



Ashgrove Primary School Newtownabbey

Our Weekly Newsletter

ISSUE: 16

FRIDAY 8TH JANUARY 2020

PRIMARY 1 APPLICATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

The EA online portal for Primary 1 applications for September 2021 is now live – to make an application simply click on the link on the homepage of our website or go directly to the EA website. The application process itself is straightforward. There has been a very heavy demand on the EA website over the past couple of days and some parents have experienced difficulty with the website. However, do not worry as you have until the end of January to apply for your school place. The online portal closes on FRIDAY 29TH JANUARY. This year, you must upload a copy of your child's birth certificate to the online portal...

If you need any help with the online application process feel free to call in to school at any time and we will be happy to help!

Unfortunately, due to COVID we have been unable to have our annual Open Night and invite prospective parents into school...



We have however developed the next best thing – an interactive 3D virtual tour!

This tour includes lots of videos of our children, introductions from staff, a PowerPoint on the application procedure and of course you can virtually visit all classrooms in school.

Simply scan the QR code with the camera on your tablet or iphone and enjoy seeing round our wonderful school.

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Learning, Caring, Growing Stronger Together

THANK YOU...

Thank you all for adapting once again to the demands of online learning. As a school we understand this is not easy, especially for those parents who are balancing jobs or sharing devices at home, we are here to support you in any way we can.

The past week has tested the resilience of pupils and families, I can only encourage you to find a balance of what you can reasonably achieve at home alongside the other demands you face at this time – this will be different for each family. I thank you for engaging with this.

There is a small, but significant number of children/families, who have not yet engaged in any online learning. I will be in contact with those families to offer support and guidance with the expectation engagement will improve.

We are using See-Saw for P1-4 and Google Classroom for P5-7 to set online learning. If you still need login details or passwords please contact your child's teacher or email school on info@ashgroveps.newtownabbey.ni.sch.uk

MyOn and DOODLE MATHS

DoodleMaths and MyOn are two excellent online tools which children can use independently to enjoy reading and maths. Both online programmes are tailored to adapt to the individual learning needs of your child. Again we have seen some wonderful levels of engagement with these tools – keep up with this!

PAPER PACKS...

Teachers are working to produce paper packs of basic work which can be collected from school on an **allocated day and time next week**. I emphasise these packs will only contain basic work and are not intended to replace the activities set online. The packs will contain Spellings, Tables, Mental Maths, a blank Literacy and Numeracy book and activities which can not be replicated virtually. I will write to each class individually to let you know of your allocated collection day and times.

KEY WORKER PROVISION

Ashgrove is open for the supervision of Key Worker children and this has been operating this week. To help us plan for supervision ratios of staff it is important you complete the online Google Form to apply for a place. This will be emailed to you each Wednesday for the forthcoming week. You will receive a confirmation email.

FREESCHOOL MEALS

If your child is entitled to free school meals, you will continue to receive payment into your bank account over this period of lockdown. Therefore, if your child is attending school as part of the Key Worker scheme, you will need to send a snack and packed lunch.

