



# Ashton Gate Primary School

'Rising High Together'

Executive Headteacher: Mr. G Jones

Head of School Ashton Site: Mrs. L Dowlman

Head of School Upton Site: Mr. A Donaldson



Tel 0117 9030236 [ashtongatep@bristol-schools.uk](mailto:ashtongatep@bristol-schools.uk)

## Ashton Gate Primary School News & Information

28th March 2024

### NEWSLETTER 26

Message from Mr Jones

Emails to Staff

School Meal Bookings

Clubs

Lockdown

Beezee Families

PTA News

Social Media

Parent Portal

Reporting Absences

Term Dates

Inset Dates

Publish your Poem

School Crossing

### Message From Mr Jones

Dear all,

I would like to thank you all for your tremendous support this term. As you know, the parental response to the Ofsted inspection survey was enormous, and overwhelmingly positive. It will come as no surprise to you that I was extremely proud of the way the children presented themselves during the inspection. I told the lead inspector during the initial phone call that our children were amazing, and they certainly proved that over the two days. I hope it won't be too much longer before we can share the final report with you all.

I would like to inform you about a personal issue. I was diagnosed with cancer last year and will be shortly undergoing major surgery to address the condition, and will then be off work for several weeks as part of my recovery. As you can appreciate, school staff wouldn't normally share such personal information with you all. However, my illness coincides with the school going through a period of change with the proposed academy conversion taking place. I am grateful that the Ofsted inspection has occurred before I take some time away, so I could help show the inspectors the fantastic work of the staff and children. I am telling you about my planned absence so you know that I am not here for any other reason than medical necessity.

I have utter faith and confidence in the senior team to lead the school successfully through this period. Like me, they are proud to serve this school community and I know they will approach this unwanted episode with care and commitment to the children, as they always constantly do. Please contact Mrs Dowlman or Mr Donaldson if you have any issues that you would normally raise with me.

I am already looking forward to coming back and seeing everybody after my treatment and recovery.

Wishing you all a happy Easter.

Yours,

Gareth Jones



Paper copies of newsletters are available from the school office

## Emails to Staff

As a general rule, teachers are not expected to check their emails during the school. As you can appreciate, they are very busy with their teaching and wider roles. If you need to communicate with them about a time sensitive matter, please ring the school office instead.

We understand that parents may send emails to staff late in the evening as this is the time of day that suits them, and we know that you would not be expecting a reply at such a time of day. Our policy is that staff that they are expected to reply within two working days.

## School Meal Bookings

Please can parents make sure that they have booked all meals for the following week by midnight on Wednesday. There have been several occasions this week when children have said that they are having a school meal but this has not been booked. You will be asked to provide a home packed lunch if a meal has not been booked in advance.

The menu for after Easter is now available

## Clubs

There are still spaces on KS1 Spanish Club, please use the email address below for more information.

[claudiasernazuleta@gmail.com](mailto:claudiasernazuleta@gmail.com)

There are still spaces for Art Club

- Find more info about Let's Make Art and Art For Schools please go to - <https://linktr.ee/letsmakeartuk>
- To book your child's place at one of our Art Clubs please go to - <https://buytickets.at/letsmakeartuk>

## Lockdown

Ashton and Upton site both had lock down drills either last week or this week. These drills are good for staff and children to help them understand what to do should they hear this alarm.

**Would you like your child to make some healthy sweet swaps?**



**Sidra Hussain,**  
Beezee Families Nutritionist

**We are here to help!**

Our free healthy lifestyle programme can support families like yours make healthy habits. Help yourself to our sweet tips below.

1. Create a shopping list for the family, before going shopping.
2. Have a weekly sweet voucher. Your children choose when to "cash in" for a portion of sweets.
3. Use the **NHS Food Scanner** app to help find healthy swaps in the shops.
4. Try having a mix of fresh and dried fruits to help the sweet cravings, i.e. dried mango, bananas.

5. Remember to have dried fruits in small amounts as the sugar is more concentrated.
6. Mix things up and make fruit more fun - try making fruit cocktails, smoothies or ice lollies.
7. Look for healthy sweet treat recipes online. We might be biased but we think [beezeebodies.com/blog/category/recipes](https://beezeebodies.com/blog/category/recipes) is pretty good!

**Beezee Families**

24-0511

Like these tips and want to know more?  
Check out our website now.

\*Our courses are for families with children aged 5+

Scan the code

or click here to find out more

Sign up today!



## Thanks from the PTA

It's been another wonderful term of fundraising and community building, thanks to all of you who support the PTA.

We've had great take-up for old favourites like the PTA pub quiz, and our Elemental film screening. And we've had an amazing response to new things we've announced like the Calm Spaces project, and of course the Amazon Wishlist.

We can't wait to share even more inspiring initiatives and fun events with you in the summer term. Thank you so much.

### The PTA Smarties Tube Class Championship

You should have your Smarties tube (or diet-appropriate equivalent) by the end of today.

Please encourage your kids to fill their tube up over the holidays with as many 20p pieces as they can, and return it **by 19 April**. The class that returns the most tubes will win the glory, and... a prize!

