



Ashgrove Primary School Newtownabbey

Our Weekly Newsletter

ISSUE: 01

FRIDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER 2017

Welcome back to school everyone!

Parents & Carers,

Welcome back to school! We hope you all had a happy and healthy Summer break and you are looking forward to the challenges and opportunities ahead this academic year.

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new Primary 1 pupils and other pupils who have joined Ashgrove Primary over the summer months. The past few days have been very useful in helping embed those all-important routines and expectations in school. We very much encourage and expect our pupils to come to school prepared with the correct equipment and uniform.

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to Mrs Flaherty (Vice Principal) to Ashgrove Primary School and look forward to working closely with her.

We hope you will find the information in our Weekly Newsletter useful - we recommend you keep these in a safe place as often key dates and events are shared with everyone at home. The **Diary Dates** section of our website is very useful to keep you up to date with all that's happening. Our Newsletter will be available to download each Friday from our website, we will also share a link to it on our Facebook Page and Twitter accounts.

Finally, I wish you all a very happy and successful year with us in Ashgrove Primary School.

R Smith



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Learning, Caring, Growing Stronger Together

Upcoming Events in School- Dates for your Diary

Monday 4th September	P6M start Swimming (Up to Christmas)
Thursday 7th September	P6E start Swimming (Up to Christmas)
Friday 8th September	AQE Registration CLOSES
Monday 11th September	Standardised Testing Week in school (P3-7) Board of Governors Meeting
Tuesday 12th September	P1-4 Parent Information Afternoon, 3.15 pm
Wednesday 13th September	P5-7 Parent information Afternoon, 3.15 pm
Friday 15th September	Council Waste Management bus to school Sustrans Assembly
Monday 18th September	After School Clubs begin Standardised Testing Week
Wednesday 20th September	Crown Jesus Ministries taking Assembly
Monday 25th September	Primary 1 pupils stay for lunch
Tuesday 26th September	European Day of Languages P4 Mrs Torrie's Class Assembly, 9.15 am
Wednesday 27th September	PlaySport After School Club begins Stormont Education Service visiting P6 MacMillan Coffee Morning, time TBC
Friday 29th September	School CLOSED for Staff Development
Saturday 30th September	School Choir taking part in ABBA concert in Mossley Mill
Monday 2nd October	Primary 1's start their full day Aunt Sandra's Chocolate Factory visiting P5
Friday 6th October	School Council visiting Houses of Parliament, London
Friday 20th October	Flu Immunisation Programme (Pupils)
Monday 23rd October	Parent Teacher Consultations*
Tuesday 24th October	Parent Teacher Consultations* P2 Mrs Cartmill's Class Assembly, 9.15 am Ski Trip Information Evening, 7.00 pm
Wednesday 25th October	Parent Teacher Consultations* * Children will go home at 12.30 pm
Friday 27th October	Harvest Celebration Assemblies – 9.30 am & 11.00 am



School Routines...

At the beginning of a new school year it is important we all establish good routines- this gives a sense of stability and security to our pupils. **As a reminder, all pupils must be in school for 8.55 am-** the bell rings at this time and marks the beginning of the school day. Pupils arriving after this time are late.

Pupils are welcome to enter the school grounds from **8.40 am** when adults will be on duty in the Playgrounds. Please take note that pupils **MUST NOT** be left unsupervised in the school grounds before this time.

BREAKFAST CLUB is available in the Dining Hall for £1.50 per day from 8.00 am.

Pupils may enter the main building via the Primary 1 entrance, this door will be closed at 8.55 am as soon as school starts. **We kindly ask Primary 2 parents to use the Primary 1 entrance rather than the main lobby.** If you are late please use the main entrance at Reception and the Secretary will take your child to class.

As of next week, we expect all pupils to walk to their own classroom by themselves from P2-7.

Safeguarding/ Child Protection - HIGH IMPORTANCE

If you have any worries or concerns about the welfare of your child or any other child in Ashgrove Primary you should speak with either Mrs Luney (Primary 5 Teacher) or if she is not available Miss McLaughlin (Primary 1 Teacher).

Mrs Luney is the Designated Teacher for Child Protection.

Miss McLaughlin is the Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection.

The Governor with responsibility for Safeguarding is Mr Edwards.

Our website contains our Safeguarding/Child Protection Policy and important information about the roles and responsibilities of the Safeguarding Team.



Voluntary Contribution to School Funds

We are once again at the start of another busy year in school. At the start of each year we ask parents to make a small voluntary contribution of £5.00 per child (maximum of £10.00 per family) to our school.

