



Ashgrove Primary School Newtownabbey

Our Weekly Newsletter

ISSUE: 13

FRIDAY 9TH DECEMBER 2016

Rights Respecting Schools

Article 9

"Children must not be separated from their parents against their will unless it is in their best interests. Children whose parents have separated have the right to stay in contact with both parents unless this could cause them harm"

In school we work hard to respect all parents and carers in school. We ask parents to help us by keeping us informed if family circumstances change.

Carpark Reminders...

Thank you to everyone who is driving with due consideration and caution in our new Carpark and turning circle. As always, we must put the safety of our pupils first, therefore we kindly remind parents of the following:

1. Please make sure all pupils and parents **WALK** on the footpaths- not on the roads
2. DRIVERS- please ensure you observe our **5mph** speed limit
3. When collecting your child we ask ALL parents or carers to **get out of your car** and walk up to the teacher- it is dangerous to expect children to walk between moving cars unescorted to get to you.

Through observing these simple guidelines we can make our Carpark facilities safe and easy to use for everyone.

Zebra Crossings and road markings are due to be painted on very soon. We thank you for your patience and due care in the meantime!

ASHGROVE ROAD, NEWTOWNABBAY, CO ANTRIM, BT36 6LJ

T: 028 9084 8734

E: INFO@ASHGROVEPS.NEWTOWNABBAY.NI.SCH.UK

WWW.ASHGROVEPRIMARY.COM

Learning, Caring, Growing Stronger Together

Christmas Holiday Reminder

The last day of term is **Monday 19th December**, all children will go home at 12.00pm– no school dinners or packed lunches will be served. School will reopen to pupils on **Wednesday 7th January 2017** at the usual time.

Parent Pastoral Care Questionnaire

Mrs Carberry (Pastoral care Leader) and I are seeking the views and opinions of our parents on some aspects of school life in particular our pastoral care provision.

In the new year we will send home a survey for parents/carers to complete. This may also be available online on our website.

As an incentive to complete the survey the class with the highest response rate from parents will receive a night off homework!

Primary 1 Applications for September 2017

We are now accepting Primary 1 applications forms for September 2017. If you have not yet received one please feel free to call in to the Office and collect one from Mrs Lamont. Application forms must be submitted to school before **Wednesday 11th January, 12.00 noon**.

If you know someone with a child who is due to start school in September encourage them to make an appointment to see about school,

Miss School=Miss Out!

The Department of Education is sharing with all parents a leaflet on why attendance at school is so important. Here are some of the ways parents can help in ensuring good levels of attendance...

- Establish a good routine in the morning and evenings so your child is prepared for the day ahead.
- Make sure your child goes to school regularly and follows the school rules.
- Ensure your child arrives to school on time– not late.
- Arrange dental and medical appointments outside of school hours when possible.
- Always inform the school if your child is absent due to illness– this should be followed up with a written note.
- Do not take family holidays during term time.
- Talk to your child about school and take an interest in their school work (including homework).
- Attend parent teacher consultations and school events.
- Praise and reward your child's achievements at school.
- Always support school staff in their efforts to control; difficult or challenging behaviour.



Celebrating Positive Behaviour in Ashgrove

STARS OF THE WEEK!

Our focus this week: Endeavour

Primary 1 Miss Morrison Zac Fox	Primary 1 Miss McLaughlin Aksel Parataj	Primary 2 Miss McDowell Zuzanna Pawlak
Primary 2 Mrs Copeland/Cartmill Mia Braiden	Primary 3 Mrs Douglas Inis McVicker	Primary 3 Miss Crozier/Manion Lee Dickey
Primary 4 Mrs Torrie Lewis Jones	Primary 4 Mr Hutcheson Aiden & Daniel Bailie	Primary 5 Mrs Luney Jack Richardson
Primary 5 Mrs Carberry Alisha Butler	Primary 6 Mrs Ewing Cole Agnew	Primary 6 Mr Morrow Christina-May Crumlin
Primary 7 Mr Agnew Baillie McKee	Primary 7 Miss Taylor Melissa Holbrook	Next week our focus is

Happy Birthday to...

Eoin Keenan, Niamh Keenan, Rebekah White, Niamh Stewart, Rebekah Oliver
& Rachel Boland

School Council Christmas Jumper Day

The School Council are organising a Christmas jumper Day on Monday 19th December, £1.00 per pupil. All monies raised will go towards the School Council- they will choose how to spend the monies raised!



Mrs Lamont, School Secretary...

I am sure many of you are aware that Mrs Lamont, our School Secretary, is due to commence her maternity leave at Christmas. I am sure you will all join me in wishing Mrs Lamont much happiness and joy with the new addition to her family. Mrs Lamont will be missed in school and her kindness to the children is always appreciated.

In her absence, Mrs Gemma Gault will act as Secretary in the Office after Christmas- she is most welcome and we look forward to her starting in the new year.

Mrs Copeland... We will miss you!

It is very hard to believe that Mrs Copeland in Primary 2 is due to retire at Christmas. Mrs Copeland will be greatly missed and is a treasure to our school. We are very thankful for the time and wonderful teaching Mrs Copeland has brought to our school. Mrs Copeland has worked in Ashgrove Primary with dedication for XX years- many of our parents in school today will remember being taught by Mrs Copeland and will have many fond memories of her.

We wish Mrs Copeland much happiness in her retirement!

After Christmas, Mrs Cartmill (who has worked as Mrs Copeland's Job Share partner) will teacher the Primary 2 class full time.

Exceptional Weather procedures

At present the weather has thankfully been very mild and we have not experienced any severe coldness or snow! When needed, our paths & roads around the school are gritted each day and Mr Douglas works hard to keep us all safe.

Please stick to the gritted areas for safety, but still take care.

Should our school be forced to close in very heavy snow or treacherous conditions in the winter, please note the following:

- 🌿 An early notice will be posted on our website: www.ashgroveprimary.com
- 🌿 Downtown Radio/Radio Ulster will be informed to make an announcement.
- 🌿 A text message concerning the closure will be sent to each parent on our 'Class Parents' list/ or the First Contact given by parents to our School Office.

You will appreciate, this will be an exceptional circumstance and the school will only be closed if absolutely necessary. Working parents should ensure emergency child care is put in place and phone numbers are up to date should we need to contact you at any time.



School Dinner Menu

Monday 12th December

Beef Burger, Chips, Beans, Mashed Potatoes
& Tomato Sauce

~

Egg Sponge Flan, Fruit & Custard

Tuesday 13th December

BUFFET

2 Sandwiches, 1 chicken goujon, 1 pizza, carrot sticks &
Salad

~

Jam Sponge, Custard & Fruit

Wednesday 14th December

Roast Loin of Pork, Cabbage, Oven Roast + Mashed
Potatoes & Gravy

~

Chocolate Steamed Sponge, Custard & Fruit

Thursday 15th December

Chicken Curry, Boiled Rice, Naan Bread
& Mixed Vegetables

~

Strawberry Mousse & Fruit

Friday 16th December

Breaded Salmon Cake, Peas, Sweetcorn & Mashed
Potatoes

OR

Lasagne, Peas, Sweetcorn & Crusty Bread

~

Biscuit, Fruit & Strawberry Milkshake

HEALTHY BREAK

P1-4, 30p per day

Tuesday: Toast, Green Apple & Celery

Friday: Crusty Bread, Melon & Carrot