All the money raised will go to Ashton Gate PTA and the Calm Spaces project. Or, you can donate directly at <https://www.justgiving.com/ashtongatebristol>

### Grown-ups' gardening day

Join us at the Upton Site - grown-ups only please - as we set about tidying our brambles and veg beds before the new term. What better way to unwind from your 'relaxing' Easter holiday?

### Saturday 13 April | Drop-in between 10am - 2pm | Upton Site

Refreshments provided. Bring gloves and tools please.

Sign up by emailing [ashtongatepta@gmail.com](mailto:ashtongatepta@gmail.com).

### More dates for your diary

School discos

- Reception | Tue 21 May | 4 - 5pm | Ashton
- Year 1 | Tue 21 May | 5.30 - 6.30pm | Ashton
- Year 2 | Wed 22 May | 4.30 - 5.30pm | Upton
- Year 3 | Wed 22 May | 6 - 7pm | Upton
- Year 4 | Thur 23 May | 5 - 6pm | Upton
- Years 5 and 6 | Thur 23 May | 6.30 - 7.30pm | Upton

PTA Summer Fair | Saturday 6 July

### Social Media

We are now on Facebook. Please like our page, we will be using this page to celebrate events and learning moments taking place across the school. We encourage you to invite other parents and family members to join as well, so that too can be part of our vibrant school network.

Rest assured, our Facebook page will prioritise the privacy and security of our children. We will follow all the necessary precautions and guidelines to protect identities and ensure a safe online environment.



### Parent Portal

Last year we introduced Parent Portal. This allows us to send you messages and newsletters directly to an app on your phone. It also allows you to submit changes, such as a new phone number or email address.

The video below explains how it works:

Portal Video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kpyrDjCEOh8>

You can download the app from the following stores

<https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/rm-parent-portal/id1531109058>

[https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.rm.parentportalmobile&hl=en\\_GB&gl=US](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.rm.parentportalmobile&hl=en_GB&gl=US)

Please log onto this and make any necessary changes to ensure we have up to date information.

### Reporting Absences



Studybugs

If your child is unwell or unable to attend school, you need to report this using the StudyBugs app or using this link - [Studybugs – Parents](#). When reporting absences please add your child's name and class.

### Term Dates 2023 to 2024

Monday 19th February 2024 to Thursday 28th March 2024

Monday 15th April 2024 to Friday 24th May 2024

Monday 3rd June 2024 to Tuesday 23rd July 2024



### Inset Days 2023 to 2024

Wednesday 19th June 2024

Tuesday 23rd July 2024



# Publish your poem!

Would you like to see your poem published in a special  
Ablaze poetry book?



Yes? Then what you have to do is.....

- Compose a poem titled '**Peace**' – you could write about what you think peace means to you, what you find peaceful or what you might do to bring peace to the world....please interpret it however you want.
  - Type up your poem, making sure to include your **Name, Year Group & School**.
  - If you are in EYFS or KS1, please email your poem to Miss Patel at [darsy.patel@bristol-schools.uk](mailto:darsy.patel@bristol-schools.uk) and if you are in KS2, email it to Mrs Taylor at [e.taylor@bristol-schools.uk](mailto:e.taylor@bristol-schools.uk). **Alternatively**, bring in a copy and drop it off at the school office in addressed to Mrs Taylor [KS2] or Miss Patel [EYFS/KS1] as soon as possible.
    - Final closing date for entries to be submitted: **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024**  
**The closing date cannot be extended as the poems need to be checked and submitted.**
  - The poems will be judged by an external panel and their favourites will be selected. This year, the organisation are organising things a little differently and winning poems will be published online on the Ablaze website, Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn accounts. All the best poems will be compiled into a pdf book which will be available for free

**So what are you waiting for? Start composing today! We can't wait to read your entries. More than 21 Ashton-Gaters had their poems selected in 2023- will it be you in 2024?**



VACANCY VACANCY VACANCY VACANCY

### Ashton Gate Primary School



Sadly I am writing to advise that Mr Neale one of your School Crossing Patrols has decided to hang up his Lollipop and will be leaving his role as the School Crossing Patrol for your school. We'd like to thank him for all his hard work and commitment to keeping your school community safe as they cross back and forth en route to and from school. He will be sadly missed.

However, that will leave the crossing unsupported until such time as we are able to recruit someone to take on the role.

Are you looking for part-time work. It is a paid position and you are paid for ten hours per week term time. The hourly rate is £10.98 and the hours are annualised as they are for other school roles. Full training and uniform will be provided.

You will need to be a good communicator with an ability and understanding of working with the general public.

We are looking for someone to provide the crossing Monday to Friday an hour in the morning and an hour in the afternoon at school run times (your duty times will be agreed with the School and it may be that you are not on duty for the whole hour, however, you will be paid for the full hour each shift – 10 hours in total per week). If you can't commit to 5 days perhaps you could share the job, maybe a friend could cover the morning shifts and you the afternoons, or perhaps you could do Monday, Tuesday Wednesday and then a friend take over on Thursday and Friday. We are open to discuss with you how the vacancy might be managed.

Please if you know anyone who may be interested in taking on the role, perhaps a neighbour or family member who is looking for part-time work, pass on the information to them. The role is funded by the Road Safety Team at Bristol City Council.

If you are interested, or you know someone who might be or would like more information please contact Frances Dansie by email [road.safety@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:road.safety@bristol.gov.uk).

We look forward to hearing from you.