



# Ashgrove Primary School Newtownabbey

## Our Weekly Newsletter

ISSUE: 25

FRIDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2020

### RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS

Article 20 (children unable to live with their family)

"If a child cannot be looked after by their immediate family, the Government must give them special protection and assistance. This includes making sure the child has alternative care that is continuous."

In school we have a very clear Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy. We actively promote safeguarding messages throughout the school in a language which child can understand. Safeguarding our pupils is of paramount concern to us in school.

### READING WEEK...

**Next week is READING WEEK in school!** On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March the children from P4-P7 are going to be taking part in a sponsored **Read-A-Thon**, which will raise money to buy new class library books to boost our Accelerated Reader programme.

#### What to do...

- Children can ask family or friends to sponsor their reading goals for the day.
- Children can complete the sponsorship form sent home and any money raised should be brought to school by Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March.
- Alternatively, sponsors can pay directly through school money – to also be paid by Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March.

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**Learning, Caring, Growing Stronger Together**

## DEBBIE DO LITTLE TO VISIT PRIMARY 1

On **WEDNESDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**, Debbie Do little is visiting Primary 1.

## MOBILE PHONES IN SCHOOL...

We discourage children bringing mobile phones to school. If you need to contact your child during the school day this should be done via the Office. If they must bring a mobile phone to school these must stay **SWITCHED OFF** during school (including break and lunchtimes). Children using mobile phones during school time will have them removed.

## UPDATING CONTACT DETAILS...

It is very important that we have the most up-to-date contact details for parents and carers especially if we need to contact you during the school day.

If you have changed your mobile number, email address or home address we ask that you email Kerrie or Tracey on the Office with your correct contact information... please email them on [klamont306@c2kni.net](mailto:klamont306@c2kni.net). Please remember to add the name of your child, year group and teacher.

## ASHGROVE SCHOOL APP

Have you downloaded our Ashgrove School App? This is available from itunes or googleplay (free of charge). We use this to communicate with parents and send notifications about what's happening in our busy school.

## SHARED EDUCATION VISITS

Mrs Finn (St. Michael's) and I have decided to postpone Shared Education visits for the next few weeks as some of the venues are in large public places. This is in light of the developing situation with coronavirus. We stress to you this is simply a precautionary measure. Shared Education visits with large groups of pupils will resume again in a few weeks after we have reviewed the situation.

## EASTER HOLIDAY

As a reminder, school closes for the Easter break on **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 12.00pm** – no lunches will be served and After School Clubs will not be available. School recommences at the usual time on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April.

A copy of the HOLIDAY LIST for the next academic year is available to download on our website.



Anti-Bullying Mascot &  
Slogan designed by Evan  
Mayes, P7F



Ashgrove Anti-Bullying Ambassadors...  
(ABBA's)

## RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS DAY!

**WHEN?** FRIDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> APRIL

**HOW?** Do something kind for  
others... e.g. give a complement, help  
a friend, give a gift, tell someone why  
they're great, give encouragement,  
make someone smile! 😊

"Be strong & soar above bullying. Keep an eagle eye out for others"





Taken from "GUIDANCE TO EDUCATIONAL SETTINGS IN NI"

There are general principles anyone can follow to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including:

- washing your hands often - with soap and water, or use alcohol sanitiser if handwashing facilities are not available. This is particularly important after taking public transport
- covering your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throwing the tissue in a bin.
- people who feel unwell should stay at home and should not attend work or any education or early years/youth setting

Children, pupils, students, staff and visitors should wash their hands:

- before leaving home
- on arrival at school
- after using the toilet
- after breaks and sporting activities
- before food preparation before eating any food, including snacks
- before leaving school
- use an alcohol-based hand sanitiser that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available
- avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- avoid close contact with people who are unwell
- clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- if you are worried about your symptoms or those of a child or colleague, please call NHS 111. Do not go directly to your GP or other healthcare environment but phone.

**Face masks for the general public, pupils or students, or staff are not recommended to protect from infection, as there is no evidence of benefit from their use outside healthcare environments.**



## SCHOOL MEALS

As a reminder, both FREE and PAID School Meals should be booked by parents online via SchoolMoney each Sunday for the week ahead. This booking system has been in use in our school now for quite some time. Booking school meals allows the Kitchen to prepare the correct amount of food. It is also time consuming for the Office staff to add on additional school meals each day – we thank you for your help with this.

## BALLYCLARE MUSIC FESTIVAL

On Wednesday afternoon Miss McClune and I brought six children from Ashgrove to the Ballyclare Music Festival. All of the children performed wonderfully and displayed such talent and confidence to perform in front of judges and a large audience.

We are delighted that Darcey Ferris in P7 won the award for best soloist- we were truly impressed with her talent.

Lucy McKenna and Ebony Teeny also won a trophy for the best duet with Honey Honey!

Thank you to Miss McClune for organising and taking our representatives from Ashgrove.

## SKI TRIP 2020

Many parents will be aware we had planned a ski trip before Easter to Europe. **The decision has been taken to cancel the visit.** We will always put the health and safety of pupils and staff first. I thank parents for your show of support and understanding with what has been an unprecedented set of circumstances. After much negotiation and pressure, Topflight have agreed to a refund for parents. I would also thank local representatives Paula Bradley, Phillip Brett and Noreen McClelland for contacting Topflight on behalf of the school.

## GOOGLE CLASSROOM

In Ashgrove, we are working to set up each child from P3-7 with a Google Classroom Account. In the event that school is closed by government recommendation we will use this platform to continue to send some work for children to complete at home. While this will never replace face to face teaching it will provide activities for children to complete at home. P1&2 can use See-Saw...



## School Dinner Menu (£2.55 per day)

### Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March

Sausages, Garden Peas & Chips

~

Fruit & Yoghurt

### Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March

Oven Baked Whiting, Baked Beans,  
Sweetcorn & Mashed Potatoes OR

Spicy Beef Noodles & Stir Fry

Vegetables

~

Fresh Fruit & Yoghurt

### Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March

Roast Beef, Cabbage, Roast & Mashed  
Potatoes & Gravy

~

Rice Pudding & Fruit

### Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March

Chicken Curry, Boiled Rice & Carrots

~

Chocolate Cookie, Fruit & Milk

### Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March

Irish Stew & Crusty OR Lasagne, Salad  
& Crusty Bread

~

Apple Sponge & Custard

## HEALTHY BREAK

30p per day

Tuesday: Toast, Watermelon & Yellow  
Pepper

Friday: Crusty Bread, Orange &  
Cucumber

For a safe and happy school we are expected to...



- ☺ Arrive at school on time;
- ☺ Wear our school uniform;
- ☺ Show respect to everyone in school;
- ☺ Be truthful, well-mannered and kind;
- ☺ Take pride in our school building;
- ☺ Look after our books;
- ☺ Walk sensibly and quietly in the corridors;
- ☺ Keep our school litter free;
- ☺ Set a good example to others;
- ☺ Exercise self-control; &
- ☺ Line up quickly and quietly.

