

Ashleworth CofE Primary School

Newsletter – Term 2



Dear Parents,

December is very much the time of year when we reflect on what's been and start to look ahead to what might be. This has certainly been a year that we will not forget in a hurry. It's worth commending each and every one of us for everything that we have faced and achieved. The children started the year not coming to school, then returned with restrictions which have been ever-changing. I know you will join me in saying how proud we are of them.

Now to celebrate some of this term's highlights.

I'm going to start with yesterday when the whole school performed and the OAP Luncheon Club at the Village Hall. This has always been an annual event for us and was much missed last year. All of the children performed a selection of Christmas songs from the traditional carols to cheery songs. My favourite being the Christmas Dinner song. The children gave it their all and everyone in the audience thoroughly enjoyed the performance. One lady was telling me that she was Headteacher of Ashleworth from 1968 until early 1990s.

On Monday, Class 2 took part in a World War 2 workshop. This was a superb opportunity for the children to see all of this term's learning in action. They had the opportunity to handle a number of artefacts from the period and listen to actual news and radio broadcasts. The air raid siren was sounded; absolutely deafening. The children took part in some basic first aid activities including transporting their friends on a stretcher. The day ended with some staggering facts about the war. Hopefully, the children have shared some of these with you.

Class 1 have been busy too. In November, they visited Churcham for the Ugly Duckling puppet show. This linked in wonderfully with their work around traditional stories. The show also included many traditional songs and nursery rhymes which the children were able to join in with. Later in the month, the Fire Brigade paid us a visit. A fire engine parked up by the Village Green and the children had a chance to explore both inside and outside the engine. Many of the children tried on the uniforms. Miss Barnes shared some wonderful photos via Class Dojo.

Next week the children have Christmas Lunch and a variety of activities to look forward to. They are busy practising for their performance of Jesus' Christmas Party. This will involve the whole school and will form part of our annual Christingles Service.

It's also a time to say "thank you" to all of the staff for their continuing hard work. They have faced many challenges and have worked tirelessly throughout. Mrs Huggins will be returning in January. This means we will be saying "Good-Bye" to Miss Miles. I know you will join me in thanking her for all her hard work this term. She will be taking up a new post, at a school, in Gloucester.

On behalf of everyone at school, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

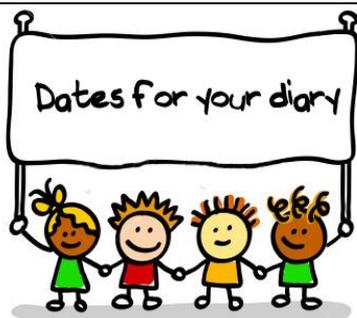
Best wishes,

Michelle Kelly

Headteacher

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17th Dec - End of term
3rd Jan - Bank Holiday
4th Jan - Inset Day
5th Jan - Start of term 3
12th Jan - Y3/4/5 Swimming
18th Feb - End of term 3

Illness

We cannot emphasise too highly the need to keep your child at home if they are unwell (for any reason). There are any number of illnesses circulating at the moment, not just COVID so, if your child is unwell, please don't send them into school until they are fully well, and don't forget to let the School Office know on their first day of absence. If you are unsure as to whether to send your child in, please check the guidance on infection control or speak to the office

Ventilation at school

Whilst COVID is still in circulation the DFE have advised that we should have the windows/doors open where possible to ensure a good flow of air to the school. As the colder weather approaches, please ensure that your child is suitably dressed bearing in mind that windows will be open

Parentpay

Please can you check your parent pay accounts to ensure that all Before/After school clubs have been paid for prior to the end of term. As a reminder, for all unpaid debts these will need to be paid for by the school, this means that valuable resources that would be spent on the children will be lost to debt. Thank you

Break the Rules Day

Don't forget on Friday 17th December, children can come to school with wacky hair for a donation of £1, all monies raised will go to the PTFA.



Website

The school has a new website that went live recently, this should make information such as diary dates and term dates easier to find. Please have a look through and if you see or think of anything that you would like to add, please let me know.

Signing in and out

From the start of the New Year, if children are late coming to school, please can you report to reception so you can sign them in on our new system. The same goes if you need to take your child out of school early, you will need to sign them out. Can I also ask that if you know your children are going to be late, please let the office know, any child coming into school after registration closed will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Please also notify the school before 9am if your child is going to be off because of illness.

Reminders:

- For any reception children starting in September 2022, the closing date for Primary School choices is the 15th January 2023.

Lastly

We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and new year from all the staff at Ashleworth

