



## Read all about it!

Dear all,

It has been all systems go since half term and I don't think there has been a week that has gone by where there has not been an extra activity taking place somewhere in the school!

Staff and children have been extremely busy taking part in a wide range of curriculum enrichment activities. It really has been fantastic to see how the staff and children embrace these events. It has also been enjoyable learning about the many talents that exist amongst our children and staff!

Not only has it been busy in school, a number of successful trips have also taken place recently. On Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February Year 3 & 4 visited the Mosque in Stevenage as part of their RE curriculum. The children told me that this was a fantastic experience and opportunity to learn about other cultures. In addition to this we were fortunate to have Mr Moore in to share his knowledge of Buddhism with the children. Year 6 spent a day in London visiting the Houses of Parliament and Year 5 children visited Princess Helena College for a science workshop.

I am also delighted to welcome our new Parent Governor Niranjala Button onto the board of Governors.

Yours Sincerely  
Mr S England



QuotesBlog.net

### Twitter @AshwellSchool

It is great to see so many of our staff and parents are now following the Ashwell School Twitter account. I very much hope you are enjoying the tweets, which are aimed at giving you informal information about what is going on in school.

Please help me spread the word so we can increase our following!

### Follow us @AshwellSchool

We now have 133 followers - can we get all families following?



### Parents Evening

We look forward to welcoming parents to speak with their child's class teacher, in the Main Hall, on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March. Hopefully you all found the online booking system straight forward to use.

During the evening, between 5:30-7:30pm, Herts Catering will be in the dining room with samples of the school lunch menu for you to try. Mr England and the Governors will also be available for an informal chat over a cup of tea should you wish to pop in. The plans for the meadow development will also be on display.

Don't forget  
Parents'  
Evening!

## Meadow Development

I am excited to be able to share with you that our plans for the next phase of the meadow development are well underway. Funding has now been secured from the Henry Colbron Trust and we are hoping that work will start this side of Easter! It is due to be completed in time for the summer term.

For more details on exactly what we are planning to do please pop into the dining room during one of the parents' evenings where plans will be on display.

## Feeling Good Week

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February saw the start of our 'Feeling Good Week' at Ashwell. Each day children completed activities linked to the daily theme.

Monday - Eat well, feel well

Tuesday - Get active

Wednesday - Wonderful Me

Thursday - Random Act of Kindness

Friday - Do something that makes you feel happy.

It was lovely to welcome visitors from the local community in for afternoon tea on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February. Children from different classes spent time talking to our guests. Everybody had a lovely time.

On Friday afternoon children mixed into 12 different groups to experience an activity led by a member of staff. Some children went on a spring walk while others enjoyed art, craft and music activities.

The week certainly left us all feeling very good!

## Upcoming Events

- **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March** - Olympic/Paralympic Sports activity day
- **13<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> March** - Science Week
- **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March** - Parents' evening
- **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** - Parents' evening
- **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March** - Red Nose Day
- **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March** - Year 4 last swimming lesson
- **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March** - PTA Quiz Night
- **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March** - Break up for Easter at 1.30pm
- **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April** - Summer Term Starts

## Welcome Jenny!

It gives me great pleasure in welcoming Jenny who joins the Herts Catering team in the kitchen as our new Head cook. If you want to experience the Herts catering school dinners please pop along and see them during parents evening between 5:30-7:30pm on both days. There will be samples of the new menu to taste and a chance to speak with the team about school dinners.



## World Book Day

On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March we celebrated world book day. In conjunction with this celebration we also welcomed a visiting author to school on Friday. Alexander Martin spent the day delivering workshops with children. They developed their creative writing skills while producing short stories. They also had the opportunity to hear what life was like to be a publishing author.

## School & Class Attendance

Attendance at Ashwell continues to be good with our whole school figure currently at 97.2%

May I remind parents to avoid booking holidays or medical appointments during school times wherever possible. Our school attendance policy is now on the school website, should you need to refer to it.

### School Matters!



### School attendance - 97.2%

Class	%
Chestnut	97.9
Sycamore	97.9
Maple	97.8
Willow	97.5
Pine	97.1
Birch	96.9
Poplar	96.8
Oak	96.7
Acorn (Nursery)	95.1

Well done to Chestnut and Sycamores who currently top the attendance table!

## Parent View Survey

A huge thank you to all of those parents who have completed the Parent View Survey via Survey Monkey. I look forward to sharing the results of the survey with you all once it has closed and hope to be able to address some of the areas for improvement. If you have not yet been able to complete the survey please take a look at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/3P35KGD>  
by 19/3/2017.

## Support the PTA - Quiz Night

We are really lucky here at Ashwell, to have such a supportive and hardworking PTA.

On Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March the PTA are holding a Quiz night in the school hall. Doors open at 7:30pm for an 8pm start. 8 People per team. Tickets are £10 per person in advance from the school office or Rhubarb & Mustard. Or £15 on the door. Ticket price includes a delicious cold food platter. There will also be a bar and raffle on the night.

Please buy your tickets as soon as possible and support this great event. All funds raised go directly to improving the opportunities for the children at Ashwell School.



## URGENT - Parking

Since my last newsletter I have had an opportunity to invite PSCO Chris Brabrook into school. He spent some time observing the parking situation outside the front of the school and shares our concerns. Please be aware that he has asked parking enforcement offices to visit the school and issue penalty notices for all vehicles that are illegally parked.



Feeling Good Week



Afternoon Tea with local visitors



Afternoon Tea with local visitors



EYFS getting Active



Board games with Mrs Reynolds



Team games on the MUGA



Drumming with Mr England