



# Ashgrove Primary School Newtownabbey

## Our Weekly Newsletter

ISSUE: 25

FRIDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2017

### Rights Respecting Schools

#### Article 21 (adoption)

"Governments must oversee the process of adoption and make sure it is safe, lawful and that it prioritises the children's best interests. Children should only be adopted outside of their country if they cannot be placed with a family in their own country."

In school, we work with a range of agencies to ensure that all children in our care can access and enjoy their rights.

### Easter Holiday!

School will close for the Easter break on **FRIDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> APRIL** at 12.00pm- there will be NO lunches served. School will recommence for the Summer term on **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April** at the usual time. Please remember that a full list of our Holiday Dates is easily available on our website.

A Holiday List for the next academic year was included in our Newsletter a few weeks ago.

ASHGROVE ROAD, NEWTOWNABBAY, CO ANTRIM, BT36 6LJ

T: 028 9084 8734

E: [INFO@ASHGROVEPS.NEWTOWNABBAY.NI.SCH.UK](mailto:INFO@ASHGROVEPS.NEWTOWNABBAY.NI.SCH.UK)

[WWW.ASHGROVEPRIMARY.COM](http://WWW.ASHGROVEPRIMARY.COM)

**Learning, Caring, Growing Stronger Together**

## UNICEF- Mix it up Day!

On **TUESDAY 28<sup>th</sup> MARCH** Mrs Carberry & the Rights Respecting School's Steering Group has organised a **MIX IT UP DAY!** Children can wear weird and wonderful combinations of clothing- odd socks, odd shoes etc! Please give £1.00 which will be donated to Save the Children.

### What do I do if my child is ill?

Recently in school, there have been bouts of illness including Chicken Pox. If your child is diagnosed with an illness, which means they cannot come to school, please inform us by ringing the Office on the first morning they will be absent and selecting the option to explain an absence. We ask all parents follow this up with a brief explanatory note when the child returns to school.

The following guidance is issued in our Attendance Policy, which is available to view on our website:

Chicken Pox	5 days absence from onset of rash
Whooping Cough	5 days absence from onset of rash
Scarlet Fever	5 days absence from onset of rash
Diarrhoea/ Vomiting	Until symptoms have settled for 24 hours
Headlice	None (treatment required)

(This Information is provided by the Health Protection Agency)

### Happy Mother's Day!

The boys and girls in school have been working to prepare some lovely cards, gifts and pictures to give to mums this weekend- we hope you enjoy and treasure them!

### Grease Rehearsals

Mrs Douglas has arranged a number of after school rehearsals for our upcoming production - Grease. Having some of our rehearsals after school means less disruption to teaching time. The after school rehearsals are NOT compulsory but will be of great benefit and enjoyment for the children involved. **Rehearsals will finish at 4.00pm.** Dates are as follows:

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March  
Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April  
Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April  
Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April  
Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May  
Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May



# UNICEF, Rights Respecting Schools Award

As you are no doubt aware, one of our goals this year is to attain the UNICEF, Rights Respecting Schools Award, Level 1. Teachers and adults in school have been working with our pupils to raise awareness of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. I have included some information below, issued from UNICEF, on the clarification of the rights of all children.

## 1 & 2. Children have the right to be loved and to be happy

**Inaccurate** - Being loved and happy seem like the most obvious 'rights' children and young people should have but these are not listed in the CRC's 54 articles.

The CRC is a legal document with clear duties on how rights should be respected and fulfilled, and emotions such as love and happiness are impossible to legislate or put into law.

However, many articles of the CRC are about the conditions, resources, protections and freedoms that a child needs to grow up feeling happy and loved. The introduction of the Convention also recognises that "the child... should grow up in a family environment, in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding".

## 3. Children have the right to have friends

**Inaccurate** - Children have the right to meet with friends (for example under Article 15 on freedom of association) but we cannot legislate people's affinity to others so it cannot be a legal requirement for children to have friends.

## 4. Children have the right to have toys

**Inaccurate** - The Convention does say that every child has the right to play, relax and take part in cultural and artistic activities (article 31) but this right does not include a child's right to have his or her own toys.

