



Autumn Time!

Dear all,

The weeks seem to be flying by at this time of year and it continues to be an extremely busy time at school. We are quickly approaching the end of our first half term and it is amazing to see just how much we have accomplished already!

It has been great to see so many parents at our recent Phonics and Behaviour workshops. It really shows the parental engagement and support we have from you all when working together to do the very best for the children.

Next week our Year 5 children are off on their Burwell House, 3 day/2 night residential. I know they will have an amazing time and I look forward to seeing their TV Studio productions on their return.

I am extremely excited about the imminent redevelopment of our Early Years outside area. There is further and important information about this later in the newsletter.

It will not be long before we are into the Christmas festivities, one of my favourite times of year in school. Finer details and timings of events will come out in due course but be sure to get the key dates in your diaries!

If I don't see you before, have a lovely Half Term. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours Sincerely

Mr S England
Headteacher

Some of our Upcoming Events - please see our website for a full list

- 18th October - Y6 Let them eat cake
- 21st - 23rd October - Y5 Residential
- 25th October - Y6 Class Assembly
- 28th October - HALF TERM
- 2nd November - PTA FIREWORKS
- 8th November - Y5 Class Assembly
- 11th November - Anti-Bullying Day
- 15th November - Children In Need
- 19th November - Y3 Fitzwilliam Trip
- 22nd November - Y5 Let them eat cake
- 28th November - Christmas Bazaar
- 29th November - Occasional Day
- 6th December - Year 4 Class Assembly
- 7th December - Turkey Dinner (SOLD OUT)
- 10th December - Bag2School Collection
- 10th December - EYFS Production (am)
- 11th December - EYFS Production (am)
- 13th December - Christmas Jumper Day
- 13th December - PTA Disco
- 16th December - Theatre of Widdershins
- 18th December - Year 1&2 Show (am)
- 19th December - Year 1&2 Show (pm)
- 19th December - Christmas Lunch
- 20th December - End of Term 1.00pm

Volunteer Help

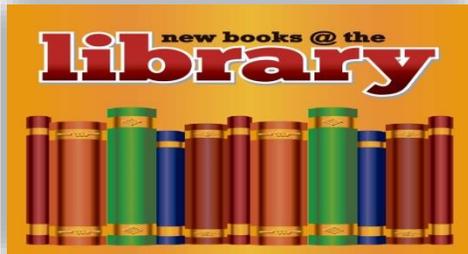
In my last newsletter, I pleaded for some help in tidying up some of the areas of our school. I have been overwhelmed with the generosity and help that we have received. A huge thank you to Mrs Hardy, Mrs Kingsley and Mrs Mitchell.

Our Nurture garden is now looking amazing again and most importantly the children can now access it safely. They have even now made a start on the pond area! Thank you so much ladies. It is very much appreciated.

Donate a Book to our Library

Book donations continue to come into the school from our wish list. A huge thank you to everyone who has already purchased a new book for the school library.

To see our children's wish list and to donate a new book please see: <http://amzn.eu/OR6HXL4>



Art Club

This term has seen the beginning of a new art club. The club is being run by a group of parents who approached me at the end of the summer term. We are very fortunate to be able to offer this to the children. The art activities that they have taken part in look very exciting and the children have had a great time.

Below: the children using mud fires to make their own charcoal to use to draw with.



School Governors

The beginning of this year has seen three of our school Governors leave their posts. On behalf of the whole school community, I would like to say a huge thank you to Graham Kingsley, Fiona Richards and Duncan Brumby. They have all given a significant amount of their time to the school over the years and been instrumental in the school's development.

We welcome three new Governors. Jack Busby (Parent), Matt Lee (Parent) and Diane Jacoutot (Co-opted) join us.

I would also like to say thank you to those parents who applied for the vacant Parent Governor posts. It was great to see so many people keen to become involved. We are very lucky. I know that many schools find Governor recruitment incredibly challenging. This is yet another indication of how engaged and supportive our parents are.