We do appreciate this can be an expensive time of year for parents and carers buying new uniforms, stationery etc. However, every penny is precious in school and this money will be used with the sole purpose of buying resources to enhance the education of your child/children.

We are introducing a new service to school where parents can pay for certain items via their mobile phone or mobile device. By now you should have received a text with a link to make a payment electronically. Alternatively, you may still send your contribution to school in a sealed envelope to the class teacher. Please send your voluntary contribution to school by the end of September, THANK YOU!

Mobile Phones & related technology in School...

We discourage children from bringing mobile phones to school, however we do understand that some may require these to keep in touch with parents after school. If a child needs to bring a mobile phone, this **must remain switched off** and stay in the pupil's schoolbag throughout the day.

If you need to contact your child urgently while they are in school, please ring the Office where the Secretary will be happy to help.

Standardised Testing...

In our Diary Dates section of the newsletter you may have noticed we will have Standardised Testing commencing **Monday 11th September**. The purpose of this is to establish a very clear baseline of where each child is in academically. Teachers and adults will then use this information to help plan for the needs of all children and tailor their teaching strategies to ensure that all learners make excellent progress.

The computerised tests will involve all children from Primary 3-7. While these are important, we do not want the children to feel anxious or worried. During our Staff Development Day on **FRIDAY 29th SEPTEMBER** teachers will examine the results.



School Dinner Menu, £2.60 per day

VEGETARIAN OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE EACH DAY

Monday 4th September

Sausages, Beans, Chips, Mashed Potatoes & Tomatoes Sauce

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Yoghurt & Fruit

Tuesday 5th September

Savoury Mince, Sweetcorn, & Mashed Potatoes

OR Pizza, Sweetcorn, & Salad

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Flake meal & Milkshake

Wednesday 6th September

Roast Chicken, Diced Cabbage, Oven Roast & Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

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Rice pudding & fruit

Thursday 7th September

Chicken Curry, Boiled Rice, Naan Bread & Carrot Sticks

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Canadian Tart & Custard

Friday 8th September

Pasta Bolognese, Crusty Bread
OR

Fish Fingers, Peas & Mashed Potatoes

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Chocolate flavoured sponge & custard

HEALTHY BREAK

P1-4, 30p per day

Tuesday: Toast, Red Apple & Cucumber

Friday: Crusty Bread, Orange & Pepper

School Collection Times...

For the month of September all Primary 1 pupils will go home at 12.00 pm, as of **MONDAY 2ND OCTOBER** Primary 1 pupils will stay in school to 1.50 pm. Primary 2 leave school at 1.50 pm every day.

Primary 3 go home at 1.50 pm on Monday and Thursday afternoons, all other days Primary 3 pupils stay in school to 2.50 pm.

Primary 4-7 pupils stay in school to 2.50 pm every day.

Our website contains a page which gives an outline of the school day – please refer to this for further information. Our **HOLIDAY LIST** for this academic year is also available on our website in the PARENT AREA.



Celebrating Positive Behaviour in Ashgrove

STARS OF THE WEEK!

Our focus this week: Excellent Endeavour

Primary 1 Miss Morrison Everyone in Miss Morrison's Class!	Primary 1 Miss McLaughlin Everyone in Miss McLaughlin's Class!	Primary 2 Miss McDowell Aksel Paratja
Primary 2 Mrs Cartmill Riley McDowell	Primary 3 Mrs Douglas Ebony Teeney	Primary 3 MissCrozier/Manion Holly McConnell
Primary 4 Mrs Torrie Gabriel Biskupski	Primary 4 Mr Hutcheson Emma McVeigh	Primary 5 Mrs Luney Lewis Dunn
Primary 5 Mrs Carberry Eva Desano	Primary 6 Mrs Ewing Adam Campbell	Primary 6 Mr Morrow Jack Richardson
Primary 7 Mr Agnew Curtis Rollins	Primary 7 Miss Taylor Maisie Hutton	

AQE Registration

The closing date for AQE registration is **FRIDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER**. If you wish your Primary 7 child to sit the AQE test, you **MUST** register their details with AQE by this date. Registration forms are available to download on the AQE website: www.aqe.org.uk. You also need to send a photocopy of your child's Birth Certificate, two passport sized photographs and payment.

Labelling School Items

Please remember to label all items of uniform with your child's name and class. This helps us to return lost items to their correct owner quickly.

(Don't forget about lunchboxes and school bags!)

