

Ashford Park Primary School Newsletter  
10<sup>th</sup> February 2023  
*Inspiring a love for lifelong learning*



**Happy half term**

We wish our children and our school community a restful half term and look forward to welcoming you back to school on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February, with gates open from 08:30.

PLEASE be reminded that Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February, is a staff training day and the school will therefore be closed to the children.

**News from Mrs Tarrant**



After fourteen years as the Head teacher of Ashford Park Primary School, Mrs Tarrant will be leaving our school at the end of this summer term.

The Governing Body of Ashford Park Primary School, are working with a national recruitment company to recruit a new Head teacher for APPS, who will start at the school in September 2023.

Please find a personal letter from Mrs Tarrant, attached to this newsletter.

**Science - fabulous home learning!**



***'My Buzzer and Light Game using a parallel circuit'***

*For my learning, I worked with my brother and mum to create this game. When you switch it on, the game is to use the 'wand' and make it round the course without touching the wire. If you do, the buzzer goes off with the light and you have to start again!"*

By Lily T

**Year 1 Bocketts Farm trip**



On Monday Year 1 went on our school trip to Bocketts Farm.



We had a brilliant day and saw lots of animals including goats, sheep, cows and even 8 piglets that were a few days old!





We had an animal handling workshop where we stroked a rabbit, guinea pig and chicken and learnt all about the animals and their habitats.



The tractor ride was great fun, even if it was a bit bumpy!



We also had the opportunity to meet and pet the horse, Vanilla! Finally, we watched the pig race and Porkahontas won!



### **Girls' football Ashford Park v Laleham**

On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February Ashford Park hosted Laleham Church of England girls football team for a league game. Georgia opened the scoring, putting the home side one goal up.



Laleham then equalised, but a powerful strike from Evie made the score 2-1 at half time. The second half was an extremely close encounter with goalkeeper Sophie having to make some game-changing saves. In the final minutes Annie scored a brilliant solo goal making the final score 3-1. Well done Ashford Park!

### **Safeguarding hotspot**

Following our recent sessions with Marilyn Hawes, CEO and founder of Freedom From Abuse, we asked parents and carers why there was such poor attendance to the parent sessions. We have established that the main reasons were that

the evening session was too early for some of our working parents and that being held in person at the school meant that childcare became a barrier. We have listened - and are extremely pleased to announce that Marilyn has agreed to conduct an **online session for parents and carers at 7pm on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March.** Please put the date in your diary as you are the most important and effective person in your child's life who can keep them safe.

### **Further Safeguarding information**

Please read the attached important messages about how to keep your children safe online. Every message is in response to some common themes that were raised by the children in years 3, 4, 5 and 6.

We also wanted to share some feedback from parents who attended the sessions in school:

"Total eye opener and I CAN stop this." "Taught me loads." "Can now feel confident to talk about it and be more vigilant." "Hugely valuable and far more aware now of photo sharing harms!" "Will be enforcing the advice given and thought that it was really good as we all learnt on the same day." "Much greater insight to the hidden harms." "Parental controls will now

be ON and some apps and games deleted."

## A MESSAGE FROM THE SPELTHORNE SCHOOLS' PRAYER GROUP

It continues to be our joy and privilege to pray for you, your child/children and for all who support their educational development.

We meet monthly on a Friday morning 10am-12noon to share prayer requests (confidentially) from the nurseries, playgroups, infant, primary & senior schools we support. We meet in a relaxed setting where under school age children are very welcome.

Our forthcoming dates are:

February 24<sup>th</sup>, March 24<sup>th</sup>, April 28<sup>th</sup>, May 26<sup>th</sup>, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, July 14<sup>th</sup>

If you have a desire to meet with us to pray for your children / grandchildren, any school-related issues, or would like to share concerns in prayer, please get in touch for more details - we'd love to hear from you.

Val Edwards, Email: [info@spelthorneschoolsprayergroup.org](mailto:info@spelthorneschoolsprayergroup.org)

# Achievement

**MAC – Making Attendance Count**

## Whole School Attendance 92.3%

Congratulations to the Top Ted winners last week being Hedgehog Class with 98.3%.

Congratulations to the Top Dog winner being Swallow Class with 99.1%. Fantastic!



## INSET Days 2022/23

20<sup>th</sup> February 2023

3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023

### February

10<sup>th</sup> – Last day of half term, children finish at normal time 3.15pm

13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> Half term

20<sup>th</sup> – INSET Day

### March

1<sup>st</sup> – Reception trip to the Lookout Centre

2<sup>nd</sup> – Year 4 trip to Watts Gallery Moorhen Class

3<sup>rd</sup> – World Book Day

3<sup>rd</sup> – Year 2 trip to Windsor Castle

7<sup>th</sup> – Year 5 & 6 workshops, The Railway Children by M & M Productions

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> – Reception height and weight checks

10<sup>th</sup> – KS2 Sharing our Learning at 2.45pm. Parents to enter via Station Crescent gate

15<sup>th</sup> – Year 4 trip to Watts Gallery Heron Class

16<sup>th</sup> – Year 4 trip to Watts Gallery Kingfisher Class

16<sup>th</sup> – Fox Class Assembly at 2.40pm (gates open at 2.30pm)

20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> Scholastic Book Fair in the school hall, 3.15-4.15pm

23<sup>rd</sup> – Mole Class Assembly at 2.40pm (gates open at 2.30pm)

23<sup>rd</sup> - Year 2 & Year 6 SATs Information Evening in classrooms, 3.30 and 5.30pm

24<sup>th</sup> – Acorn Celebration Morning, parents invited to share their children's learning 9.00-10.15am

30<sup>th</sup> – Badger Class Assembly at 2.40pm (gates open at 2.30pm)

31<sup>st</sup> – Children break up at 2.00pm

### April

3<sup>rd</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> Easter holidays

17<sup>th</sup> – Fantastic Fred (NHS Mental Health Performances) throughout the day for children

26<sup>th</sup> – Choir in Primary Music Festival Concert

### May

1<sup>st</sup> – Bank holiday

3<sup>rd</sup> – Year 3 Roman workshop onsite

4<sup>th</sup> – Swift Class Assembly at 2.40pm (gates open at 2.30pm)

5<sup>th</sup> – MUFTI Day for School Fund, £1 donation would be appreciated

8<sup>th</sup> – Bank holiday, the Coronation of King Charles

9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Year 6 SATs week

15<sup>th</sup> – Year 6 trip to Thorpe Park

15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> – Year 4 Bikeability Level 1