



Ashgrove Primary School Newtownabbey

Our Weekly Newsletter

ISSUE: 02

FRIDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2018

Parent Information Meetings

We have arranged for each year group to hold an **Information Meeting** for Parents and Carers of the pupils in Ashgrove Primary. It is important that home and school work together in partnership to give our children the best education we can. The purpose of the Information Meetings is to deliver vital messages and give you an overview of what your child will be learning in school this academic year.

This will include:

- Curriculum coverage;
- Literacy in your child's year;
- Numeracy in your child's year;
- Homework information;
- Routines & expectations;
- How to help your child at home; and
- Transfer Test Preparation in Years 6&7



The Information Meeting will last approximately 30 minutes and will be delivered by the class or year group teachers.

P1,P2, P3 and P4 will be on TUESDAY 11th SEPTEMBER, 3.10-3.45 pm

P5, P6 and P7 will be on WEDNESDAY 12th SEPTEMBER, 3.10-3.45 pm

If you have not already done so, please return your permission slip on Monday. We strongly encourage every parent to attend these meetings.

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Learning, Caring, Growing Stronger Together

How to raise a concern...

At Ashgrove Primary School we value parents and carers as partners in the education of our pupils. The views of parents are significant and we encourage the positive contributions which parents and carers make to the life of our school.

We recognise that from time to time, a parent or carer may have a concern about some aspect of their child's life at school. By working in partnership with home, it is our aim that any concern is dealt with quickly and efficiently.

Please find below the procedure we have in place.

AS A SCHOOL WE WILL DEAL WITH ANY CONCERN IN COURTEOUS AND PROFESSIONAL MANNER
AS THE NEEDS OF OUR PUPILS ARE PARAMOUNT.

HOW DO I RAISE A CONCERN?

1. Make an appointment with the class teacher to discuss the matter. We strongly advocate making an appointment as otherwise this impinges on teaching and preparation time.

(Making an appointment will enable the teacher to give you the necessary time to listen attentively to your concern. Unfortunately, teachers are not able to ring parents during teaching time).

Most often concerns can be resolved at this stage.

2. If after speaking to the teacher the matter is not resolved the issue can be taken up with the Head of Key Stage (Miss Morrison/Mrs Torrie) or the Vice Principal, Mrs Flaherty.
3. Following the second stage, you may make an appoint with the VP, Mrs Flaherty.
4. If concerns still remain the issue can be referred to the Principal, Mr Smith.
5. Ultimately, if the issue is still not resolved the parents/carers can write to the Chairperson of the Complaints Committee of Board of Governors (Mr B. Edwards)- please refer to our Complaints Procedure.

It is very rare for concerns not to be resolved before stage 4.

A staged approach ensures your concerns are heard and considered by more than one person.

*If you have a concern about any aspect of **Child Protection** or **Safeguarding** do not hesitate to contact either:*

MRS LUNEY, P5 (Designated Teacher for Child Protection) or

MRS COULTER, P1 (Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection)



School Code of Conduct...

At the beginning of a new school year it is essential we establish a clear and fair set of expectations with our pupils. Please see below our whole school Code of Conduct...

We will allow everyone to enjoy their rights by...

Article 1: Everyone under the age of 18 has all the Rights of the Convention



All children have the right to be treated with dignity & fairness, to be protected, to develop to their full potential and to participate.

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|---|---|
| ☺ Arriving to school on time; | ☺ Walking sensibly and quietly in the corridors; |
| ☺ Wearing our school uniform ; | |
| ☺ Showing respect to everyone in school; | ☺ Keeping our school litter free ; |
| ☺ Being truthful , well-mannered and kind; | ☺ Setting a good example to others; |
| ☺ Taking pride in our school building; | ☺ Exercising self-control ; & |
| ☺ Looking after our books; | ☺ Lining up quickly and quietly. |

Mrs Carberry and Mr Smith met with our Ashgrove Anti-Bullying Ambassadors yesterday to begin to review our Positive Behaviour Policy. The children defined what they believe are Desirable and Undesirable behaviours in school. Once the draft policy is finished we will email this to you for your consultation... GREAT WORK so far from our Ashgrove Anti-Bullying Ambassadors! (AABA'S)

Administration of Medication in School

If a child must take medication in school their parent or guardian must complete a school **Administration of Medication form**. For safety reasons, children should NOT bring their own medication to school – this should be brought by an adult and left in the office.

Please remember, if your child requires an inhaler (or any other type of medication) it is your responsibility to ensure there is an adequate supply in school and that it is in date.



