



# Ashmead Primary School



ASHMEAD NEWSLETTER

16th November 2012

## Dates for the diary

**19th Nov:** Reception F to Museum of Childhood

**19th Nov:** PTA meeting - 2pm

**20th Nov:** Y4 to Horniman Museum

**23rd Nov:** 9.30 Y2R class assembly

**26th Nov:** Reception L to Museum of Childhood

**30th Nov:** 9.30 Y1 class assembly

**30th Nov:** Parent Governor Election - all day

**Sat 1st Dec:** *Christmas Fair*

**5th Dec:** Y6 School Journey Photo Evening - 7pm

**7th Dec:** 9.30 Y3 class assembly

**7th Dec:** Y5 Cake Sale - 3.30pm

**12th Dec:** Open Morning for prospective parents: 10 am

**12th Dec:** Y2 trip to Museum of London

**12th Dec:** PTA AGM - 7pm

**13th Dec:** Nursery trip to Albany Theatre

**13th Dec:** Shared Christmas lunch with children and staff

**14th Dec:** 9.30 Y4 class assembly

**17th Dec:** KS1 Christmas show (2.30)

**18th Dec:** KS2 Christmas show (9.30) and EYFS Nativity (2.30)

**21st Dec:** Last day of term

**24th Dec - 4th Jan (inc):** Christmas Holidays

**7th Jan:** INSET Day (school closed to children)

**15th Jan:** Open Morning for prospective parents: 10 am

## PTA Christmas Fair and AGM



The PTA are busy busy busy at the moment preparing for the Christmas Fair and also our Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Wednesday 12th December at 7pm in the school hall. A free crèche will be provided for the AGM, so it would be good to see as many people there as

possible. The AGM includes the annual report from the chair and also the election of the chair, secretary and treasurer and up to eight additional committee members. Please come along and help to support the school by standing for a position on the PTA, or to cast your vote.

Christmas Fair preparations started weeks ago and we are now looking for volunteers to help set up, run stalls and clear away on the day, as well as offering hamper donations and toys and books to sell at the fair. Please see any PTA member to offer your services or sign up on the volunteer board outside the main reception before or after school. The more volunteers we have, the better it is for everyone and it means that we can all enjoy the fair rather than having to be stuck behind a stall for the whole time whilst everyone else has fun! Many hands make light work so please do offer to do what you can, even if it's only a hour of your time - we do appreciate it.



## Babies!



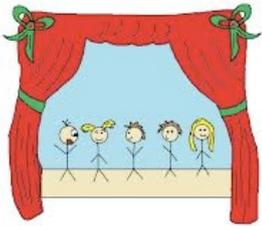
We have a bit of a 'babies' theme going on at Ashmead at the moment... We are delighted to announce that Joe Wollen and his partner are expecting their first baby in January. Joe will be on paternity leave in the new year to welcome his new baby in to the world! Deborah

Arnold and her husband are also expecting their first child, due in April. We wish Joe and Deborah and their families all the best for this exciting next step in their lives together. Congratulations!

You might also have heard about some babies visiting the classrooms? This is part of a new project we are running in Y3 and Y4 called 'Roots of Empathy'. In the words of the program, 'Roots of Empathy educates both the mind and the heart' by developing emotional literacy and the need to show kindness to others. There is more information about the program on the parent page on our blog. <http://ashmeadprimary.wordpress.com/parents/>

## End of the day arrangements

At the end of the day it is getting very busy under the shelter of the new classroom and is sometimes hard for children and teachers to see all the parents. To help keep our children safe we are proposing to keep the area clear as we come out at the end of the day and are asking parents to wait outside the shelter so we have room to bring the children out safely. We will mark a temporary space for the children to stay in until they are collected by their parent or carer. Thanks in anticipation of your support for this new trial.



### End of term productions

We are currently planning our end of term productions which will be lots of fun but also lots of work! We are looking for willing volunteers to help with costumes, creating scenery and props and helping out with any other jobs. If you can offer help (all is appreciated!) then please contact Jane at [jbickley@ashmead.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:jbickley@ashmead.lewisham.sch.uk)

or ring the school. The EYFS (Nursery/Reception) Nativity is at 2.30 on Tuesday 18th December, KS1 (Y1-2) production is on Monday 17th December at 2.30 and KS2 (Y3-6) production is on Tuesday 18th at 9.30 a.m. Christmas here we come...!

### Calling all Key Stage 2 musicians

If your child would like to take part in a small Christmas band that will perform at the KS2 end of term show, we want to hear from you! Alice Gratton (mum of Max, Rosie and Jessica) will be running the rehearsals BEFORE school in the weeks leading up to the show. Any interested children can let Jane know or see Alice in the playground before or after school.



### Lost learning time

In the last fortnight we have lost 16 hours and 36 minutes in learning time which is an improvement on the last fortnight but we can do better!

These are our lost minutes of learning time this fortnight.

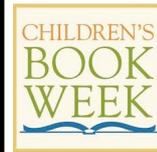


time counts  
making more time  
for learning

Reception F: 38 minutes lost  
Reception L: 35 minutes lost  
Year 1: 1 hour 59 minutes lost  
Year 2H: 50 minutes lost  
Year 2R: 4 hours 8 minutes lost  
Year 3: 1 hour 46 minutes lost  
Year 4: 1 hour 52 minutes lost  
Year 5: 2 hours 44 minutes lost  
Year 6: 2 hours 4 minutes lost

### Book Week Success!

Book Week has been a huge success this week with the children having fun making books, writing stories, crafting pop up creations, building book dens and sharing their favourite stories as well as ending the week in all their wonderful book character costumes today. The book fair took over £1000 which is an amazing achievement and earns us approximately £500 worth of books for the school which is fantastic. As ever, thanks for your support to make this such a success.



### Anti-bullying

Next week is anti-bullying week and the theme this year is 'We are better without bullies'. More details about the week can be found here: <http://www.antibullyingweek.co.uk/> The ParentView results after our recent Ofsted showed that 30% of parents 'didn't know' how bullying was dealt with in school so we have decided to have a whole school focus, which will include informing parents of how we deal with bullying in school. The school council have also been thinking through ideas for activities to launch the week and have today decided to take part in a 'Kindness' project <http://kindnessuk.com/> Watch out for more details of how we get on or ask your child next week for more details of the project.



### Governor News



We are so pleased that the work of the leadership team, the teachers and support staff, the children and the parents has been validated by the judgement that we are a "good" school.

Governors have been spending time since we last wrote at training in Staff appraisal, Raiseonline (the national data produced which shows where we are in comparison with national standards of achievement), the Lewisham School Profile, which compares where Ashmead is in relation to other Lewisham schools, Governor Induction training, and the Lewisham governors AGM.

We also enjoyed meeting many parents briefly at parents evenings, and would like to say a big thank you to all those of you that took the time to fill out our questionnaire - it was wonderful to get such a great response. We will share the results with you later in the year, when we have had time to sort the feedback into themes. At our governing body meeting this week we restructured the committees, creating a Children, Families and Community committee which has a particular remit which includes communication with parents, strengthening parents and carers involvement, hearing more of the pupils voice and making stronger links with our community.

Finally thank you to all those who have shown an interest in standing as parent governor. We look forward very much to hearing more from each of you and to giving all parents and carers an opportunity to vote on 30th November. There is still time to be nominated as long as you respond by midday on Monday. Please see the parentmail which went out on 8 November for more details, or look on the Governors page of our blog.

Carolyn Mumby  
Chair of Governors