



Ashgrove Primary School Newtownabbey

Our Weekly Newsletter

ISSUE: 03

FRIDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER 2022

SCHOOL CARPARK

Parents and visitors to school are welcome to use the Carpark facilities in our grounds. However, it is up to all adults to ensure the safety and care of our pupils and is paramount. For this reason, we ask everyone to adhere to the following:

- Speed limit of **5 MPH** (should be strictly adhered to)
- Vehicles should not be parked on pavements or access points at any time
- All drivers must observe the one-way system
- Please do not park across the zebra crossings
- Drivers must exercise caution at all times when in school grounds
- Pedestrians should use the designated crossing areas & pathways
- Parents should get out of their car to collect their child and escort them to their vehicle or in to school (pupil safety comes first!)
- The disabled bays at the front of school should only be used by blue badge holders
- Please show consideration for other drivers and remember the safety of our pupils is paramount

Please share this information with everyone at home who may be collecting or leaving pupils to school.

PICTURE OF THE WEEK...

Did you see our Picture of the Week we shared with everyone at home on social media?
This is based on 3 lines of enquiry – **I SEE, I THINK, I WONDER...**

The same image is discussed by children in all year groups. This encourages observation, careful thought and thinking about possibilities – all great learning strategies to encourage in our children.

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Learning, Caring, Growing Stronger Together

Yesterday evening, we all learned of the death of Queen Elizabeth II. For many this will be a time of reflection. It is anticipated that a Bank Holiday will be announced on the day of the state funeral. As yet, schools have not received notification about a closure from the Department of Education, but we will of course keep you updated as information emerges.

PRIMARY 7 TO GANAWAY

P7 pupils have had a great time the past few days in Ganaway – this has been a super start to the new academic year and a great way to build positive relationships with each other, their Classroom Assistants and Teachers. The children have taken part in so many activities- rock climbing, zip-line, archery, caving and lots more... we have shared some photographs on our social media accounts and Mr McComb has shared photographs of everyone on Googleclassroom (we even managed to avoid the worst of the weather!).

The children themselves, as always, are credit to the school- they have behaved so well and taken part in lots new activities with a wonderfully positive attitude!

I am sure everyone at home would join me in thanking all members of staff who volunteered to go. I would like to mention a special word of thanks to Mr McComb, Mr Morrow, Mrs Bell, Mrs Clotworthy and Mrs Lloyd – we couldn't do it with you!

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Thank you to everyone who has applied for Free School Meals, as you know this must be completed annually – see more information below from the education Authority.

Free School Meals and Uniform Grants



Are you waiting on expected approval for a Free School Meals or Uniform Grant application for your child/children? Please read below.



You Must Apply Every Year

You must reapply every year and include all children for whom you have parental responsibility and who will be full-time at school or Regional/FE College.



Not heard from us? Check your junk mail

If you have applied more than four weeks ago but have not received confirmation that your child/children will receive Free School Meals and Uniform Grants then please check your email including your junk folder



Applied within the last four weeks

If you have applied in the past four weeks you will receive an e-mail from us shortly. It can take up to four weeks to process an application. Thank you for your patience.

www.eani.org.uk/fsm



AQE REGISTRATION

As a reminder to P7 parents, AQE registration closes on Friday 23rd September. Please refer to the AQE website for more information on the registration process. We ask that you also let us know in school that you have registered, please email us on info@ashgroveps.newtownabbey.ni.sch.uk

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF MY CHILD IS UNWELL?

Very often when school restarts children can pick up colds and bugs as they are mixing with a large group of peers. Most of these ailments are minor and recovery is quick. If your child has vomiting or diarrhoea, you should keep them off school until the symptoms are gone – this helps to prevent passing the illness on to others in the classroom.

If your child has a **mild head cold**, they may still attend school. If they have a heavy cold, cough etc and feeling unwell they should stay at home until they are well enough to return to school.

On the first day of absence, please inform us that your child will not be attending. There is a simple google form to complete on the “Parents” section of our website to inform us of an absence. The link below brings you directly to the absence from school form.

<https://forms.gle/bJsDUoVNXJbQr4y26>

EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES 23.09.21

In Ashgrove we are celebrating the European Day of Languages on **Friday 23rd September.**

Each year group will study a European country (please see below for details). On Friday 23rd September children are asked to come to school wearing the colours of the country – there is NO NEED to buy costumes – plain clothing please, just whatever you have at home.

<i>Year Group</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Colours</i>
Primary 1	Poland	Red & White
Primary 2	Spain	Red & Yellow
Primary 3	Italy	Green, White & Red
Primary 4	Germany	Black, Red & Yellow
Primary 5	France	Blue, White & Red
Primary 6	Sweden	Yellow & Blue
Primary 7	Holland	Red, Silver & Blue



COOL FOR SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS ANNUAL PORTRAITS

Cool for School are taking school photographs (portraits) on **THURSDAY 15th SEPTEMBER**. A note with instructions on how to register for your child's school photograph was emailed home earlier this week. You **MUST** go online and register to give consent for your child's photograph to be taken, without registration they are unable to have their photograph taken. As a reminder, see the information leaflet below. **PHOTOGRAPHS WITH SIBLINGS ATTENDING SCHOOL CAN ALSO BE TAKEN ON THURSDAY 15th SEPTEMBER.**

Cool for School Photography

"To have your child's photo taken you **must register!"**

Get ready for
PHOTODAY!

