



Ashgrove Primary School Newtownabbey

Our Weekly Newsletter

ISSUE: 03

FRIDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER 2023

Please remember to show care and consideration to all when using the school turning circle and carpark. Cars should only be parked in designated carpark spaces – small children can be hard to see. As a reminder, there is a 5 mph speed limit when driving in school premises. Please help us and play your part in making our school safe for our children. Thank you.

GENERAL DIARY DATES & REMINDERS

- Monday 18th-Thursday 21st September: P1 Stay and Play sessions
- Wednesday 20th September: Junior Assembly
- Thursday 21st September: Senior Assembly
- Friday 22nd September: School Council Meeting
- Monday 25th September: P1 pupils stay for school meals
- Monday 25th September: Flu Vaccination Forms returned
- Wednesday 27th September: P3 Assembly – parents invited
- Thursday 28th September: European Day of Languages
- Friday 29th September: School closed for Staff Development
- Monday 2nd October: P1 pupils start full week
- Friday 6th October: P7 Head Boy & Girl Applications received
- Friday 20th October: Flu vaccinations
- Week commencing 23rd October: Neuroscience week!
- Wednesday 25th October: P2 Parent assembly
- School closed week commencing Monday 30th October for Halloween

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

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Our annual school photographs took place yesterday. Thank you for giving consent online. **If your child was absent from school for any reason and did not get their photograph taken, Cool For School are returning to Ashgrove in January** – any missed photographs may be taken then.

FLU IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME

The Flu Vaccination programme in schools will be going ahead this year in the Autumn Term. The date initially set by the community nurse to administer this in Ashgrove is **Friday 20th October.**

The School Health Team will be visiting the school on **Friday 20th October** for the flu immunisation programme. Consent forms will be sent home to you with children in the coming weeks. **You MUST complete the consent form for the vaccine to be administered & forms must be returned to school by Monday 25th September... unfortunately late forms will no longer be collected by the nursing team.**

The programme has been introduced to give protection to children against flu, which can be a very unpleasant illness and can mean that they have to take time off school. It will also help to stop the spread of flu and so will protect people around them as well. The vaccine is usually given to children by a simple **spray into their nose** and they can return to their lessons very quickly afterwards.

Information about the programme and leaflets in other languages can be found at:

<http://www.fluawareni.info>

A short video aimed at children explaining the programme has been developed by the Public Health Agency and can be found on the following link: Vaccinate kids as the first line of defence against flu.

What are the arrangements for parents consenting to vaccinations?

The Trust school nursing teams will provide schools with an envelope for parents that contains a letter explaining the programme, the PHA flu vaccine for children information leaflet and a consent form for signature.

P5-7 PERMISSION TO WALK HOME

Thank you to our P5-7 parents and carers who have completed our online permission slip for children to walk home unaccompanied. This closing date for the submission of this form was on Monday of this week. We have shared this information with staff who supervise children leaving the school grounds.

If in the following weeks and months ahead, you choose to give permission for your P5-7 child to leave school unaccompanied, you must inform us in writing.

Please be aware that we can not release pupils into the care of juniors aged 16 or below.

As you know, we have worked hard to establish a safe routine for the dismissal of children at the end of the school day. **We ask that you remind you child each day what their arrangements are for home time. If an adult is collecting them, please tell them who it will be.**



16 HABITS OF MIND...

Last week in school we launched our new **Habit of Mind - QUESTIONING & POSING PROBLEM....**

Habits of Mind are dispositions or behaviours that help pupils successfully approach challenges or problems. We believe that all children can succeed if they are well supported and equipped with the skills to overcome challenges – this helps to develop a positive mindset and high aspirations.



What questions have you asked today?

Questioning and Posing Problems



How do you know?

Having a questioning attitude. Knowing what data is needed and asking a range of questions to find information. Fill in the gaps!

16 Habits of Mind

- **Asking good questions help us to fill in the gaps of our knowledge...**
- Questions help us to see things from another point of view
- What if questions are great for starting conversations and hypothetical questions
- Questions help us to develop empathy
- Really effective questions help is to explore
- Having a questioning mindset helps us learn

How to have a questioning attitude...

