

Ashford Park Primary School Newsletter

1st March 2024

Inspiring a love for lifelong learning



Paul Sturgess WOW Basket Ball Workshop Visit



We welcomed Paul Sturgess on Friday 23rd February, as part of our sporting developments and aspiration for all at Ashford Park.



Paul was an incredibly inspirational speaker. He shared his experiences and passion for basketball, talking to the children about the importance of embracing our differences and making the most of our talents.

Paul showed the children his Guinness World Record Certificates for being the tallest basketball player and the tallest man in Britain at 7ft 7.26 inches (231.8cm). He also spoke about his experiences as a talented Basketball player and how he received a full scholarship in the USA and has played for the Harlem Globetrotters.



Throughout the day Paul held basketball workshops and shared some of his incredible basketball tricks, which the children absolutely loved! He also spoke to the children in the playground and was happy to take photos with everyone. It was a very special and memorable day, and we are sure the children will have been inspired by such an incredible talent.

Year 6 visit to Spelthorne Council Offices

On Tuesday 20th February, the year 6 children visited Spelthorne Council offices and had the opportunity to become councillors to the mayor and committee member who lead the meeting.



They discussed in teams how they could improve local parks and our school grounds as well as

discussing what they feel school funding should be spent on.

Vacancies at Ashford Park

We currently have vacancies for Learning Support Assistants and Lunchtime Supervisors. For more information please see our website:

Link:

[APPS Vacancies](#)



**Spanish
Word of the
week:
baloncesto**

Translation: basketball

Etymology: a semantic of English basketball, from balón (ball) and cesto (basket)

Paul Sturgess juega baloncesto.

Paul Sturgess plays basketball.

Smart Schools Council

Please click on the image below to read this week's Smart School Council News.



PTA Happy Circus at Ashford Park

Roll up roll up, the circus is coming to Ashford Park!

On Wednesday 1st May, Happy's Circus will be setting up its big top ready for a spectacular show.

Everyone is welcome to join in with some pre show family fun straight from school (free entrance) including games, inflatables, food, drinks, ice cream and more...

We are limited to a capacity of 600 people for the circus show, therefore this event is only open to children and staff of APPS and their immediate families.

Tickets for the show are on sale now! Check out our early bird discount here:

<https://buytickets.at/ashfordparkprimaryschoolpta/1118344>

We can't wait to see you there!

If you are able to volunteer at this event (between 12-6pm, or 8-9pm) please sign up

here: <https://volunteersignup.org/CMC9P> thank you.

A MESSAGE FROM THE SPELTHORNE SCHOOLS PRAYER GROUP

Hello everyone, we trust that all is going well with you and your families. March already! The weeks are definitely galloping by but it's lovely to see the signs of Spring which is always a cheerful sight. Ashford Park is a school we pray for regularly – have

done for many years now! – and it is our joy and privilege to do so. We meet each month on Friday mornings, 10 a.m. – 12 noon, sometimes in some of our schools who invite us in, we pray for shared situations and for everyone connected with the school.

Forthcoming Dates:

MARCH 15th

APRIL 19th

MAY 17th

JUNE 14th

JULY 12th

You are very welcome to join us any time, so if this is something you sense God is calling you to be a part of, we'd love to hear from you. Also if you wish to share anything for prayer, please contact: email: info@spelthorneschoolsprayergroup.org. Be assured that all requests are treated in strictest confidence.

Achievement

Pobble Published Authors

Charlotte D and Aoife W

Spelling Shed

Top spellers: Yaash G & Lewis E

Top Class: Moorhen

Maths Shed

Top Mathstronauts:

Usman Y & Alexander R

Top Class: Heron

MAC – Making Attendance Count

Whole School Attendance 95.3%

Congratulations to the KS1 winner last week being Badger Class with 100%

Congratulations to the KS2 winner being Woodpecker Class with 100%. Fantastic!

Attendance Letters

We have a statutory responsibility to ensure children have high attendance and are punctual.

We have recently revised our monitoring systems in regards to attendance with our Surrey County Council Inclusion Officer, to ensure attendance is monitored and reported every 3 weeks.

These letters are in generic formats and we are grateful for the positive comments and constructive feedback in relation to the content.

We are also working hard to ensure there is an even greater and shared understanding in regards to individual needs, so all factors are understood and supported.

140 letters were sent out three weeks ago, to those with attendance below 90%.

Improvements have been seen already with:

23 children now moving above 90%, with the vast majority showing improvements towards being above 90%.

Thank you for helping us achieve this.