



Dates for the diary

2nd - 6th March: Book Week

2nd March: Chris Powling author visit (plus book sale after school)

3rd March: Big Foot KS1 drama workshops

3rd March: Family Reading experience - 3.30 pm, everyone welcome

4th March: Parent-Teacher meetings 3.50 - 7.30pm

5th March: World Book Day - book character dress up day!

6th March: Big Foot KS2 drama workshops

6th March: **PTA Quiz Night, 7.00 for 7.30pm start (tickets £5)**

KS2 maths workshops: March 9th (Y6), 10th (Y4S), 11th (Y4E), 12th (Y5) and 13th (Y3). All from 9.00 - 9.45 am.

18th March: Y1, Y3 and Y4 dance showcase: 2.45 pm in the main hall

19th March: Y1 class assembly - 9.15 am

19th March: Y2, Y5 and Y6 dance showcase: 2.45 pm in the main hall

23rd - 25th March: Y4E on school journey

24th March: Y6 on school trip to London

25th - 27th March: Y4S on school journey

26th March: Y2V class assembly - 9.15 am

**30th March - 10th April
Easter break**

13th April: Children back to school

17th April: Y4 trip to Roman Villa

**Thursday 7th May: INSET day
School used as a polling station
(school closed to children)**

11th - 15th May: KS2 SATs week

12th May: Y1 trip to Greenwich Ecology Park

World Book Day 2015

Just a reminder that next week is World Book Day and we will be inviting everyone to dress up as a character from a book. We always look forward to seeing the creative costumes the children come up with...



PTA Quiz Night

Only a week to go until our annual PTA quiz night (Friday 6th March). The quiz will start at 7.30 so come before and enjoy a complimentary drink (included in your ticket price of just £5). Tickets are available before and after school. See a member of the



PTA. This is an adult only event.

Family Reading Experience

Hopefully you will have seen the posters around school and received the parentmail about next week's Family Reading Experience after school on Tuesday 3rd March. There will be lots of activities happening in the hall, including bookmark and puppet making, a book exchange and places to enjoy a variety of books and stories with your child.



If you would like your child to take part in the book exchange, please bring a book with you on the day and swap it for a new story! Simple.

As we have book week coming up next week, you might also be interested in this article about the importance of reading to your child. Only 17% of parents of children aged 9 - 11 read aloud to their children. Read the article and see how important it is to keep reading to (and with) your child! <http://www.readbrightly.com/importance-of-reading-aloud-to-big-kids/>

Dance shows coming up!

You might remember the fantastic dance shows that all the children from Y1 - Y6 put on last year? Well, this year they're doing it again and you are, of course, invited. The children have been working on some musical theatre numbers with our Sports Coach Leanne and we would like to invite you to watch them showcase their learning. Y1, Y3 and Y4 will do their dances at 2.45pm on Wednesday 18th March and Y2, Y5 and Y6 will do their dances at 2.45pm on Thursday 19th March. As there is only one show per class and there are a



number of classes showcasing their work on each day, we anticipate that the hall will get very full! Therefore we ask that you arrive in time to be there for the start of the show - **latecomers might not be able to be admitted to the hall if it would disturb the children.** Thanks for your understanding and cooperation.

Calling all scientists... Spinning eggs Have a go at this egg-speriment!

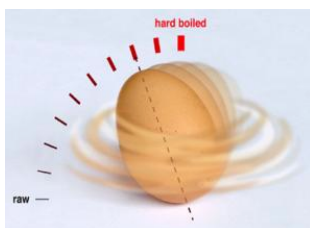
How do you tell the difference between a hard-boiled egg and a raw egg without cracking them? Can you spin an egg and make it stand on end?

What you need:

- Hard-boiled egg
- Raw egg
- Kitchen table
- Marker pen

How to:

- Ask an adult to hard-boil the egg for you.
- Label the hard-boiled egg with a H. Label the raw egg with a R.
- Spin both the eggs on the kitchen table. What do you notice?
- Spin both the eggs again. stop them by putting your finger on them lightly. What do you notice?
- Put the raw egg to one side. Spin the hard-boiled egg again and make it spin very fast. What do you notice?
- The hard-boiled egg should spin on its end!



What's happening?

Now you can tell the difference between hard-boiled eggs and raw eggs, just by spinning them!

Hard-boiled eggs are easy to start spinning and easy to stop spinning.

Raw eggs are harder to start spinning and keep turning a little bit when you try to stop them.

Why?

Hard-boiled eggs are solid inside. In the raw egg, the liquid inside the egg slides about and stops the egg from spinning as fast.

When you stop the hard-boiled egg, it stops quickly. When you stop the raw egg, it keeps turning a little bit. You have only stopped the shell, not the liquid inside. The liquid is still moving, which causes the shell to keep turning.

Hard-boiled eggs will spin on their end if you spin them fast enough. The egg saves energy by spinning on its end and making a smaller circle.

Parent - Teacher Meetings



Parent-Teacher Meetings

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended last night's Parent-Teacher meetings. If you have not seen your child's teacher yet then we will see you next Wednesday (4th March - 3.50 - 7.30pm). Please check with the teacher if you are unsure about the time of your appointment.

This is usually our last Parent-Teacher meeting of the year as we do comprehensive reports in the summer term. This year however we would like to offer a third Parent-Teacher meeting in which you will receive and discuss your child's end of year report. The dates for these meetings will be Thursday 2nd and Tuesday 7th July so make sure you put them in the diary now!

Author visit next Monday (3rd March)

*Don't forget
that author*



*Chris Powling will be in school on
Monday and will be signing and
selling books after school. Books
are priced from £4.50 - £6.00*



'My Maths' and 'Bug Club'

Don't forget to sign on with your child to their Bug Club and My Maths accounts.



MyMaths.co.uk

Governor News - Governor Visit

As part of my role as a member of the Children Families and Community committee I visited a KS2 assembly on 10th February. The assembly used the focus from one of the Ashmead values, Empathy, to help children think about the importance of recognising and not using discriminatory language with each other.

After a demonstration of what an empathic response might look like, using one of the children as a volunteer, the children followed up on some work done in a previous assembly last year to identify the different kinds of discriminatory language that might be used, and the importance of valuing differences and each other. The children were asked to reflect further about "*which of these areas are we doing well at Ashmead, i.e. which kinds of discriminatory language hardly ever happens. Which is the biggest problem, one that we could do better at? What can we do about it?*" This will be followed up by further work in assemblies and another governor visit to talk to children in a smaller group. I was impressed throughout by the calm and positive behaviour of the children and their eagerness to participate and think carefully about the issues. It was lovely to see the Ashmead values in action. I was also pleased to see that children from all the different year groups that have their work chosen for display in the reception area of the school by their class teachers are praised for perseverance, the editing of their own work and their creativity, as well as for achievement.



Carolyn Mumby