- Be curious... ask how something works or how it is put together
- Ask Why? Questions...
- Seek deeper understanding
- Investigate something you feel passionate about

Our teachers are looking out for pupils who show questioning & problem posing– don't give up and keep trying!





Our Safeguarding Team

In Ashgrove Primary we want everyone to feel safe and happy in school.

**If you have any worries or concerns you can speak to a member of our
Safeguarding Team.**



**Mrs Luney
P5 Teacher**

**Designated Teacher
for Child Protection**



**Mrs Carberry
P5 Teacher**

**Deputy Designated
Teacher
for Child Protection**



**Mr Smith
Principal**

School Principal

Child Protection is everyone's business!



PARENTS & SAFEGUARDING

All adults in school have a role to play in Safeguarding children – making sure they are safe and happy not only in school but in all other part of their lives too...

As a school, we are legally obliged to protect the best interests and safeguard all of our pupils. As part of effective safeguarding, we have key policies which our parents must be aware of, these include:

- Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy
- Intimate Care Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Complaints Policy
- Positive Behaviour Policy
- Administration of Medication Policy

All policies are available on
our website...

www.ashgroveprimary.com

It is important that parents and carers take the time to read these policies as by enrolling your child in school you are subscribing to these policies.

As parents and Carers you are required to inform the school;

- If your child has a medical condition or educational need;
- If there are any Court Orders relating to the safety or wellbeing of a parent or child;
- If there is a change in a child's circumstances for example – change of address, change of contact details, change of name or parental responsibility;
- If there are any changes to arrangements about who brings your child to and from school;
- Parents should contact the school if their child is absent (by completing the online Report an Absence Form) and send in a note on their child's return to school. This assures us that absences are genuine;
- It is essential that school has up-to-date contact details for all parents & carers.

More information on parental responsibility can be found online on the EA website, Safeguarding & Child Protection.

Next week, we will once again email to all parents enrolled in school our most recent Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy – please remember this is available at any time on our website.



MOBILE PHONES IN SCHOOL

As a general rule, we discourage pupils bringing mobile phones to school as these are not required or permitted during the day. If you need to contact your child during school time, you must do so via the Office – messages will be passed on. We do however understand that some older children need a phone to contact parents or carers after school. If mobile phones must be brought to school, they must remain switched off and from next week stay in the pupil's schoolbag.

We have a small number of children who require a mobile device for medical reasons which is included in an approved Care Plan. In these circumstances, the SIM card is removed and the camera disabled.

SCHOOL DINNER MENU

Vegetarian options are available if required

<u>Monday 18th September</u> Pasta Bolognese with Spaghetti or Pasta Twists with Garlic Bread & Peas ~ Melon, Mandarin & Pineapple Pots with Yoghurt Dip	<u>Tuesday 19th September</u> Ham & Cheese Pizza or Pepperoni with Garlic Dip with Sweetcorn & Red Pepper or Coleslaw ~ Jelly & Mandarin
<u>Wednesday 20th September</u> Roast Turkey, Broccoli or Turnip with Mashed & Oven Roasted Potatoes ~ Ice Cream, Pears & Chocolate Sauce	<u>Thursday 21st September</u> Chicken Curry & Naan Bread with Green Beans & Steamed Rice ~ Cornflake Tart & Custard
<u>Friday 22nd September</u> Golden Crumb Fish Fingers, Salad or Baked Beans with Chips or Mashed Potatoes ~ Homemade Ginger Biscuit & Fruit	School meals for the week ahead should be booked online via SchoolMoney.

PLEASE HELP US WITH BOOKING THE AFTER SCHOOL CLUB...

We kindly ask all parents to make bookings for the After School Club via the SchoolMoney app only. Bookings must be made before 12.00pm for the next day or you may book for the entire week ahead.

Please do not leave phone messages for the Office to book spaces as voicemails may not be received in time causing distress to your child. We appreciate your help with this.

