

Ashford Park Primary School Newsletter
15th December 2023
Inspiring a love for lifelong learning



We would like to wish you all a happy and relaxing Christmas.

We look forward to seeing the children return to school on Wednesday 3rd January 2024.

Staff changes

A fond farewell and a huge thank you to the following staff members: Miss Butcher, Miss Wall, Mrs Port and Coach Adrian. We had a lovely assembly yesterday afternoon to celebrate their individual successes and wish them all the very best in the future. The class staffing for January has already been shared and in addition to that we can confirm that Mrs Miller will teach every Monday in Y5 Swallow Class.

Coach Michael will be starting with us in January, full time. He will build on Coach Adrian's good work to ensure our sports offer at Ashford Park is the best it can be. We are keen to increase the participation levels and ensure our talented APPS children get opportunities to compete in as many competitions and events as possible.

Website information

Please visit our website for information about what your child is learning

and how to support them. The website is kept up-to-date with news and calendar dates for your reference: <https://www.ashford-park.surrey.sch.uk/>

A celebration of outstanding home learning in Fox Class



Eliza W made her own weather station which could measure the amount of rainfall, show air temperature, measure wind speed and indicate the wind direction using a compass! An incredible creation – maybe you will be a meteorologist of the future Eliza!

Mollie L coloured the four countries of the UK and labelled each capital city and some exciting landmarks. Super map skills – perhaps you will

be a future cartographer Mollie!



Primary school admission applications

If your child was born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020 they will be due to start school at either an infant or primary school in September 2024.

You can apply for a place at a primary, infant or junior school from 30 October 2023.

If your child was born after 31 August 2020, you should start considering which schools you want to apply for at the beginning of the school year in which your child turns four. **The annual closing date for applications is 15 January 2024.**

For more information and to apply online, please

visit:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/primary-junior-and-infant/apply>

Year 5 Salvation Army Toy Appeal Trip



Year 5 visited the Salvation Army on Monday morning.



George, Evie, David, Laila, Eden and Alfie were superb helpers and alongside the many other volunteers, helped to make up 550 toy donation bags for children in our local community. Mrs Hall and Mrs Miller are very proud of the children.

Year 5 Dictionaries



Every child in Year 5 received a dictionary from the Ashford Rotary Club.

We would like to thank the Ashford Rotary Club for their continued support.

The Snowman visits APPS...

As you may have seen if you have passed by the front of our school, we have been celebrating all things 'Snowman' here at APPS.



There are many parallels between Christmas and English learning: there's a theme; there's an engaging starting point, just as there might be with the arrival of an elf or the appearance of the family box of Christmas decorations and there might also be a build-up of shorter activities leading to the main 'event': Christmas Day itself.





Over the last few weeks, the children have immersed themselves fully within the world of Raymond Briggs classic book.

Capture the children's imagination with a beautiful story, lovely music and stunning illustrations right from the start and you won't go wrong.



From Reception, Acorn and all the way through to Year 6, the children have enjoyed taking part in a whole school learning experience creating a community of writers within the school.





We have written poems, letters, setting descriptions, dialogue and much more.



We have also decorated all our classroom doors to tell the poignant story of The Snowman and the Boy.



The children have all created artwork, dances and music compositions; they have buddied up with other year groups for shared reading and enjoyed acting out the story.

We hope the children share some of their learning with you at home over the Christmas break and you enjoy the photos of the doors and examples of writing.





Happy Christmas!

Save the Children

We raised £259.42 for Save the Children on Christmas Jumper Day. Thank you for your generosity in supporting this worthwhile cause.

Buying your child's first device

Please find attached information which is helpful for parents buying their child's first device.

Science newsletter

There are a couple of fun ideas for Science activities to entertain your children over the holidays - please look out for the Science newsletter.

Do you have any spare time to drive our mini-bus?

We are looking for volunteers to drive our mini-bus. Full training will be given. Please contact the school office if you or someone else you know is interested.

Achievement

MAC – Making Attendance Count
Whole School Attendance 92.8%

Congratulations to the Top Ted winners last week being Fox Class with 97%.

Congratulations to the Top Dog winner being Swift Class with 97% Fantastic!



INSET Days 2023/24

2nd January 2024

19th February 2024

December

15th – Children break up at 2.00pm

18th – 1st Jan – Christmas holidays

January

2nd - INSET Day

3rd - Children return to school

4th – Year 1 Chertsey Museum Toy Workshop

9th - New to EYFS Parent Tours 9.30 -10.30am

9th – Year 5 Milestones Museum trip

16th – Reception Little Red Riding Hood Theatre Production

18th - Moorhen Class assembly at 2.40pm, front gate to open at 2.30pm.

25th - Heron Class assembly at 2.40pm, front gate to open at 2.30pm.

30th - Year 4 Stubbington 2024 (current Year 4 children) Information Evening 5.30pm in the hall

February

1st - Kingfisher Class assembly at 2.40pm, front gate to open at 2.30pm.

12th – 16th Half term

19th – INSET Day

20th - Children return to school

March

7th - Fox Class assembly at 2.40pm, front gate to open at 2.30pm.

7th & 8th – Year 4 Bikeability

14th - Mole Class assembly at 2.40pm, front gate to open at 2.30pm.

20th – 22nd – Year 4 Stubbington residential trip

April

1st – Easter Monday

2nd – 12th April Easter holidays

15th – Children return to school

24th – Year 5 Junior / STEM workshop

25th - Deer Class assembly at 2.40pm, front gate to open at 2.30pm.

May

1st – PTA Happy Circus

2nd – Year 3 History off the page in school TBC

2nd - Hedgehog Class assembly at 2.40pm, front gate to open at 2.30pm.

6th – Bank holiday

9th - Squirrel Class assembly at 2.40pm, front gate to open at 2.30pm.