



Ashmead
Primary School



<http://ashmeadprimary.wordpress.com/>

18th July 2014

Dates for the diary

18th July: End of term school disco (KS1: 6.30 - 7.30, KS2: 7.30 - 8.30pm)

21st July: Transition sessions: Children in new classes with new teachers (Reception - Y5)

22nd July: Y6 open afternoon from 1.45pm. Leavers' assembly at 2.30 pm. Last day of term.

23rd July INSET day (school closed to children)

1st/2nd Sept: INSET days (school closed to children)

3rd Sept: School starts for Y1 - Y6 (Reception classes begin staggered entry)

8th Sept: Nursery starts (staggered entry for new children)

27th - 31st October Half term break

Goodbye Year 6!

We are so proud of our wonderful Y6 team (children and adults!) as they move towards the next stage in their education career. Last night the children put on a great production of West Side Story and it was clear to see how well the children had all worked together to make the production successful.



Carolyn Mumby, our Chair of Governors watched the play last night and commented: *"West Side Story, the Y6 drama production, was a real triumph, not just because of the talented and entertaining performances but also because the children were wholehearted and enthusiastic in their approach and the production itself (though telling the story of warring gangs) actually showcased how close and supportive they have become."*

The story lines in the play reminded us the importance of feeling that you belong, the character 'Riff' sang: You're never alone, you're never disconnected, you're home with your own".

Our aim at Ashmead is that our children leave us feeling 'loveable and capable'. I hope they felt both last night and that they carry that feeling with them as they move to their secondary schools. Well done everyone, you are ready to go on to the next exciting stage of school - enjoy Y7 (and keep in touch!).



Goodbye and Good Luck!

As you know from last week's letter, as well as saying goodbye to our children in Y6 we are also saying goodbye to some members of staff at the end of term.

Ann, in the office, has been working at Ashmead for twenty years and she is retiring this summer. Allanah who has been working across all classes in the school is returning to Australia. Oonagh, our learning mentor is moving on to a new role as Parent Support Advisor for Bexley and Debbie Cohen is leaving after supporting children at Ashmead.

We thank everyone for their hard work and wish everyone the best of luck for the future.



What's on locally this weekend?



PDSA Open Day

PDSA are holding an open day and charity event at New Cross PDSA PetAid hospital (opposite New Cross station in Amersham Vale) on Saturday 19th July from 1.00 - 4.00 pm. This will provide an opportunity to see behind the scenes of a veterinary hospital, meet staff, discover pets' needs, learn about being a vet, play games and eat and drink. Sounds like a good day out!

Dads' Day - Beecroft Gardens School



Come along to our annual dads' fun day. A day to celebrate the importance of fathers and male carers in the lives of children. All the family are welcome to come including mums, grandparents, uncles, aunts or friends.

All Activities are FREE and include zorbing, giant scalextric, bike activities, bow and arrow making, bouncy castles, entertainment and much more.



For more information please visit www.lewishamdads.com or contact Tim on 07947 475 064

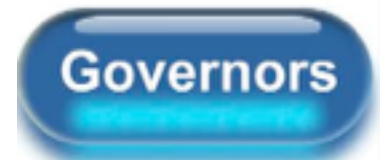
Reports

All children from Y1 to Y6 will be bringing their reports home tonight. Reception reports went out last Monday and Nursery reports will be sent out this Monday. In each report, there is a separate 'Parent Comment Sheet' which we would really appreciate if you could fill in and return by next week. Teachers spend many, many hours writing reports and we hope they reflect your child's personality and year's work. It is really great to read your comments and feedback!



End of year message from Carolyn Mumby, Chair of Governors

I can't believe how quickly this year has gone. It's the last one at Ashmead for my son and for the rest of his year 6 classmates and has been the first for many other children who have joined us at the beginning and throughout the year.



Governors have enjoyed hearing about and witnessing the rich experiences of projects, trips and author visits, the subject focus weeks like science, and the use of our sports funding, as well as the day in day out solid and inspired classroom teaching and support, all of which fire our children's enthusiasm for learning.

We notice and very much appreciate the effort put in by staff who often arrive to school very early and leave very late. Thanks also to the parents and carers who come along to parent workshops, volunteer on school trips, read with your children and make sure they arrive safely and on time every day. Parents and staff also work hard in the PTA, providing great whole school events like the school fairs, international evening, quiz night and raising money so that we can enrich our curriculum. Others offer their time and talents in after school clubs and projects and enthusiastically share ideas for improving the school and it's great to get your feedback. Though we can often feel more motivated to point out the need for improvement some parents also take the time to think about and write encouraging letters of appreciation, also valuable for staff who work hard every day to teach and support our children.

We are delighted to have welcomed new governors throughout this year and have distributed leadership through link roles and committee chairs so that we are growing in our capacity to offer meaningful support and challenge as part of the leadership team. We continue to appreciate the transparency, aspiration and dedication of the senior leaders and the teaching and support governors.

I hope you have a very lovely summer and that wherever they are in the school that your children enjoy Ashmead and flourish here, as much as mine have done.