



Ashmead Primary School

<https://myashmead.org>

4th December 2023

Dates for the diary

- 6th Dec:** Y3 trip to Blackheath Village
- 7th Dec:** 'Save the Children' Christmas Jumper Day
- 8th Dec:** Open morning for prospective Reception parents
- 11th Dec:** Flu nasal spray day (YR - Y6) and Y5/6 Christmas songs performance - 3pm
- 12th Dec:** Y2 Nativity - 2pm (approx 30 minutes), 2 tickets per family
- 13th Dec:** height and weight checks (Reception and Y6) and whole school Christmas lunch and Y3/4 Christmas songs performance - 3pm
- 14th Dec:** Reception and Y1 Christmas songs performance - 3pm
- 20th Dec:** Last day of autumn term
- 21st Dec -5th Jan (inc) Christmas break**
- 8th Jan: INSET Day (school closed to children)**
- 9th Jan:** Children back at school
- 10th Jan:** Y5 Shakespeare Schools Festival workshops (in school)
- 12th Jan:** Y1 trip to Cutty Sark
- 15th Jan:** Ashmead Choir singing at O2 as part of Young Voices (all day plus evening performance)
- 16th and 23rd Jan:** Y4 trips to St Alfege Church
- 26th Jan:** PTA coffee morning (9am in school)

Attendance

Our overall attendance for Reception - Year 6 for the last two weeks has risen a little to 95.13%. We know as the weather changes children might pick up a cough or cold but do please keep bringing them in to school every day they are well enough to be here. Thanks for your ongoing cooperation.

The class attendance figures for last fortnight are:

- Elm (Y2): 97.94%
- Lime (Y4): 97.83%
- Pine (Y4): 97.71%
- Fig (Y1): 96.67%
- Maple (Y2): 96.17%
- Juniper (Y5): 95.61%
- Cypress (Y6): 95.48%
- Oak (Y3): 95.21%
- Sycamore (YR): 94%
- Rowan (YR): 93.53%
- Birch (Y3): 93.41%
- Aspen (Y5): 92.17%
- Holly (Y1): 91.67%

Attendance Matters



Every Day Counts...

Thanks to all the volunteers that helped out before, during and after the Ashmead PTA Winter Fair on Saturday.

It was a great success!

Update about how much was raised to follow...



Christmas events

As you'll know from the dates that went out in September and have been in the yellow 'dates for the diary' section, each year group from Reception - Y6 will each be doing a Christmas singing event for parents before the end of term. Year 2 will be performing our annual nativity production on Tuesday 12th December, there will be two allocated tickets per family (these will be free but we will be asking for any voluntary contributions on the day of the performance!) Your child will bring these tickets home later this week. For other years, the children will be performing some Christmas songs in the hall at 3pm on the days listed in the dates section. These events are not ticketed but because of the hall capacity and not wanting to overcrowd the hall/have to turn people away, we ask that parents and carers bring a maximum of 2 friends/family to these events too. Thanks as always for your understanding and cooperation.

Parent Governor Election

Thank you to the five parents who put themselves forward as a potential parent governor. It was a very close election and the winning candidate was Hazal Shevket. Thanks to all the candidates for creating a strong field for parents to choose from. We look forward to welcoming Hazal to the governing body.



Enrichment clubs have finished!

Just a reminder that enrichment clubs have finished for the term (with the exception of choir who have some extra 'Young Voices' rehearsals. After School Care is still available from 3.30 - 6pm with Omega Sportz (see their website for booking details). Enrichment clubs for next term will be announced once finalised.

Safeguarding



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

Just a reminder to please stay out of the road when walking to and from school. We are a School Street at the beginning and end of the school day but cars can (and do) still come down the road. Please keep to the pavements and model good road safety to your children. Thank you.

SCARLET FEVER - We have had a couple of cases of Scarlet Fever in school over the last few weeks so if you suspect your child has Scarlet Fever (e.g. any of these symptoms - sore throat/high temperature/headache/sandpapery rash) then please go to your GP because getting antibiotics as soon as possible is important. Children who have been diagnosed with Scarlet Fever **should not return to school until at least 24 hours after starting antibiotics.**

Good hand washing and the catch it/bin it/kill it approach to germ hygiene are both important. We emphasise both at school and would recommend doing the same at home. Please also make sure any scrapes or wounds are thoroughly cleaned and covered. More details about Scarlet fever can be found here on the NHS website: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/scarlet-fever/>

Lower School News

(Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2)

It's been a busy few weeks in the Lower School - we've been embracing the festive season in addition to our topic learning. There's been a lot of excitement exploring the changing state of water in the frosty weather: hot water kettles to keep hands warm, steamy water, icicles and frost ice skating. It's also been a busy couple of weeks full of festive singing and nativity rehearsals. Reception and Y1 are enthusiastically rehearsing their Christmas songs ahead of the 'Sing-Along' and Nursery will be recording a song and sharing this on Tapestry next week. Y2 continue to rehearse, ready to perform their first show at Ashmead in a week!

As you enjoy the festive period, please save any plastic or metal bottle tops/caps, corks, ribbons or wrapping paper - we'd love these for our workshop areas and can recycle your used wrapping paper next year for festive collages. Thank you in advance.



Emma Dodsworth - Assistant Head and Lower School Lead

Upper School

News (Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6)



It was wonderful to see so many families at the Winter Fair on Saturday, the perfect way to kick off the festive season! Please look carefully at the dates for the diary as we have events coming up that you won't want to miss. As we venture further into winter, please make sure your child is coming to school dressed for the weather and wherever possible naming these items as it makes it so much easier for us to reunite them with their owners if they get lost.

I've had the privilege of visiting KS2 classes over the last couple of weeks and have seen some incredible learning. Y3 have been writing excellent recounts (inspired by the book *The Boy Who Grew Dragons*), Y4 have been learning about animal adaptations in science, Y5 visited the Regent's Park Mosque (where the tour guide was so impressed by their knowledge and their behaviour was outstanding - big shout out to Kacper for showing kindness to fellow tube passengers) and Y6 have been challenging themselves with some really tricky fractions work.

Nicole Cox - Upper School Lead

Inclusion Matters - International Day of Persons with Disabilities

An estimated 1.3 billion people in the world have some form of disability. This represents 16% of the world's population and includes those disabilities that are visible and those that are invisible such as Autistic Spectrum Disorder and ADHD. Each year on 3rd December, the International Day of Persons with Disabilities promotes the rights and well-being of people with disabilities around the world. You can find out more here: <https://www.un.org/en/observances/day-of-persons-with-disabilities> and can support this work at home by teaching your children to treat those who are different with kindness and respect or even donating to an organisation that supports people with disabilities.



As always if there is something you would like to discuss, please email me at dfielding@ashmead.lewisham.sch.uk and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

David Fielding - Assistant Head and Inclusion Lead