



Ashgrove Primary School Newtownabbey

Our Weekly Newsletter

ISSUE: 18

FRIDAY 20TH JANUARY 2017

Rights Respecting Schools

Article 13

"Every child must be free to express their thoughts and opinions and to access all kinds of information, so long as it is within the law"

In school we encourage our children to develop inquisitive minds, to explore and question. We seek the views and opinions of our pupils on matters which impact on them e.g. School & Class Council.

Primary 1 Places, September 2017

School places for new primary 1 pupils for September 2017 will be allocated in the coming weeks. If you have a child who is due to start their primary school education in September you must leave an application form to the Office as soon as possible. If you require an application form please contact Jemma in the Office who will be happy to help.

Exceptional Closure

Due to the upcoming NI Assembly election on **Thursday 2nd March 2017** school will be **CLOSED** as the building will be used as a Polling Station.

Please put this date in your Diary and make alternative childcare arrangements for this day.



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Learning, Caring, Growing Stronger Together

School Uniform

Thank you to everyone who observes our School Uniform Policy so carefully. Our boys and girls look smart when they are dressed in the appropriate uniform- this demonstrates a sense of pride and belonging to Ashgrove Primary.

As a reminder, children must not wear trainers to school as part of their uniform, both boys and girls must wear **black shoes only**. Trainers may only be worn as part of a sports activity.

During PE, as in our Prospectus and clearly mentioned on our website, children should wear the following:

Primary1-3	Primary4-7
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• slip on/velcro plimsolls in a strong named slipper bag	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• plain white T-shirt• navy/black track suit bottoms or shorts• plimsolls or trainers

(Please make sure you label all items of clothing)

By having a clear and simple PE kit we aim to remove the pressure on parents and pupils of buying expensive labels. Next week, we will award House Points to those pupils who observe the correct PE kit.

Thank you for refocusing on this and for your continued support.

School Parent Questionnaires

Thank you to those parents and carers who completed and returned the questionnaire which we sent home last week. We are in the process of analysing the information and looking at the results. We are delighted with the many positive and kind comments which were shared with us. Next Friday we will send home a copy of the results and outline some further actions we will take as a result of your feedback.

School Development Planning

<p><i>Literacy</i></p> <p>Focus on the development of Writing throughout the school ensuring continuity and progression in all genres and forms.</p>	<p><i>Numeracy</i></p> <p>Embed the ethos is investigative & problem solving approaches. Continue to develop Mental Maths throughout the school.</p>
<p><i>Pastoral Care</i></p> <p>To gain Rights Respecting Schools Award (level 1) by June 2017 thereby increasing the awareness of our pupils of their Rights under the UNCRC. To celebrate how we may enjoy our Rights and let others enjoy them too!</p>	<p><i>Leadership & Management</i></p> <p>Continue to build the leadership capacity of staff at all levels throughout the school. Disseminate the "highly effective leadership" identified by ETI in March 2016.</p>



PTA News & Events

All parents are invited to attend the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the PTA on **Friday 24th February, 2.15-2.45pm.** The School Choir will sing at the event, tea & coffee will be provided- come along show your support & hear what's happening!

PTA School Events this Term...

- ☺ FRIDAY 10TH FEBRUARY- School Disco, £3.00 per pupil (Times TBC)
- ☺ FRIDAY 17th MARCH- Break the Rules Day! (£1.00 to break 1 rule)

Thank you Mrs Noble...

After 6 years of helping to run the Breakfast Club Mrs Noble is stepping down from this position in school. On behalf of everyone I would like to thank Mrs Noble for her hard work and dedication to the Breakfast Club (and for giving our children a warm welcome in the morning!) But don't worry- Mrs Noble will still be here in school as a P2 Classroom Assistant & Lunchtime Supervisor.

School Carpark...

Our new Car Park system is working well and we are very thankful to our parents and guests who use this sensibly and show consideration to other drivers and pedestrians. As a general reminder we kindly ask that parents still get out of their car to walk over to the school building to collect their child- this will help ensure the safety of our pupils.

Primary 5 to Belfast Giants

Pupils from Primary 5 are visiting the Odyssey Arena this evening to see the Belfast Giants! I would like to pass my thanks to Miss McDowell and Miss Crozier for getting us complementary tickets for our P5 pupils. We hope everyone will have a great time!

Please remember the bus will leave school at 5.15pm and return to school between 9.45-10.00pm.

Pupils may wear their own clothes- **NO spending money is required.**

FOOD & DRINK MUST NOT BE BROUGHT INTO THE ARENA.



Upcoming Dates & Events

Date	Event
Friday 20 th January	Primary 5 to Odyssey Arena to see Belfast Giants!
Tuesday 24 th January	Primary 7A Assembly, 9.15am
Thursday 26 th January	Police Constable Dessie Logue to visit P2 as part of their Topic work
Saturday 28 th January	AQE Results received (posted to home address)
Monday 30 th – Friday 3 rd February	Primary 7 Transfer Meetings (completion of transfer forms)
Tuesday 31 st January	Primary 7T Assembly, 9.15am
Wednesday 8 th February	Board of Governors Meeting
Friday 10 th February	PTA Disco
Monday 13 th -Friday 17 th February	School CLOSED for ½ Term
Friday 24 th February	PTA Annual General Meeting, 2.15pm
Monday 27 th -Wednesday 1 st March	Parent Teacher Interviews (All children go home at 12.00pm)
Thursday 2 nd March	NI Assembly Elections- SCHOOL CLOSED
Wednesday 8 th March	PTA Meeting in school

School Dinner Menu (£2.55 per day)

Monday 23rd January

Hot Dog, Onions, Sweetcorn, Chips, Mashed Potatoes & Tomato Sauce
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Jam & Coconut Egg Sponge, Custard & Fruit

Tuesday 24th January

Irish Stew & Crusty Bread
OR
Ham & Cheese Panini, Salad & Coleslaw
~
Apple Crumble & Custard

Wednesday 25th January **SPECIAL LUNCH!**

Cocktail Sausages, 2 Chicken Nuggets, 1 Chicken Sandwich, 1 Ham Sandwich, Carrot Sticks & Tossed Salad
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Strawberry Cupcake, Orange Juice & Fruit

Thursday 26th January

Chicken Curry, Boiled Rice, Naan Bread & Mixed Vegetables
~
Cupcake, Fruit & Yoghurt

Friday 27th January

Fish Fingers, Peas & Mashed Potatoes
OR
Lasagne, Salad & Crusty Bread
~
Jelly, Fruit & Ice-Cream

HEALTHY BREAK P1-4, 30p per day

Tuesday: Toast, Pear & Carrot
Friday: Crusty Bread, Apple & Celery