However, the Committee on the Rights of the Child recommends that States should allocate adequate human and financial resources to ensure children and young people can enjoy their right to rest, leisure and play.

## 5. The right to make mistakes

**Inaccurate** - Although making mistakes is a valuable part of the learning process and an important part of growing up, it is not a right in the Convention.

The CRC does not legislate on concepts that are hard to qualify and quantify. But keep in mind that the human right principle of dignity means children should be treated with dignity and respect at all times, including when they make mistakes.

## 6. With rights come responsibilities

**Inaccurate** - There is a common misunderstanding that children's rights are linked with responsibilities. But this is not correct.

Children's rights, like all human rights, are unconditional. This means there are no conditions attached to rights. Rights can never be a reward for the fulfilment of a responsibility and they can never be taken away because a 'responsibility' hasn't been met.

Children's rights are also universal, so both adults and children should be encouraged to respect rights but this does not mean that a child's rights are dependent on them respecting the rights of others.

This is why within the Rights Respecting Schools Award, we talk of rights **and** respect, and **not** about rights and responsibilities.





# Stars of the Week

## Celebrating Positive Behaviour

Our focus this week was: ENDEAVOUR

<b>Primary 1</b> Miss Morrison  Leon Vukovic	<b>Primary 1</b> Miss McLaughlin  Lucy Hesketh	<b>Primary 2</b> Miss McDowell  Alfie Stewart
<b>Primary 2</b> Mrs Cartmill  Ebony Teeney	<b>Primary 3</b> Mrs Douglas  Phoebe Martin	<b>Primary 3</b> MissCrozier/Manion  Cody McClay
<b>Primary 4</b> Mrs Torrie  Szymon Sztochel	<b>Primary 4</b> Mr Hutcheson  Daisy McShane	<b>Primary 5</b> Mrs Luney  JACK PALMER
<b>Primary 5</b> Mrs Carberry  Ethan Sands	<b>Primary 6</b> Mrs Ewing  Lucie Copeland	<b>Primary 6</b> Mr Morrow  Shay Mulligan
<b>Primary 7</b> Mr Agnew  Reece Brown	<b>Primary 7</b> Miss Taylor  Dean McGilton	Next week our focus is Literacy

## Happy Birthday to...

Evie Best, Leah Gormley, Ellie Sloss, Maja

Mrs Douglas!



## School Dinner Menu (£2.55 per day)

### Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March

Hot Dog, Onions, Sweetcorn, Chips, Mashed Potatoes & Tomato Sauce

~

Jam & Coconut Egg Sponge, Custard & Fruit

### Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March

Irish Stew & Crusty Bread **OR** Ham & Cheese Panini, Salad & Coleslaw

~

Egg Sponge Flan, Fruit & Custard

### Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March

Roast Beef, Diced Turnip, Oven Roast & Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

~

Date Krispie, Custard & Fruit

### Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March

Chicken Curry, Boiled Rice, Mixed Vegetables & Naan Bread

~

Cupcake, Fruit & Yoghurt

### Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March

Fish Fingers, Peas & Mashed **OR** Lasagne, Salad & Crusty Bread

~

Jelly, Fruit & Ice-Cream

## HEALTHY BREAK

P1-4, 30p per day

Tuesday: Toast, Green Apple & Celery

Friday: Crusty Bread, Melon & Carrot

**(AFTER EASTER OUR HEALTHY BREAK TUCK SHOP WILL BE EXTENDED TO INCLUDE P5!)**

## Staff Training & Development

We place a high value on developing our teachers and staff here in school. Here is a snapshot of the Staff Development we have taken part in from February-March 2017...

- ✓ Safeguarding & Child Protection
- ✓ SEN & IEP's
- ✓ MASTS Training
- ✓ SIMS Behaviour Management
- ✓ Eco Schools & Eco Club
- ✓ Middle Leadership Training
- ✓ Attendance Training
- ✓ Sharing best practice (Staff Meetings)
- ✓ Reading Partnerships
- ✓ Forward Together (parents)

