



Ashgrove Primary School Newtownabbey

Our Weekly Newsletter

ISSUE: 12

FRIDAY 18TH NOVEMBER 2022

RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS – GOLD STANDARD

Article 8 “Every child has the right to an identity. Governments must protect and respect this right and protect the child’s name, nationality or family relationships from being unlawfully changed”

In School, we ensure each child is called by their proper name and registered with us by the name on their birth certificate.

DIARY DATES FOR NOVEMBER–DECEMBER 2023

Monday 20 th November:	Flu Mop-up sessions
Thursday 23 rd November:	P5 Parent Assembly – Anti-Bullying
Friday 24 th November:	School Council Meeting
Tuesday 28 th November:	P3 Forest School to Lilian Bland Park
Monday 4 th December:	P1&2 Nativity
Tuesday 5 th December:	P1&2 Nativity
Thursday 7 th December:	Open House – bookings online
Friday 8 th December:	Open House – bookings online
Friday 8 th December:	P7 visiting Glengormley Integrated College
Saturday 9 th December:	Open House for new P1 pupils September 2024
Monday 11 th December:	Magic George visiting P1&2
Friday 15 th December:	Senior Choir to Ashwood House
Wednesday 20 th December:	P3&4 Carol Service
Thursday 21 st December:	Half Day finish for Christmas

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SEAG ASSESSMENTS

Last weekend, Primary 7 pupils sat the first of two SEAG assessments. We are proud of how diligent our pupils have been the dedication they have demonstrated with their preparations.

The second assessment is on Saturday XX November. Keep going P7 – you are almost there!

VIRTUAL TOUR OF SCHOOL

As part of our Open House page on our website we have a fully interactive 3D tour of our school. We realise it is so important for new P1 parents to “get a feel” for our school as new parents often speak of the warmth they feel when visiting.

We have made an Open House page on our website which includes a 3D tour of school, videos from staff and parents and lots of other information.

From this page, you can also book tours of the school, these will be managed in small groups, for more information please click on the link below:

<https://www.ashgroveprimary.com/open-house-for-new-p1-pupils/>

PRIMARY 1 APPLICATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2024

Ad per previous years, the Education Authority are encouraging parents to apply for Primary 1 places for September 2023 via their online portal. For parents with children who attend Nursery provision they should already be familiar with this process. **The online portal will be available from 12.00 midday on 09.01.2024.**

We of course will offer parents any help they require with their online applications.

Please see below for key dates for the application process:

- **Tuesday 9th January 2024 (12 noon)** – Online Primary 1 Application Procedure opens on EA website with online portal available
- **Friday 26th January 2024 (12 noon)** – Online portal closes at 12 midnight (any application received after this date will be treated as late)
- **No later than 4.00pm on Tuesday 31st January 2024**– deadline for supporting documentation for application to be submitted to Ashgrove.
- **On or before Tuesday 20th February 2024** - Ashgrove PS will select pupils at First Preference stage.
- **Tuesday 23rd April 2024**– Closure of p1 Admissions Procedure
- **Thursday 25th April 2024** - Admission Portal opens for parents to view the outcome of their application. Ashgrove PS will inform successful applicants by letter on 28.04.2024

When making your application for a Primary 1 placement please do refer to the Admissions Criteria. It is important on your application that you make clear how you fulfil the criteria. At the time of application, please also submit a copy of your child’s birth certificate and supporting documentation e.g. proof of address, utility bill or redacted bank statement.



THANK YOU NORMAN!

Our temporary Building Supervisor (Norman) who has been with us for just over 1 year has completed his final day with us in Ashgrove. Norman has been a pleasure to have in school and has been so helpful to pupils and staff alike – we truly appreciate all you have helped us with during your time here.

Jonathon Clarkson has been appointed as Building Supervisor – you may have seen him already busily working in school grounds. We extend a very warm welcome to Jonathon in this important role in our school.

FLU MOP UP SESSIONS

The school nurse is returning to school on Monday to administer any remaining flu vaccinations which were not given a couple of weeks ago. The Nursing Team will only provide the vaccination to children for whom they have written consent from the child's legal guardian.

PRIMARY 5 PARENT ASSEMBLY

P5 parents and carers are invited to attend our P5 Senior Assembly on Thursday morning from 9.15am. The Assembly will deliver key safeguarding and Anti-Bullying messages. We look forward to seeing all our P5 parents there!

COURT ORDERS AND CARE LIST

Some parents have requested their child's name to be placed on our Care List which is only for pupils who have a Court Order in place to prevent them being collected by a birth parent. Please note this list exists only for these circumstances which have been ruled by Court. For others, Staff will only permit collection from school of P1-4 pupils by the prior arrangement of parents – this has always been our practice – children are dismissed by the teacher responsible each day unless they attend our After School Club.

