

- Dates for the diary**
- 27th Feb:** Parent Gym session 5
 - 1st March:** World Book Day - Michael Rosen visiting! *Book sale and signing from 3.30pm in small hall.*
 - 2nd March:** London Fire Brigade visiting Y2 and Y5
 - 5th March:** 'The Strings Club' music assembly (children only)
 - 6th March:** Final Parent Gym session
 - 7th March:** Y50 visiting The Ragged Museum
 - 9th March:** Y5J visiting The Ragged Museum
 - 12th March:** National Gallery Outreach working with Reception classes
 - 15th March:** Parent-Teacher meetings - after school
 - 16th March:** Y3 cake sale - 3.30pm
 - 20th March:** Parent-Teacher meetings - after school
 - 23rd March:** PTA 'Spring' event
 - 26th, 27th, 28th and 29th March:** Home Learning Parent Workshops (see previous date sheet for details)
 - 27th March:** Y1 trip to St John's Church
 - 29th March:** Y4 trip to Central London Mosque
 - 29th March:** Last day of Spring term
 - 30th March - 13th April**
Easter break

Attendance

Our whole school attendance (excluding nursery) for the week before half term and last week was 94.99%. It would be great to see this figure rise to nearer our school target of 96%.

Remember: every day counts!

The class attendance figures for last week were:

Year 2:	97.33%
Year 4:	97.07%
Year 3:	97%
Year 6:	96.61%
Year 1:	95.67%
Year 5J:	95.5%
Year 5O:	93.83%
Reception 2:	91.25%
Reception 1:	90.71%



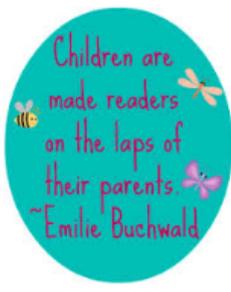
School success starts
with attendance

Home Learning - Reading

It was great to see so many children (and adults) enthused by books and reading last week as part of Book Week and our 'Books for Breakfast' sessions. We really want to carry on this enthusiasm because reading - at home and at school - has a massive impact on children's ability to thrive across all areas and of course promote a life long enjoyment of reading!



We expect ALL children at Ashmead to do home learning in the form of reading every day!



Children in EYFS (Nursery and Reception) should be hearing and talking about books with an adult every day.

Children in Key Stage 1 (Y1 and Y2) should be read to and should be heard reading for around 10 minutes per day.

Children in Key Stage 2 (Y3 - Y6) should read for at least 20 minutes per day. Of course, it is still important for adults to keep reading to older children too!

On the note of exciting reading opportunities, don't forget to come and meet Michael Rosen after school on Thursday! Books will be available for buying and signing.

Safeguarding

To safeguard - to protect from harm or damage with an appropriate measure

For children to feel safe in school it is important that they pass on any issues to adults as soon as possible. If parents become aware of issues, it is important these are dealt with by speaking to school staff ASAP. On rare occasions, parents sometimes speak directly to other children or parents. We have found this to be unhelpful - the chances of emotions getting in the way of resolving the issue are too high - and our expectation is that other children are *never* spoken to directly by parents. Instead, please remember to bring any issue to an appropriate adult; if you feel this isn't dealt with successfully do come to see Jane or Sean.



Our current value

We are currently looking at the value of **Empathy**.

Annual Governor Development Evening

Dean Johnstone, Chair of Governors



Every year the governors have an evening together to examine some of the key issues facing the school in greater depth. This year we looked at the skills and knowledge of the governing body. Having a good spread of skills across the governing body ensures that we can fulfil the legal duties expected of us and hold the school's leadership to account effectively. It is good to know that we have the key skills expected of us. We also looked at some of the processes and measures we can use to have a strategic oversight of school performance. We have developed a 'score card' to do this. This will help us to focus on the key indicators that are most important to the school's success. Governors also considered how we can accelerate the progress of the most vulnerable children in our school. We are determined that every child fulfils their potential and will relentlessly focus on this.

News from Nursery and Reception

Another busy fortnight in EYFS - we were astounded by the turnout for our Books for Breakfast event and the children all looked fantastic in their costumes. I saw some amazing play on Friday that was inspired by their chosen characters; a great opportunity to develop story telling and language. Thanks to all the parents and carers who attended! We can't wait to carry on with our book week theme and meet Michael Rosen this week to tell him all about our learning! Reception have been obsessed with dragons over the past couple of weeks, inspired by the book 'Tell Me a Dragon' and have produced some amazing writing about their favourite literary dragons. Nursery continues to be fascinated by snakes - just look at their beautiful observational drawings of the snakeskin that Sophie found.

Josie Hall

News from Y1, Y2 and Y3

What a book week! The children enjoyed a jam-packed book week last week. Firstly, thank you to all the adults that came to our 'Books for Breakfast' mornings. It was so great to see so many children being supported in their reading and sharing their favourite books with you. Throughout the week, children shared their favourite books and authors and in Y2 we even created our own version of 'Tell me a dragon' as a class book for our book corner. The costumes on Friday were brilliant - check out the blog for pictures of these and the legendary whole school photo! We will be carrying on book week this week with a very special author visit on Thursday from Michael Rosen! He will also be selling and signing books after school from the small hall too, so do stop by!

Emma Dodsworth

News from Y4, Y5 and Y6

Yet another hectic few weeks in Key Stage 2. Year 4 enjoyed a wonderful three days at the Margaret McMillan centre in Wrotham. The children were wonderful and have come home with some memories to treasure for a long time. The children in Year 6 also enjoyed a trip to the Churchill War Rooms in Central London to conclude their topic of Children in War. It was wonderful to see so many parents and family members at our Books for Breakfast events last week which was finished in spectacular style with our character dress up day on Friday.

Andy McPartland

The INCLUSION NEWS

Inclusion News

It's been a busy first week back to term. I have been working closely with the Year 5 team developing the curriculum and with the Year 6 team, supporting the analysis of assessments to ensure our plans for the remaining months of this crucial year are precise. We have already had visits from Drumbeat Outreach, supporting children who have a diagnosis of autism and New Woodlands Outreach, working with children on their self esteem and creating action plans to support positive behaviour to help them as learners. Anne Sheppee from the Specific Learning Difficulties Team has also been in supporting the school with training. As always if you have any queries regarding anything inclusion related then please feel free to email me at dfielding@ashmead.lewisham.sch.uk Alternatively you can find me in the playground most mornings and afternoons.

David Fielding - Assistant Headteacher for Inclusion