



# 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**

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## Ashton Gate Primary School News & Information

8th December 2023

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### Messages from Teachers

#### Reception

On Wednesday 13th December the Reception classes will be having their Christmas party. We will be making Christmas snacks in class for this. Children are welcome to come in to school wearing a Christmas item: eg Christmas hat/headband/tinsel if they would like. They do not need to bring in anything else.

#### KS2 Lost Property

The lost property cabinet is again overflowing with unnamed lost property. There is now a separate unit for unnamed coats. Please come in and check if you have misplaced any unnamed school uniform. All named uniform has been returned to the classes.

### Changes to Lunch Ordering

From January, we are introducing the parentpay system where you pre book your child's lunch in advance. More information regarding this will following in a separate email next week.

### Notice of School Lockdown Practice w/c 11th December

We want to let you know to avoid unnecessary concern that we are planning a lockdown practice on both sites.

We carry out lockdown practice as well as fire drill practice at least 3 times over the course of the year.

As with all schools and organisations, it is important for us to practise what we do should the school ever need to lockdown. Having a trial run is essential for us to test our systems. The term 'lockdown' in this situation is different to that used during Covid and relates purely to a response to an incident e.g. a serious incident in the local area. The practise we will carry out is a 'Partial Lockdown'. During this time, teaching and learning will generally not be disrupted and children will remain in their classes. The school building will be secured, and no one will be able to enter or exit during the practise.



Paper copies of newsletters are available from the school office

### Eco Reps

Last week, the Year 5 and 6 eco reps went on a trip to plant some seeds with Avon Schools Eco Network. Despite the freezing temperatures, the group worked hard to sew the seeds to help re-wild an area of the park underneath Jessops Underpass. Hopefully we will be able to see the new plants and flowers growing there next year!



### Year 6 Polar Explorer Day

Year 6 consolidated their learning about the Polar regions with a dress-up day and lots of fun activities. We found out about the Endurance 22 expedition, which managed to locate the sunken shipwreck of Shackleton's boat. Using a budget, we chose which items people would need to take on a Polar expedition and we also did a science experiment to highlight how blubber helps to insulate animals in the cold. As well as this, new Polar creatures were designed and Northern Lights art was created with chalk pastels. You can see more photos on the Year 6 page in the geography section. <https://www.ashtongate.bristol.sch.uk/geography-48/>



### **Christmas Jumper Day**



Children are welcome to wear Christmas Jumpers on the day of their Christmas Lunch.

Ashton will be Tuesday 12th December and for Upton Thursday 14th December.

### **National Elf Day**

Thank you for your donations to National Elf Day, we raised £427.00



### **Poppy Appeal**



Thank you for your donations to The Poppy Appeal, we raised £610.00

### **Whatsapp and Online Safety**

As a school we look to support children and their adults with online safety as much as possible. We are aware that there have been some disagreements between children over WhatsApp recently. Please be advised that WhatsApp is recommended for people aged 16 and over to use without supervision. Please continue to show an interest in your children's online behaviour so you can celebrate good choices and support with any problems. The links below offer support for parents and carers on the subject of their children using WhatsApp. We also have lots of useful links and suggestions on the Online Safety section of the school website. Mr Anderson will lead an Online safety session after school on the 25<sup>th</sup> January (times TBC). Please feel free to contact him with any questions or concerns beforehand or speak to your child's class teacher.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/2023-01-12-is-whatsapp-safe-for-my-child/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/chat-apps/>

<https://www.ashtongate.bristol.sch.uk/online-safety-e-safety/>

[jonathan.anderson@bristol-schools.uk](mailto:jonathan.anderson@bristol-schools.uk)