SHOULD YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE, it is your responsibility to keep us informed and provide us with the appropriate documentation.

P5-7 pupils often have their own arrangements for walking, cycling, or meeting with parents after school each day. Teachers will supervise their exit from school as normal.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Mrs Carberry and I regularly review the attendance of all children in school. **We are very fortunate that the vast majority of children in Ashgrove are strong and regular attenders– we thank our parents for their support with this.**

If the attendance of your child at school is a concern, we are required to write to you informing you of this matter in the hope that improvements will be shown in the coming weeks. Mrs Carberry and I will also send home **Absence Reply Slips** for us to record a reason for absence if your child has been off school – please complete these and return to the class teacher. It is important we record a reason for all days off school. Please remember to send a note to school informing us why your child has been off on their return, alternatively you may complete the online absence form available on our website.

For a minority of pupils, persistent lateness is a recurring problem. We very much appreciate and thank our parents and carers who ensure their child/children are in school on time ready to start their day. Lateness can be disruptive to the whole class and not just to the children who are late.



PRIMARY 1 & 2 NATIVITY – It's a Baby!

It is with a lot of excitement and anticipation we have shared dates and times for our P1&2 Nativity – It's a Baby!

P1&2 are busily practicing, learning songs and jingles. This as always promises to be a real treat and sure to put us all in the festive mood. A note was emailed last week along with a link to book tickets. Miss Morrison has also shared this information with P1&2 parents on See-Saw.

Once you have booked your tickets, we will send home the number of tickets you have requested- due to limited space in the Hall, we must restrict the number of tickets per child to a maximum of 3 at this stage.

We look forward to seeing you all soon!



P3&4 CAROL SERVICE...

Keep the date in your diary – Our P3&4 Carol Service will be on **Wednesday 20th December, 9.30 & 11.30am.** The Service will last 45 minutes to 1 hour.

We are able to offer up to TWO tickets per child for one show of your choice. We can select the time which suits, but please remember tickets are limited to 2 per child.

Tickets cost £1.00 each and monies raised will go to charity- Diabetes UK and the NI Children's Hospice. Once released, tickets must be bought online via SchoolMoney and are allocated on a first come, first served basis – please be prompt to avoid disappointment.

Thank you all for your interest and support!



SCHOOL DINNER MENU, £2.60 PER DAY

VEGETARIAN OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE

<p><u>Monday 20th November</u></p> <p>Savoury Mince, Baton Carrots, Mashed Potatoes or Pasta</p> <p>~</p> <p>Banana Yoghurt Pot</p>	<p><u>Tuesday 21st November</u></p> <p>Margherita Pizza or Fish Goujon in a softshell Taco & Zingy Tomato Salsa with Chips or Baked Potato</p> <p>~</p> <p>Strawberry Mousse & Fruit</p>
<p><u>Wednesday 22nd November</u></p> <p>Roast Gammon, Carrots & Parsnip/Savoy Cabbage with Mash or Roast Potatoes</p> <p>~</p> <p>Strawberry Jelly, Ice Cream & Fruit</p>	<p><u>Thursday 23rd November</u></p> <p>Lunch Bunch Chicken Curry & Naan Bread wit Peas/Sweetcorn & Steamed Rice</p> <p>~</p> <p>Chocolate Sponge & Custard</p>
<p><u>Friday 24th November</u></p> <p>Hot Dog & Tomato Ketchup with Baked Beans or Salad and Chips/Baked Potato</p> <p>~</p> <p>Fresh Fruit Pot & Biscuit</p>	<p>Please help the school Office by booking both Free and Paid School Meals online for the Week ahead!</p>

ASHGROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL



VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE Live online now

WINNER OF "OVERALL BEST PRIMARY SCHOOL AWARD"

For new Primary 1 pupils for 2024
and other prospective pupils.

To BOOK A TOUR of school scan
the QR code or go to
www.ashgroveprimary.com



WHY ASHGROVE?

- Wrap Around Care including Breakfast Club from 7.45am and a range of Clubs from early to late
- Nurturing and inclusive ethos (UNICEF Rights Respecting School)
- High standards of Pastoral Care
- Excellent AQE results
- Specialist music tuition, Junior and Senior Choirs
- "Principal & Vice Principal are providing HIGHLY EFFECTIVE, STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP." ETI
- "Highly positive & CHILD CENTRED ETHOS." ETI
- "The STANDARDS the children attain are high." ETI

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