



# Ashmead Primary School

<https://myashmead.org>

22nd April 2024

## Dates for the diary

**25th April:** Reception classes visiting Breakspears Mews Garden

**26th April:** PTA coffee morning

**1st May:** PTA wine tasting fundraiser - 7pm

**2nd May:** Y5 Aspen class assembly - 9.10am in school hall

**8th May:** Marimba performance and workshop with group from Botswana

**9th May:** Y2 Maple class assembly - 9.10am in school hall

**13th - 16th May:** Y6 SATs week

**13th - 23rd May:** Y4 Lime swimming sessions (daily)

**16th May:** Y1 Fig class assembly - 9.10am in school hall

**17th May:** PTA planting - 9am and Y2 Suffragettes' local trip

**23rd May:** PTA Cake and Plant Sale and Y1 trip to Deptford Railway Meadow

**24th May: INSET day**  
**(school closed to children)**  
**27th - 31st May (inc)**  
**Half term break**

**3rd June:** Children back at school

**11th June:** Y1 trip to Greenwich Ecology Park

**13th June:** Y4 Pine class assembly - 9.10am in school hall

**14th June:** PTA planting - 9am

**17th - 21st June:** Design Technology 'Fixberts' week - details to follow!

## Attendance

Below are the overall attendance figures for Reception – Year 6 for the last week of the Spring Term and our first week back after the Easter holidays. Overall attendance was 91.62% - very far below our school target of 96%. Today's attendance was 95.6%, still below our target but better than the last fortnight! Let's make this term a great one for attendance and get all the children here every day. This includes the days next to weekends... please see later in the newsletter for more details.

Pine (Y4): 95.37%  
Cypress (Y6): 94.97%  
Juniper (Y5): 94.91%  
Aspen (Y5): 94.44%  
Elm (Y2): 94.43%  
Holly (Y1): 94.42%  
Maple (Y2): 93.89%  
Rowan (YR): 91.11%  
Oak (Y3): 88.89%  
Sycamore (YR): 88.52%  
Birch (Y3): 87.73%  
Fig (Y1): 86.28%  
Lime (Y4): 86.11%

## Attendance Matters



**Every Day Counts....**

## PTA News

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **Friday 26 April @ 9am, PTA Talk & Coffee Morning SCHOOL**

This Friday we will be hosting a coffee morning and giving a short presentation on what PTA HQ have been working on since the start of the school year. We will share what has been raised, intentions for funds raised, along with our plans going forward. We'll also be discussing roles within the PTA should you be interested in getting involved.

#### **Wednesday 1st May @ 7pm, Wine Tasting Fundraiser THE BROOKMILL**

Join us for an evening of wine with Alun Coppack, wine expert and WSET Diploma Student. You will be guided through 6 mouth watering and accessible sparkling, white and red wines. The evening promises to be full of fun and learning and will help raise funds for the Ashmead PTA. So book a babysitter, invite a friend and secure your tickets now! \*over 18s only

The Brookmill Pub, Wednesday 1st May, 7-9pm

Tickets £45, available here: <https://ashmead-school-pta.sumupstore.com/product/wine-tasting-fundraiser>

As part of the tasting, guests will receive:

- 6 generous tasting sized portions of wine
- Mini cheese board to enjoy throughout the evening
- Factsheet and tasting notes for all 6 wines

Tickets are limited and being sold online only - cut off for sales Friday 26th April.

### **SAVE THE DATE:**

Our next Parents' Social will be Tuesday 25th June where we will be hosting an evening of football! We will be showing England's Euros match on the big screen upstairs @ The Brookmill. Tickets £2, more info to follow.

Many Thanks, Ashmead PTA [ashmeadschoolpta@gmail.com](mailto:ashmeadschoolpta@gmail.com)



## Attendance - Every Day Counts



We want to draw parents' attention to a pattern of attendance we have noticed. On Mondays and Fridays we are seeing dips in attendance compared to the rest of the week. Improving attendance is a priority for the school. Children's well-being is strongly supported by being here every day. And there is a very strong link between good attendance and good academic outcomes, e.g. only 40% of children categorised as persistently absent (where attendance for the year is below 90%) achieve good Year Six results compared to 84% of those with good attendance. If a child misses one day their attendance for that work immediately drops to 80% and even with perfect attendance thereafter it will take four weeks to get their attendance back up to the school target of 96%. So please remember that Mondays and Fridays are just as important as the other three days in the week! Let's work together to help all our children have the best attendance they can.



## Safeguarding - Nuts in packed lunches

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

Just a reminder that we do have children in school with nut allergies so please do not pack nuts or any products containing nuts in your child's lunch boxes, this includes peanut butter, Nutella or hazelnut spread or nuts in

brownies or cereal bars. This is particularly important to remember when the children are taking a packed lunch on a trip. Thanks for your cooperation.



## News from Lower School (Nursery, Reception, Y1 and Y2)

Spring has sprung, and with it comes a burst of life and learning! We are enjoying observing the PTA flowers that are in full bloom and the bluebells and wild garlic

flowers in Forest School.

In Reception and Nursery we are turning our attention to the wonders of gardening. If you have any large flower pots you no longer need, soil or cuttings (especially herbs), we'd love to put them to good use as we develop mini gardens in our outdoor areas. If you have any logs or cut offs from decking we can recycle these into flower beds too - get in touch! Thank you.

Year 2 have begun their topic The Suffragettes: Bravery and Fear and are learning about remarkable women like Emmeline Pankhurst, Rosa May Billinghurst, and Emily Davison. Year 1 are exploring the five animal groups in their new topic 'Claws, Feathers and Fins' and learning about the characteristics of different animals.

**Emma Dodsworth - Assistant Head and Lower School Lead**

## News from Upper School (Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6)

Welcome back – we hope you all had a lovely spring break. We've sprung forward and British Summer Time is here but the weather hasn't quite caught up with us yet so please do ensure that your child comes to school dressed for the ever-changing weather

– coats will still be required for the foreseeable! Summer means lots of things to look forward to, including our swimming sessions in Year 4, and also the various statutory end of year assessments. In KS2 Year 4 will complete the Multiplication Table Check (MTC) in early June and have been working hard all year to know all of their tables up to 12 x 12. If your child hasn't been accessing TTRS (Times Tables Rockstars) at home, it's not too late to start! Those that regularly work on their times tables at home, as well as at school, are more fluent and confident when tackling the questions. In May, Year 6 take their SATs. Tests are just one measure of all the amazing things your children can do and, as long as they give everything their best, we can't ask any more of them. If you have any questions about these assessments, please contact [admin@ashmead.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:admin@ashmead.lewisham.sch.uk)

**Nicole Cox - Upper School Lead**



## Inclusion Matters



This half term, Kate Carroll, our speech and language therapist will be working with children across the school to support them with their receptive and expressive language difficulties. I work closely with class teachers to identify those children who may need this type of support. If you are concerned about the development of your child's speech and/or language, please get in touch with me if you haven't

already done so and we can have a conversation. You can reach me as always at [dfielding@ashmead.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:dfielding@ashmead.lewisham.sch.uk)

**David Fielding - Assistant Head and Inclusion Lead**