## Change of Menu

### Tuesday

Ashton – Christmas Dinner

Upton – Hot Dogs

### Wednesday

Macaroni Cheese

Tomato and Basil Pasta

### Thursday

Ashton – Hot Dogs

Upton – Christmas Dinner



**Please note there will not be a jacket potato option all week**

## Clubs

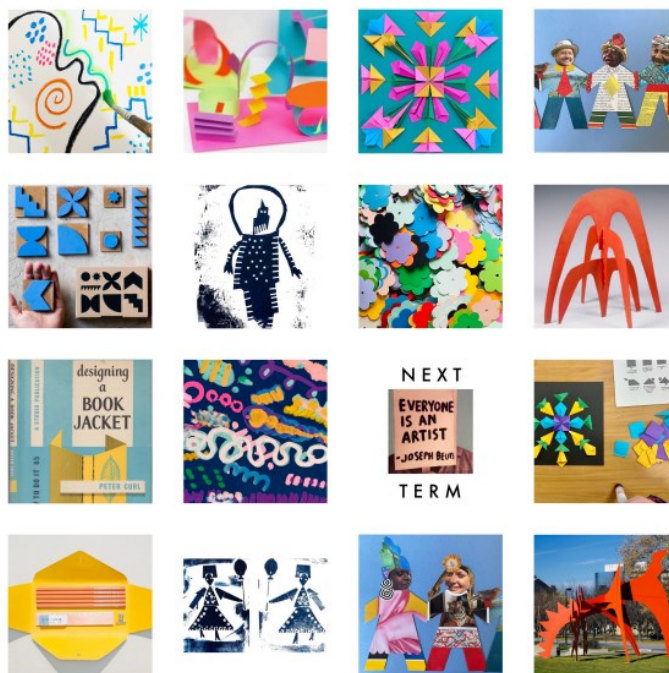
We have now allocated the school ran clubs, if you haven't had an email, then unfortunately we have not been able to offer your child a club this term.

Many Thanks

### KS2 Art Club

There are still spaces on KS2 Art Club  
Please see poster for more information.

LETS MAKE ART



Let's Make Art >>>> Art For Schools >>>> After School Enrichment >>>> Ashton Gate Primary School

All places for KS1 Art Club on Tuesdays are now sold out. Please add yourselves to the waiting list to receive a priority link to book for terms 5 and 6 - <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/letsmakeartuk/1062846>

There are only a few places left for Tuesday and Thursday KS2 Art Clubs. Above is a taster of what we have planned for your artists next term, including: printing, collage, sculpture, designing, painting and illustration.

Please visit to book - <https://buytickets.at/letsmakeartuk>

Our Instagram [Let's Make Art](#) or [Art For Schools](#) shows more of what we get up to.

Places are limited and bookings are made on a first-come/first-served basis for two terms.

Let's Make Art for Schools facilitators are DBS checked and fully insured.

Contact >> [info@letsmakeart.co.uk](mailto:info@letsmakeart.co.uk) or 07974332213





### The PTA Christmas Fair - it's finally here!

**Saturday 9 December | 11am - 3pm | FREE for kids, £2 for adults**

Wahoo! Our event rounding off the winter term is **tomorrow**, with all profits going straight to Ashton Gate.

Grab your coat, wellies and your friends and family too; **all are welcome** to enjoy the fun!

At this year's Christmas Fair, look out for...

The [big PTA Christmas Raffle](#) with loads of incredible prizes prepared by our classes!

A visit from Santa!

New stalls and games!

Our biggest-ever festive fair site!

And much more...

### Quick guide to sleigh-ing at the PTA Christmas Fair

We take cash or card at Santa's grotto, the entrance, the bar and café

For the stalls and games, you'll need tokens - exchange these for cash at our token stall

Santa's grotto is first come, first served - get in early if you plan to see the big guy

Thanks to the amazing Bristol Beer Factory and their Brewed To Give initiative, our event bar will be topped up with some tasty, donated local booze.

**The PTA Christmas raffle - don't miss out!**

> [Buy your £1 tickets here](https://bookwhen.com/agpta/e/ev-s8in-20231128000000) < <https://bookwhen.com/agpta/e/ev-s8in-20231128000000>

O.M.G. This year's raffle prizes are looking absolutely divine. Well done to our class reps, and all you supportive Ashton Gate grown-ups, for making these prizes happen.

### 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

The school absence line will close on Sunday 17th September. 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 30th October to Friday 15th December 2023

Tuesday 2nd January 2024 to Friday 9th February 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

Tuesday 2nd & Wednesday 3rd January 2024

Wednesday 19th June 2024

Tuesday 23rd July 2024

