



# Ashgrove Primary School Newtownabbey

## Our Weekly Newsletter

ISSUE: 12

FRIDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023

### 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 careers in school. We ask parents to help us by keeping us informed if family circumstances change.



Ashgrove Primary School

Primary 1  
September 2024

EA P1 application  
portal opens on  
Tuesday 9th  
January

Tours of Ashgrove available  
on Thursday 7th, Friday 8th  
& Saturday 9th December

book online at  
[www.ashgroveprimary.com](http://www.ashgroveprimary.com)

Click on this link: <https://www.ashgroveprimary.com/eventbooker/event-5/>

ASHGROVE ROAD, NEWTOWNABBEY, CO ANTRIM, BT36 6LJ

T: 028 9084 8734

E: [INFO@ASHGROVEPS.NEWTOWNABBEY.NI.SCH.UK](mailto:INFO@ASHGROVEPS.NEWTOWNABBEY.NI.SCH.UK)

[WWW.ASHGROVEPRIMARY.COM](http://WWW.ASHGROVEPRIMARY.COM)

Learning, Caring, Growing Stronger Together

# SCHOOL DINNER MENU, £2.60 PER DAY

(VEGETARIAN OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE – REFER TO WEBSITE)

## **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November**

Sausage Roll, Spaghetti Hoops/ Peas with Chips  
or Jacket Potato

~

Ice Cream, Chocolate Sauce & Pears

## **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November**

Pasta Bolognese, Sweetcorn & Garlic Bread

~

Zesty Orange Sponge & Custard

## **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November**

Roast Chicken or Poached salmon with  
Cauliflower/Broccoli/Carrots with Mash and  
Roast Potatoes

~

Blueberry Muffin

## **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November**

Lunch Bunch Chicken Curry & Naan Bread,  
Garden Peas & Steamed Rice

~

Fresh Fruit Salad & Yoghurt

## **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December**

Beef Burger in a Bap with Tomato Ketchup,  
Tossed Salad with Chips or Chilli Wedges

~

Flakemeal Biscuit & Fruit

*Please book both Free and Paid  
School Meals online for the week  
ahead...*

## MISS SCHOOL=MISS OUT!

The Department of Education has shared information 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 behavior.





# ASHGROVE PTFA CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Raffle Tickets on sale Monday 4th  
December to Friday 15th December  
(£1 per ticket, £3 a strip).



## SCHOOL COUNCIL CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Our School Council are holding a Christmas Jumper Day on **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December...** this is the same day that our school Christmas Dinner Boxes will be served.



WEDNESDAY 13TH DECEMBER

# CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY!

SCHOOL COUNCIL

£1.00 DONATION TO THE  
SCHOOL COUNCIL PLEASE



## EXCEPTIONAL WEATHER PROCEDURES

To date this winter, we have not experienced exceptional weather such as snow, ice or very hard frost. When needed, our paths in school are gritted and our Building Supervisor works hard to keep us all safe in school grounds.

### **IF THERE IS ICE OR SNOW, 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 during winter, please note the following:

- 🌱 An early notice will be posted on our website: [www.ashgroveprimary.com](http://www.ashgroveprimary.com)
- 🌱 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.
- 🌱 Messages will be posted on our Social Media accounts – Facebook, Twitter and our school app (download the app from our website, itunes or Googleplay).
- 🌱 A message will be shared with parents and carers on our Ashgrove App and See-Saw accounts

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.

## INDUSTRIAL ACTION

I wrote to parents and families at the beginning of the week to inform you that all 5 teaching unions have called for strike action on **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November**. This is a Half Day strike which means that children should not attend school for the morning session. Breakfast Club will not be available on the morning of the strike day.

Pupils may enter the school building from 12.10pm. Lunches will still be served as per usual. Pupil absence due to industrial action will not effect pupil overall attendance.

Please rest assured that this level of industrial action in the education sector is very rare, but is unfortunately a symptom of a very underfunded sector. The teachers and all staff here in Ashgrove remain utterly committed to the children in our school. We thank you for your patience and understanding.

## WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE RUNNING LATE...

We understand that occasionally we can all run late at collection times– something unexpected happens or the traffic is particularly heavy. If you find yourself running late, we ask that you give us as much notice as possible to put your child in to the After School Club. We have received a few calls as the bell has rang making it very difficult to find children or deliver a message to their teacher. Please give us as much notice as you reasonably can.

If you are running late collecting from After School Club at 5.00pm, please ring school as per usual – you will be redirected to the After School Club where a member of staff will be happy to help.

We do appreciate your help with this.

