



Ashmead Primary School



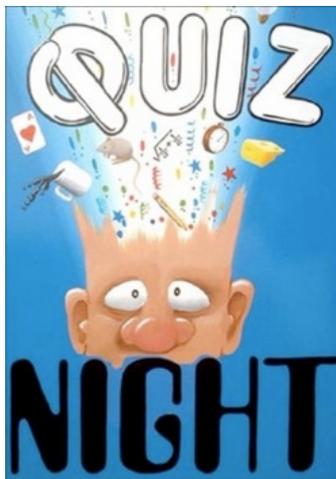
<http://ashmeadprimary.wordpress.com/>

8th February 2013

Dates for the diary

- 12th Feb:** Parents' Coffee Morning
- 13th Feb:** Y4 on walk around local area
- 15th Feb:** Y6 class assembly - 9.30
- 18th - 22nd Feb (inc) Half term**
- 25th Feb - 1st March:** 'Take One Picture' Art Week
- 26th Feb:** Astrodome (Planetarium) visiting Key Stage 2 classes
- 27th Feb:** Reception classes visiting National Gallery (am)/Dentist in visiting Reception and Y1 (pm)
- 28th Feb:** Y6 visiting Science Museum and Y5 Parent-Teacher Meetings
- 1st March:** Y1 class assembly - 9.30 and Y2H Cake Sale - 3.30
- 1st March:** PTA Quiz Night - 7.00 for 7.30 p.m. start (adults only)
- 6th March:** Phonics workshop for Reception parents
- 7th March:** World Book Day
- 8th March:** Y2H class assembly - 9.30
- 12th March:** Volunteer readers training
- 15th March:** Y4 trip to Museum of Docklands/Y6 to Museum of London and Y3 class assembly - 9.30
- 16th March:** PTA Table Top Sale
- 19th March:** Nursery trip to Planetarium
- 21st March:** Parent-Teacher Meetings
- 22nd March:** Y2R class assembly - 9.30 and Y6 end of year celebrations fundraising cake sale - 3.30
- 26th March:** Parent-Teacher Meetings
- 29th March - 12th April (inc) Easter Holiday**

PTA upcoming events



Hopefully you have seen the posters around school or had a parentmail about our PTA Quiz Night on **Friday 1st March**. This has been an event on the school calendar for the last couple of years and is a fun night out as well as a chance to raise funds for the PTA. Tickets are just £5 - you don't have to be in a team to enter, come along and join a table on the night. The quiz night will be taking place in the school hall, doors open at 7 p.m. with a start time of 7.30. Why not bring a bottle, order a take away and flex those quiz muscles. See you there!

Another date for the diary is **Saturday 16th March** when we will be running a table top sale. More details will be in the next newsletter so look out for more details of how you can become involved.



My Maths/Espresso

We have been looking recently in school at ways to enrich learning at home and have subscribed to two online learning resource websites. The first is



'Espresso' (www.espresso.co.uk) which is a

video rich cross curricular resource suitable for children from Foundation Stage to Y6 which can consolidate what the children have been learning at school. The sign in details will accompany this newsletter. The second website is called My Maths (www.mymaths.co.uk) which we are launching with a couple of year groups after half term. This will enable us to tailor maths home learning to meet your child's needs. If you do not have access to a computer at home, there is free access at libraries.



Lost learning time

From next week we will be closing the playground gates at 9.05 a.m. and will be monitoring all lateness very closely. All children who arrive late **MUST** report to the school office. **Please make every effort to arrive at school on time.**

These are our lost minutes of learning time this fortnight.

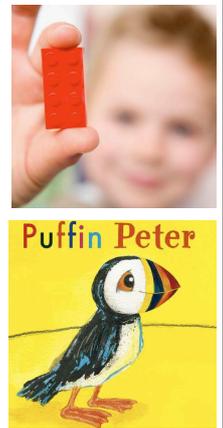
- Reception F: 1 hour 27 minutes lost
- Reception L: 29 minutes lost
- Year 1: 3 hours 32 minutes lost
- Year 2H: 1 hour 50 minutes lost
- Year 2R: 1 hour 58 minutes lost
- Year 3: 2 hours 29 minutes lost
- Year 4: 2 hours 45 minutes lost
- Year 5: 2 hours 52 minutes lost
- Year 6: 31 minutes lost



Imagine Children's Festival



Are you looking for things to do with the children over half term? The Imagine Children's Festival is running at the Southbank Centre from 11th - 24th February. The festival will be hosting the top names in children's literature, dance, theatre and art. Why not go and enjoy the activities throughout the festival or just take in the atmosphere. Activities include a fun Lego workshop (free) as well as opportunities to make a pop up book with Petr Horacek, the author and illustrator who visited Ashmead last term. Have a look [online](#) for more details.



Volunteers

Last year we had a fantastic band of volunteers who read with the children in different classes. This really bolstered the children's confidence in reading and we could see great progress in those who had that extra support. We are putting out a plea for more volunteers this year! If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or you want to find out more about how to support your child with reading at home, please come to a meeting on **Tuesday 12th March at 9.00 a.m.** Look out for posters around school with more details.

All parents, carers and grandparents welcome!

Coffee Mornings: Starting after half term, we are going to be running regular coffee mornings for parents, carers and grandparents to come along and chat about any concerns they have about their child, share ideas and get information and advice. These will be run by our fantastic learning mentor, Maria. There will be no need to book these, just turn up and you'll be given a warm welcome! The first coffee morning will be straight after drop off time (9.00 - 10.00) on **Tuesday 26th February.**

Parent Workshops: Last term we held two very successful phonics workshops for parents which hopefully gave parents of children in Y1 and Y2 an opportunity to find out more about the teaching and learning of reading, writing and spelling. We would like to offer a workshop this term for parents of children in Reception. This will be on **Wednesday 6th March** from 9.00 - 10.00 a.m. We will send out more details nearer the time.

Future workshops: We would love to know if you would like any future workshops or 'top tip' sessions that would support your child and how you might help them at home. If you have any ideas of what would be useful, please email and we will try to offer sessions accordingly. Email: jbickley@ashmead.lewisham.sch.uk



Governor News

As we reported in our last 'Governor News' the Governing Body have recently formed three new committees: Resources; Curriculum and Achievement and Children Families and Communities. Following this recent re-organisation of the committees the newly formed Children, Families and Communities Committee met for the first time this week. Initial topics for discussion varied from the feedback received from parents (through the survey undertaken at the last parents evening), to school clubs, and the siting of the school noticeboards. The members of this committee are really excited about the opportunity it presents to focus both on the children themselves, and the relationship between the school and families. Thanks to all parents who completed the survey last term, we are compiling a summary of this parent feedback which we will be sending out soon - watch this space! Curriculum and Achievement Committee also met this week, with the main agenda item focusing on a review of how we are doing on our Equalities Objectives, which you can find on the website. We will be taking these forward in a number of ways over the next few months - we will keep you posted! In the meantime if you have any feedback on the objectives, please do let us know. At Wednesday night's full governing body we had a presentation from Sean updating us on progress at the school through his headteacher's report, and then focused in groups to generate questions and feedback about the School Development Plan. We are excited by the progress we have made so far and by the sense that we are working together well as a school community, and we are also aware that there is lots more to do! Thanks to all of you that get involved informally and through the PTA - we really appreciate the difference it makes for our children.