Standardised Testing Week

During the next two weeks we will be conducting standardised testing in school for all pupils from Primary 4-7. The tests are computerised assessments and will be conducted in the ICT Suite. This information will give teachers a clear baseline of where all individual pupils are in terms of their academic progress. We will then use this information to inform planning and teaching approaches.

Teaching Staff in Ashgrove Primary

Please see below for a list of Teaching Staff in school as of September 2017. As you can see some members of staff hold positions of responsibility for areas of the curriculum or leadership posts.

| Year Group | Teachers |
|-------------|--|
| Primary 1 | Miss Morrison (Head of Foundation Stage & Clubs) Mrs Coulter (Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection) |
| Primary 2 | Miss McDowell (World Around Us & Eco Schools) Mrs Cartmill |
| Primary 3 | Mrs Douglas (Drama) Miss Crozier & Ms Manion |
| Primary 4 | Mrs Torrie (Head of Key Stage 1) Mr Hutcheson (C2K Manager) |
| Primary 5 | Mrs Luney (Designated Teacher for Child Protection & Literacy Leader) Mrs Carberry (PDMU/Pastoral Care Leader & Attendance) |
| Primary 6 | Mrs Ewing (Numeracy Leader) Mr Morrow (PE) |
| Primary 7 | Mr Agnew (Music) Mrs Flaherty (Vice Principal, ICT & Assessment) |
| SEN Support | Mrs Doherty (SENCO) Mrs Hawkins |

School Closure Reminder...

School will be CLOSED to pupils on **FRIDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER 2018.** Although staff will be in school this day, parents will need to make alternative childcare arrangements.



School Dinner Menu, £2.60 per day

VEGETARIAN OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE EACH DAY – refer to website

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| <p><u>Monday 11th September</u></p> <p>Beef Burger, Baked Beans, Chips, Mashed Potatoes & Tomatoes Sauce ~ Yoghurt & Fruit</p> | <p><u>Tuesday 12th September</u></p> <p>Buffet</p> <p>2 Sandwiches, 1 chicken Goujon, 1 Pizza, Carrot Sticks & Salad ~ Jam Sponge, Custard & Fruit</p> |
| <p><u>Wednesday 13th September</u></p> <p>Roast Chicken, Carrots, Roast & Mashed Potatoes & Gravy ~ Chocolate Steamed Sponge & Custard</p> | <p><u>Thursday 14th September</u></p> <p>Chicken Curry, Boiled Rice, Mixed Vegetables ~ Strawberry Mousse & Fruit</p> |
| <p><u>Friday 15th September</u></p> <p>Breaded Salmon Cake, Sweetcorn & Mashed Potatoes OR Lasagne, Sweetcorn & Crusty Bread ~ Biscuit, Fruit & Strawberry Milkshake</p> | <p>HEALTHY BREAK 30p per day</p> <p>Tuesday: Toast, Green Apple & Celery Friday: Crusty Bread, Melon & Carrot</p> |

School Fund/ Voluntary Contribution

Thank you to those of you who paid your School Fund/Voluntary Contribution – we appreciate your support and generosity. If you have yet to pay online via SchoolMoney please do so by the end of September. As a reminder, we ask parents for £5.00 per child (maximum of £10.00 per family).

PTA Meeting, Wednesday 17th September

The first PTA meeting of this year will be held on **Wednesday 17th September, 7.00 pm.** We are fortunate to have a willing and dedicated group of parents who give their time and energy to organize a range of activities and fund raising events. If you can help the PTA please feel free to come along!



Celebrating Positive Behaviour in Ashgrove

STARS OF THE WEEK!

Our focus this week: Endeavour!

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| Primary 1 Miss Morrison & Mrs Coulter are delighted with their new bunch of super P1's! | | Primary 2 Miss McDowell Zach Hargrove |
| Primary 2 Mrs Cartmill Billy Gallaher | Primary 3 Mrs Douglas Connie Love | Primary 3 Miss Crozier/Manion Jack Smith |
| Primary 4 Mrs Torrie Dessie | Primary 4 Mr Hutcheson Harry Taylor | Primary 5 Mrs Luney Filip Biskupski |
| Primary 5 Mrs Carberry Carter Smith | Primary 6 Mrs Ewing Zak Larkin | Primary 6 Mr Morrow Julia Zdolska |
| Primary 7 Mr Agnew Reilly Quinn | Primary 7 Miss Taylor Katie Burns | Next week our focus is NUMERACY... |

And Finally...

Every single one of our pupils are special to us. We value their unique personalities, talents and what they bring to our school. We want to nurture their love of learning, their belief in themselves and to have faith in the adults around them. We will strive to make sure every child succeeds. We are here to support and do the utmost for our pupils, we are a Rights Respecting School – that is what makes Ashgrove PS a unique, special place.



LEVEL 1

