



Dates for the diary

2nd Dec: Y2 trip to St. Paul's Cathedral and Monument

4th Dec: 9.15 am: Guitar, ukulele and harmonica assembly

Saturday 6th Dec: Christmas Fair

9th Dec: 9.15 am Drumming assembly

9th Dec: Reception trip to cinema to see 'Frozen'

10th Dec: Children's Christmas Lunch

11th Dec: Nursery trip to The Albany

12th Dec: Christmas Jumper Day!

12th Dec: 9.30 am: Open Morning for Prospective Reception Parents

15th Dec: 9am - KS2 Christmas sing-a-long

16th Dec: 2.30 pm: KS1 production

17th Dec: Y5 visiting Deptford Green School

18th Dec: 2.30 pm: EYFS Christmas show

22nd December - 2nd January
Christmas break

5th Jan: INSET day
(school closed to children)

6th Jan: Children back to school

16th - 20th February
February half term break

23rd Feb: Children back to school

30th March - 10th April
Easter break

13th April: Children back to school

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

25th - 29th May
May half term break

Super Science Week

What a busy week! We have had visitors in, trips out, family challenge evenings and a variety of workshops and exciting classroom activities to take us through Science Week. If you would like to extend the Science learning then you might like to try this activity at home this weekend.

'Somewhere over the Rainbow'

What you need:

A glass or clear plastic cup
Water
Red food colouring
Runny honey
Vegetable or sunflower oil
Washing up liquid



NB: The oil and food colouring can cause stains and damage fabric, so be careful. Ask an adult for help if you need to.

How to:

1. Squeeze or spoon some runny honey into the bottom of the glass until it is 2-3cm deep.
2. Tip the glass slightly and slowly squeeze the same amount of washing up liquid down the inside of the glass (avoid making bubbles).
3. In a jug, add a few drops of red food colouring to a small amount of water.
4. Again, tip the glass and very carefully pour the coloured water in to the glass. Make sure you dribble it down the side so that it doesn't mix with the washing up liquid.
5. Finally, tip the glass and gently pour the same depth of oil down the inside of the glass.
6. Stand the glass upright and admire your liquid rainbow.

What's happening?

The different liquids all have different densities. Density means how much "stuff" there is in something. Not the thing's weight nor its size, but how many atoms it has in it. For example, if you had a shoe box full of feathers and another full of stones, which would be heaviest? It would be the one full of stones. Although both boxes are the same size, the box full of stones has a lot more "stuff" stuffed into it, whereas the box of feathers is mostly air. We say the stones are denser than the feathers. So in our liquid rainbow, honey is the densest layer and sits at the bottom of the glass, then the washing up liquid comes next and floats on top. The honey is also very viscous (thick) which stops it mixing, but we'll deal with that another time). The layer of coloured water is less dense than the washing up liquid, and finally the oil is the least dense of all and floats on top. Voila! A rainbow in a glass.

Just, whatever you do, don't try drinking it!

End of term dates for the dairy

The next three weeks before Christmas (yes, only three weeks of term left!) are very busy ones and we would like to invite you in to as many events as possible to share our Christmas cheer. Why not grab your diary or calendar and put these dates in so you don't miss out!

Thursday 4th December: 9.15 am Guitar ukulele and harmonica assembly

Saturday 6th December: 11 am - 2 pm PTA Christmas Fair

Tuesday 9th December: 9.15 am Drumming assembly

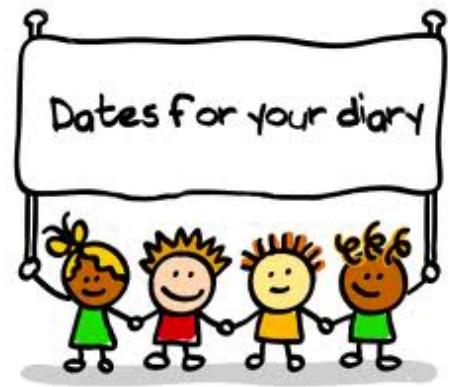
Monday 15th December: 9.15 am KS2 (Y3 - Y6) Christmas sing-a-long

Tuesday 16th December: 2.30 pm KS1 (Y1 and Y2) Christmas Production

Thursday 18th December: 2.30 pm EYFS (Nursery and Reception)

Christmas Show

We hope to see you at some of these events.



COMMITTEE

PTA AGM - we have a new committee!

Thank you to everyone who came to last week's PTA AGM and cheese and wine evening. We now have a brand new committee who have already got stuck in organising the Christmas fair next weekend. Thanks to everyone who has volunteered their time. The committee members are now: Louise Hill (Chair), Helen Sackville (Treasurer), Suzie Banner (Secretary), Rachel Booth, Faye Howard,, Bryan Benson, Bernie Roberts, Maria Munroe, Nannette Butler, Vicky Lynch, Kasia Fleming, Meirion Davies, Jill Neilan and Seeta Muller.

Christmas is coming...

As well as all the activities we would like to invite you in to celebrate with us (see list above) we also have other Christmas events that you will need to have in your diary!

Friday 12th December is Christmas Jumper Day! Come in a Christmassy jumper and donate £2 to Save the Children.

Wednesday 10th December is our whole school Christmas dinner day. We encourage as many children as possible to join us for this (there is a vegetarian option) and the office need to know if you would like to do this as soon as possible. All children in Reception, Y1 and Y2 are entitled to a free meal. The cost of the meal for children in KS2 is £1.90. Please let the office know by Tuesday 2nd December at the latest if you would like your child to have a Christmas meal instead of their usual packed lunch.



Thanks!

Is it too early to wish you Happy Christmas...?

'My Maths' and 'Bug Club'

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



Before and after school arrangements

Hopefully everyone saw the letter that came out yesterday about before and after school arrangements. Please let the school know if your child is to be collected by someone else as we are unable to release your child to another parent unless we have had notification from you. These measures are to keep your children safe so we appreciate your support and understanding with this.



Governor News from Andy McPartland New Staff Governor

Governors

I have recently become the staff governor for Ashmead School and look forward to the new experiences that lie ahead. I decided to put myself forward for the position in order to give myself greater experience of how things work on a whole school level, but also with the hope that I can share my experiences and skills as a teacher to make sure Ashmead is continuing as the fantastic school it is. I'm currently teaching Year 6 and having a wonderful year so far. We've recently performed Macbeth to a live audience. It's experiences such as these which we as teachers are really keen on providing for the children and I'm sure the memories will live long after year 6 move onto secondary school next year. If you see me around school please feel free to come and say hello and ask any questions you might have. I'll always do my best to answer them!