

- Dates for the diary**
- 17th Jan:** Y3/4 Basketball tournament
 - 23rd Jan:** Y1A trip to The Science Museum
 - 24th Jan:** Y1E trip to The Science Museum
 - 24th Jan:** Y5/6 Basketball tournament
 - 29th Jan:** Reception R Parent Cafe on Reading
 - 30th Jan:** Reception D Parent Cafe on Reading
 - 1st Feb:** Y3 trip to Butser Farm
 - 4th - 11th Feb:** Take One Picture - Art Week
 - 8th Feb:** Y6J trip to Churchill War Rooms
 - 15th Feb:** Y6L trip to Churchill War Rooms
- Half term break**
18th - 22nd February (inc)
- 26th Feb:** Y2 trip to Greenwich Observatory
 - 27th Feb:** Y2 and Y5 Fire Safety visit
 - 28th March:** 9am - Y3 class assembly
 - 3rd April:** Y4 trip to Central London Mosque
 - 28th April:** 9am - Y5 class assembly
 - 29th April:** Y5 trip to The Ragged Museum
- Easter break**
8th - 22nd April (inc)
23rd April: INSET day

Attendance

Our attendance figures took a disappointing hit before and after the Christmas break. The last two weeks show the lowest attendance of the year so far. We are looking forward to seeing a real improvement this term!

The latest class attendance figures are:

- Year 2: 96.93%
- Year 6L: 96.17%
- Year 1E: 94.87%
- Year 3: 94.26%
- Year 1A: 93.29%
- Reception D: 91.83%
- Year 5: 91.3%
- Year 6J: 90.38%
- Year 4: 88.12%
- Reception R: 86.16%



**Every day
COUNTS!**

School success starts
with attendance

OPAL - Outdoor Play and Learning



As many of you know, a couple of years ago we embarked on a project called OPAL to promote outdoor play and learning. We had our final audit last summer and were awarded a Platinum award, the highest accolade possible, to recognise our positive and active outdoor play. This has meant that now other schools are coming to visit us to see how they can set up similar systems in their schools.

We are also continuing to develop our collections of 'loose parts' for the children to access and play with when outside at break and lunchtimes. We have lots of resources from dressing up to soft toys to various types of bags and purses but we'd still love more! If you have any items that you are getting rid of as part of a post Christmas/new year clear out, do think of us before doing that charity shop run!

We are also looking for any materials that you might have left over from a building or renovation project - bits of coving, guttering, wallpaper etc would all be well used as would mosaic tiles, carpet offcuts, the list goes on! Logs, driftwood, shells and stones are also always welcomed as are larger items like old tyres!

Please bring any donations into school or see Jane or Emma for more details! Thank you.

Safeguarding

Safeguard - to protect from harm or damage with an appropriate measure



As you know, we are always assessing and updating our safeguarding procedures to ensure that children and adults in school are protected from harm. One of the measures we have made huge progress with is limiting the number of unsupervised adults entering the school, particularly at the beginning and end of the school day. Please continue to support this aim by not entering the school via the playground doors (e.g. into the corridor or through the classrooms) to use the toilet, collect lunch boxes or getting to the office. *Thanks for your ongoing support.*

Our current value

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

We have linked this work to our new year resolutions. What are your resolutions? Ask your child about theirs!

News from Nursery and Reception

Welcome back to all EYFS children and families. We've had a busy first week back and everyone seems to have settled back in nicely. This term we will be focusing on story writing and story language. We've kick started this learning by writing and making up our own stories in class; we've had books being made, shows being put on, and drama sessions at the end of the day. Fantastic learning from our youngest children!

A couple of reminders for this term: Children's hair should be tied back and velcro shoes should ideally be worn to enable children to be independent. Thank you

Danielle Sanniti

News from Y4, Y5 and Y6

Welcome back and Happy New Year. Year 1 have started their topic, 'Tomorrow's Engineers' by reading and retelling 'The Three Little Pigs' - look out on the blog for their puppet shows. Year 2 are already enjoying their new topic 'Explorers' and have started the spring term by discovering the differences between Antarctica and the Arctic. They loved the story of Shackleton and have been working on their own exploration stories in literacy. Year 3 are really excited to start their new topic 'Stone Age to Iron Age' and enjoyed being hunter gatherers in the playground, hunting prey and gathering berries!

Emma Dodsworth

News from Y4, Y5 and Y6

Happy New Year from all of us in Key Stage 2. We hope you had a wonderful Christmas break; it's been so lovely to see all of the children back at school this week. The children in Year 4 have begun learning about the Golden Age of Islam. Looking at the origins of the world's second largest religion as well as the creation of the city of Baghdad. In Year 5, the children have switched topics and are now focused on life in Victorian Britain using the novel of Street Child as inspiration. The children in Year 6 will continue their topic of Children in War and are looking forward to visiting the Churchill War Rooms in central London to consolidate their learning in class.

Please remember that the children should all be reading for 20 minutes per night as well as practising their weekly spellings and the times tables they are learning in class.

Andy McPartland

Sports News

This term in PE all children from Y1 - Y6 will be exploring Basketball and Gymnastics. We are looking forward to the upcoming Basketball competitions for key stage 2 this month. We will also be introducing two new clubs this term - Non contact Boxing for Y3 - Y5 and Football for Y6. There is also space in our Multi-sports club for Years 1 and 2. Multi-sports is just what it says in the title, a variety of sports, mostly ball based, like basketball, football, hockey etc. We can tailor the sessions to suit the children's interests and skills. If you have a child in Y1 or Y2 and would like them to be considered for a space then do please contact the office as soon as possible.

Please also let us know if you have any local links with sporting clubs or facilities that we could use at Ashmead. Thank you.

Rachel Azra

The INCLUSION NEWS

Inclusion News

It's been a busy first week quality assuring the provision mapping for our children with special educational needs. All teachers have reviewed and updated their provision for children with additional needs and have put a plan of action together to support them and the rest of the class this week.

As always you can contact me on dfielding@ashmead.lewisham.sch.uk or find me in the playground.

David Fielding