Register now so you can view your photos for free on your phone, as soon as they are ready. Just follow these three simple steps.

We will be taking photos in your child's school on:

**Thursday 15th
September**

Please register by 7pm on the day before your Photoshoot



STEP 1

Grab your phone and go to
orders.coolforschoolphotography.com

STEP 2

Enter your unique school code.

JRYPDBP



STEP 3

Choose **your child's** class from drop down menu. Fill in **Pupil's** name and complete the other email and mobile information.



That's it! You will receive an email and/or SMS with instructions when photos are ready to view.

Your contact details will be securely stored and kept private, due to strict GDPR compliance. Feel free to visit our webpage for further information. If you have any queries, please contact our friendly customer service team on ... 02892683966



STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

As a reminder, school is closed to pupils on Friday 30th September for Staff Development. Please make childcare arrangements for this day.

MEDICAL INFORMATION

Last week, I informed you that our **Administration of Medication forms are available to complete online via our website.** These can be accessed from the "Parents Section". Thank you to those of you who have completed these forms online and submitted them to school.

As a reminder, we can not administer medication to children unless the correct forms have been submitted by a legal guardian and approved by the Principal. It is the responsibility of parents to ensure the correct forms are completed, the medication supplied is in date and we have an adequate supply of medication e.g. inhaler. It is also the responsibility of parents to ensure the safe disposal of medication once they are no longer required.

MEDICAL OR DIETARY CARE PLANS

Does your child have a Medical or Dietary Care Plan? If so, you must give us the most recent copy of this Care Plan. Care Plans should be reviewed annually by a healthcare practitioner. Thank you for keeping us up-to-date.

HEALTHY BREAK & SNACKS IN SCHOOL

Help your child get their five a day by including some fruit or vegetables as a snack for their morning break. This includes all fresh fruit and vegetables and pots or tins of fruit in fruit juice, but not in syrup.

A portion could be:

- 1 medium sized piece of fruit, e.g. apple, orange, banana, pear
- 2 small fruits, e.g. kiwi fruits, satsumas, plums
- 1 cup of grapes, cherries or berries
- 1 large slice of pineapple or melon
- 1 cereal bowl of salad, e.g. lettuce, tomatoes, cucumber and celery
- 3 heaped tablespoons of fresh veg, e.g. chopped or sliced carrots, peppers or sugar-snap peas
- 3 heaped tablespoons of fruit salad (fresh or tinned in fruit juice)

PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS

At the beginning of each academic year, we like to share with everyone at home key information about what your child will learn in school this year and how you can help support them at home. During the week commencing Monday 19th September, teachers will share with you a video, PowerPoint and Curriculum Information Sheet. We hope you find this information useful.



SCHOOL MEALS MENU

VEGETARIAN OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE EACH DAY – REFER TO WEBSITE

Monday 12th September

Streak Burger & Bap, Chips/Baked Potatoes,
Tossed Salad & Coleslaw

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Flakemeal Biscuit & Fresh Fruit

Tuesday 13th September

Chicken Goujons, Garlic Dip, Sweetcorn &
Diced Potatoes

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Ice-Cream & Pears with Chocolate Sauce

Wednesday 14th September

Roast Chicken, Stuffing, Gravy, Baton carrots
& Broccoli, Roast & Creamed Potatoes

~

Rice Pudding & Fruit

Thursday 15th September

Chicken Curry, Boiled Rice, Naan Bread &
Garden Peas

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Frozen Yoghurt & Fruit

Friday 16th September

Fish Fingers, Beans & Mashed Potatoes

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Swiss Roll filled with Yoghurt & Fruit

New Primary 1 pupils will stay for
lunches from week commencing Monday
26th September...

PARENT TEACHER CONSULTATIONS

As part of our endeavours to keep you informed about your child's progress in school, we are holding Parent Teacher Consultations on **Monday 24th, Tuesday 25th & Wednesday 26th October**. All children will go home at an earlier staggered time after lunches have been served.

Parent Teacher Consultations will be held online using a booking appointment system. Your attendance at these is much appreciated. The consultations should last between 10-15 minutes each.

If your child has an IEP (Individual Education Plan), the teacher may explain this to you during the consultation – this will also be an opportunity for you to ask questions or seek clarification.

P5-7 PERMISSION TO LEAVE SCHOOL GROUNDS UNACCOMPANIED

We wrote to P5-7 parents/carers earlier this week to seek permission for your child to walk home from school unaccompanied- this obviously applies to pupils who live with a short walking distance. This is entirely parental choice but we must have consent to permit your child to leave the school grounds at the end of the day unaccompanied – please refer to the email and form sent home.

BREAKFAST & AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

It is great to start off the new academic year offering our Breakfast and After School Clubs – we know that working parents value this provision. Breakfast Club is available from 7.45am and After School Club is available to 5.00pm. Please book these in advance online via SchoolMoney.