Lunchtime Clubs

Our lunchtime clubs are now fully up and running. Speed Stacking is just one of our clubs organised by Mrs Wild and it has certainly been a huge hit with many of our children.



October Half Term Holiday Club

There will be a Premier Camps Holiday Club at Ashwell School on the following dates:

28th October - 1st November (8am - 5pm)

This will be open to children aged 4-12 and more information is available at:

<https://www.premier-education.com/holidaycamps>



PTA Updates

The hard work and fundraising efforts of our PTA are vital to the continued improvement we are able to make for our children. This year the funds raised by our PTA are going toward refurbishing the children's toilets.

If you are able to volunteer some time it would be lovely to see some new faces to bring fresh ideas to the team. Please do consider how you could become more involved in the life of the school. We are actively recruiting for PTA parent helpers - please leave your name at the office if you are able to help.

PTA events this term:

Year 6 Let them eat cake - 18th October

Fireworks Night - 2nd November

Year 5 Let them eat cake - 22nd November

Christmas Disco - 13th December

In the meantime remember you can support the school by using the link below when shopping online:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ashwell/school/>



Our Three Star Aims

We continue to talk to the children about our three star aims:

1. Be Responsible & Respectful
2. Be Kind & Truthful
3. Be The Best That You Can Be

We focus our school merits on these themes and refer to these across the school and apply them to everything that we do.

School Council 2019-20

School Council elections have now taken place and we have a new team on board for 2019-20.

Congratulations to the following children who make up our school council this year:

Year 1 - Fletcher & Emily

Year 2 - Lucas & Ava-Rose

Year 3 - William & Iona

Year 4 - Janelle & Harry

Year 5 - Lola & Alfie R

Year 6 - Larna, Dean & Thomas

Executive Members - Joseph & Bea



Harvest Festival

Getting together as a whole school in church for Harvest Festival was our first school outing in our new uniform. The children looked so smart walking through the village. It was a lovely way to start the year off. The children thoroughly enjoyed performing their harvest songs to so many parents. As always, the service was so well supported. I want to thank you all for your kind donations. Well done to Year 6 on their readings.

Firework Poster Competition

Well done to all of the children who entered the PTA Firework Poster competition. Congratulations to:

1st Place - Indigo (Y4)

2nd Place - Lydia (Y5)

3rd Place - Isla P (Y3)

Running for Ashwell PTA

On Sunday 24th November a team of 23 Ashwell School parents and staff will be running the Basse Belle to raise money for Ashwell School PTA. This is a local 10 mile race and will be a big challenge for many of us meaning lots of training whatever the weather! Every donation really will help the children of Ashwell School so please donate if you can. Thank you so much in advance for your contribution.

https://www.gofundme.com/f/5egs8-a-cause-i-care-about-needs-help?utm_source=customer&utm_medium=copy_link&utm_campaign=p_cp+share-sheet

Attendance

Attendance at Ashwell continues to be good with our whole school figure currently at 97.1%

May I remind parents to avoid booking holidays or medical appointments during school times wherever possible.

School Matters!



Class	%
Year 3	98.3%
Year 2	98.0%
Oak (Reception)	97.6%
Year 6	97.5%
Year 5	97.1%
Acorn (Nursery)	96.7%
Year 4	96.2%
Year 1	95.0%

Well done to Year 3 who finish top of the attendance table this term!

Nursery & Reception Tours & Admission Arrangements

Reception - September 2020 Intake

5.11.19 and 21.11.19 2019 at 9.30am

If you would like to book onto one of these tours please use the link below.

Reception Tours

Deadline for applications - 15.1.20

Allocation Day - 16.4.20

All admissions via:

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions

Nursery - September 2020 Intake

9.1.20, 21.1.20 and 5.2.20 - Prospective Parent Tours

Application opens - 25.11.19

Deadline for applications - 7.2.20

Allocation Day - 13.3.20

If you would like to book onto one of the tours please use the link below:

Nursery Tours

On-Line Application Form

Remembrance & Children In Need

Our remembrance merchandise on behalf of the Royal British Legion will be on sale from the school office from Monday 4th November.

