newtownabbey

## Our Weekly Newsletter

ISSUE: 29

FRIDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2022

### RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS

Article 25 (review of treatment in care)

**“If a child has been placed away from home for the purpose of care or protection (for example with a foster family or in hospital) they have the right to a regular review of their treatment, the way they are cared for and their wider circumstances.”**

#### Bank Holiday Closure

As per previous correspondence, school is **CLOSED** on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May** for the first Bank Holiday. We hope everyone enjoys their extended weekend! School reopens at the usual times on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

#### Local Elections

I am sure you are very aware that school is **CLOSED** on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May for the local elections. Please make alternative childcare for this date.

#### Visitors in school buildings...

Even though lockdown measures in our community are being lifted I kindly remind parents and carers they should not be in the school building. If you need to speak Tracey at Reception, please ring and she will be happy to help.

#### Breakfast Club & After School Club

As a reminder, Breakfast Club is available from 7.45am (although children may arrive after this time). Spaces are limited at the Club to help with risk mitigation measures.

Our After School Club is also available from 2.00-5.00pm each day (Monday – Friday), again spaces at the Club at a reduced capacity. There is **NO** Breakfast or After School Club on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

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**Learning, Caring, Growing Stronger Together**

## Ashgrove Runners for Cancer Focus



### ASHGROVE PS RUNNERS FOR CANCER FOCUS



On Sunday a group of teachers from our school will run the Belfast Marathon to raise funds for Cancer Focus. We would like to thank everyone so for your kind donations and your words of encouragement and support. We are very aware that this issue has impacted so many of our families, staff and children, however we want as a group to help make a positive difference and show our support.

**If you are attending the marathon as a spectator or participant give us a cheer or a wave!**

So far, we have raised almost £2,800 of our £3,000 target for Cancer Focus.

If you would like to make a donation – no matter how small, you can do so via our GoFundMe Page by clicking the link below:

<https://gofund.me/3a7a3c94>



## Period Dignity Policy – Consultation

Before Easter, we emailed to all families a Period Dignity Policy for your consultation – this is inline with Department of Education guidance. Thank you to those of you who read the Policy and gave us your support and feedback on the proposed document. The feedback to date has been overwhelmingly supportive.

We will keep the consultation process open for another week – just to give you all the extended opportunity to read and give your input into this important area of school life. The policy outlines how we will support girls and boys who are starting puberty and very importantly, how we plan to take an age and stage sensitive approach to sex education.

**Please check your emails for the draft policy or alternatively click on the link below to read the document:**

[https://storage.googleapis.com/siteassetsswd/139/docletter/20220428022133\\_46\\_Period\\_Dignity\\_Policy\\_2022.pdf](https://storage.googleapis.com/siteassetsswd/139/docletter/20220428022133_46_Period_Dignity_Policy_2022.pdf)

**You may give your feedback on the proposed policy by completing the online Google Form below:**

<https://forms.gle/UMKbA8MVteMPRtyP7>

Thank you Mrs Cartmill... Happy Retirement!



Today we say a very fond farewell to Mrs Cartmill who is retiring from a long and happy career in teaching.

To say she is a wonderful teacher is an understatement, the care she shows every day to her class is just inspiring.

She will be truly missed from Ashgrove, but we are delighted that she can now enjoy a long, happy and healthy retirement.

Keep in touch!



## RAISING A CONCERN WITH SCHOOL...

Occasionally, parents or carers may have concerns or worries they wish to address with school, this may be to do with academic progress, social interactions or a situation at home. In such circumstances we ask parents & carers to observe the following procedure...

1. Inform the class teacher by a phonecall, letter or make an appointment to speak with them. Most often issues are resolved quickly at this stage.
2. Speak with the Vice Principal (Mr McComb)
3. If the issue is still not resolved speak with Mr. Smith.

By following a staged approach, we can ensure that your concern is heard by more than one person and our goal is to resolve issues quickly. It may be necessary for the teacher to return your call as they have teaching responsibilities throughout the day. Thank you all for observing this.

## JUNE 2022 HOLIDAY LIST...

**REMINDER: School is CLOSED on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> & Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June for the Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend. School is also closed on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June for Staff Development.**

## MEDICATION IN SCHOOL

Occasionally, children may require medication while attending school, this may be for a short term need (e.g. infection) or longer term need (e.g. diabetes). As a parent or legal guardian, it is imperative you inform us immediately if your child requires any medication during the school day.

Where possible, children should administer medication themselves e.g. inhaler. In this case, parents must request their child is allowed to carry and administer his/her medication **(Form AM 3)**. Please note, the Principal must first agree to any child carrying his/her medication in school.

Children with long term medical needs should have a Medical Care Plan provided by your GP or other healthcare professional. It is your responsibility to ensure we have the most recent copy of this, which should be reviewed annually. If your child has a Medical Care Plan, you are required to complete **Form AM1**.

To request school to administer medication, you must complete **Form AM2**. We will **not administer medication unless the correct forms are completed and the request is agreed by the Principal** - this is so we may monitor children with medical needs and take action if required.

Medication supplied to school must be untampered and in the original packaging. We will only administer medication as prescribed by your GP. Out of date or unused medication must be collected from school – this will not be sent home with your child.

Our Administration of Medication Policy and required forms are available online:

<https://www.ashgroveprimary.com/parent-area/administration-of-medication/>



## NEW P1 PLACEMENT NOTIFICATIONS

New parents with children starting P1 in September 2021 should have received notification from the Education Authority yesterday with their school allocation. We also notified successful applicants ourselves. If you were expecting a placement and have not received confirmation, please contact us.

## CAR PARK & TURNING CIRCLE – HELP US TO HELP OUR CHILDREN

Recently, some parents/carers of school have voiced concerns about adults parking cars inappropriately in school grounds e.g. double parking and blocking in other drivers. A lack of consideration to other users is frustrating. If there is no carpark space available, I respectfully ask you not to block other drivers.

We would like to draw your attention to, and thank you in advance, for observing the following:

1. If you have parked your car in school grounds, please walk to the usual collection point where the teacher will hand your child over to you.
2. Once a child is handed over to you we expect you to supervise your child in the school grounds. Please DO NOT let them run!
3. Please only park in carpark spaces – do not double park or park across zebra crossings.
4. All children and adults must walk on the footpaths.
5. Please show consideration to other drivers and pedestrians.

As a School we can NOT accept liability for driving/road accidents which happen in school grounds. As adults, it is your responsibility to ensure you drive and park carefully with due consideration for others and most importantly for the safety of our pupils.

### SCHOOL DINNER MENU, £2.60 PER DAY

Vegetarian Options are available – refer to Menu on Website

#### Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May

School CLOSED for early May Bank Holiday.

#### Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

Salmon Cakes, Sweetcorn & Herby Diced Potatoes

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Popcorn Cookies & Banana

#### Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May

Chicken Curry with Boiled Rice, Carrot Sticks & Naan Bread

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Ice Cream & Fruit

#### Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May

School CLOSED for Local Elections.

#### Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May

Chicken Nuggets, Beans & Chips

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Watermelon & Yoghurt

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!