This year we will again be supporting Children in Need. A letter with further details of this event will be coming out shortly.





EYFS Outside Development

We are really excited about the development of our Early Years outside area. During Half-Term, the construction of our new EYFS Shelter will begin. Once this has been completed the EYFS outdoor area will be resurfaced. It is expected that the project will take place over a two week period which will mean that we will have one week of disruption with regards to children being dropped off and collected. **The small playground area and side access door to the school will be out of use during the first week back after half term.** A detailed email containing drop off and collection arrangements will be sent towards the end of half term, when we are clearer on the progress of the project.

Thank you in advance for your support with this.

School Games Mark

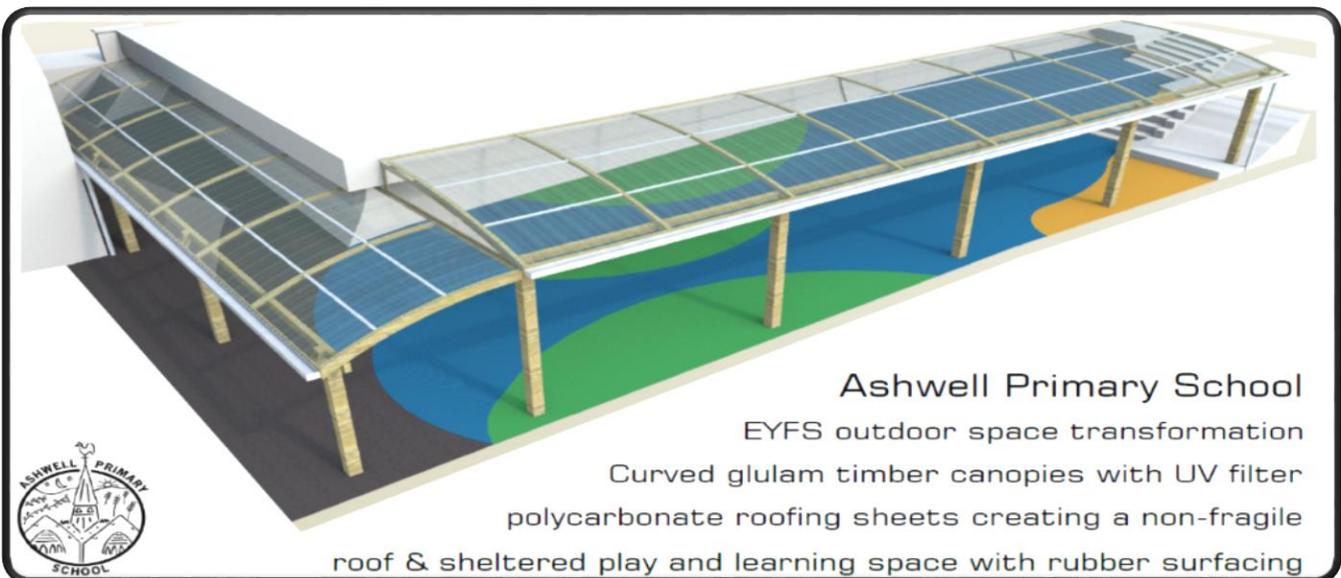
I am delighted to inform you that we have recently been awarded the Silver School Games accreditation. Thank you to Miss Harber for leading on this.

The School Games Mark is a government led awards scheme that was launched in 2012. The aim is to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school.

Participating in this process is a fantastic opportunity for schools to evaluate their PE provision and assists them in developing an action plan for future progress.

We have worked to increase:

- **Participation** - how many young people at school are engaged in sporting activity
- **Competition** - how many sports are being played and how many competitions are being entered
- **Workforce** - how many pupils are involved in leadership activities alongside taking part in competitions
- **Clubs** - how many local links the school has with clubs or establishments from the area



Ashwell Primary School

EYFS outdoor space transformation

Curved glulam timber canopies with UV filter polycarbonate roofing sheets creating a non-fragile roof & sheltered play and learning space with rubber surfacing

