



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

2nd February 2024

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Message from Mr Jones

On behalf of the Ashton Gate school community, I would like to send our condolences to the families and friends of the two young men who lost their lives last weekend in south Bristol. This tragic incident has sent shockwaves through the city and the police and Local Authority have been very proactive in keeping school leaders updated. As part of this, I have been asked by the city's Safeguarding in Education Team to share the following statement with you all;

As we come together as a City to try to deal with, process and ultimately avoid a repeat of the tragic events of Saturday 27 January, it would be helpful if you could monitor closely your child's social media activity. We are aware of unhelpful social media posts circulating, which are largely sharing misinformation or rumouring. Whilst we do not for one moment think that our children are the source of the posts, we advise that under no circumstances should they share, like or comment on such posts. We also strongly recommend that they remove themselves from any groups where such posts are being shared.

Please feel free to contact me, or any member of the leadership team, if you feel that you or your family would benefit from some additional support with regards to this incident

Mr Jones

Mrs Sowden

Sophie Sowden will be leaving Ashton Gate at Easter, after a decade of being a highly valued member of the Ashton Gate team. Sophie has always been incredibly dedicated in both her teaching and wider roles, and will be dearly missed by pupils, their families and her colleagues. We wish her every success and happiness in her new leadership post, where she will undoubtedly flourish.

Mrs Sands, our EYFS lead, will cover the 2 days in Butterfly Class until the end of the academic year. Mrs Sands knows Butterfly Class children very well and will work very closely with Mrs Houghton and Mrs Sowden to ensure this is a smooth transition.

Reading

Just a reminder that your child's reading book from their group reading sessions in school can be found on the below website as an ebook.

Please look out for our new ebook stamp in reading diaries that will tell you when a new book has been added to your child's account. If you have misplaced your child's log in details please speak to their class teacher.

<https://ebooks.collinsopenpage.com/>



Don't forget:

Paper copies of newsletters are available from the school office

Messages from Teachers

Year 1

Headlice has been reported in year 1. Please check and treat your child's hair accordingly.

Year 6 Rivers Trip

Year 6 are looking for parent/carer volunteers to help out with a geography trip in the local area on the morning of **Thursday 8th February**. We will be doing a field sketch of the river Avon, but we need extra adults to make this possible. Please email your child's class teacher if you are able to help out. We would be very grateful!

Year 2 Great Fire of London Exhibition

We welcome parents of year 2 to come and have a look at Year 2 Fire of London Exhibition in the Ashton Hall on:

Wednesday 7th February – Sycamore & Rowan 9.10am

Thursday 8th February – Maple & Oak 9.10am

Parents Evening

Parents Evening dates are:

4th & 6th March Upton Road and 5th & 7th March for Ashton Site

Bookings will open Monday 12th February 7am and close on 1st March 9am. To book please use this link.

<https://parents-booking.co.uk/login.jsp>

A little reminder that World Book Day is on Thursday 7th March 2024



Throughout the school children will be participating in activities to inspire and encourage an atmosphere of reading for pleasure. We invite children to come to school dressed as an inspiring book characters on this day, or as an alternative perhaps children would like to join the staff in embracing the biggest book of words there is ... The Dictionary, and dressing as their favourite word!



Invitation to be a Mystery Reader:

During the week beginning Monday 4th March we invite pupil's family members to pop in as 'mystery' or surprise readers to their child's class. If you are available to come in at any point please do let the class teacher know and come surprise your child with a story.

Parent Governor

Further to the recent communication about the election of Parent Governors, we have received 5 nominations, all duly proposed and seconded, and it will therefore be necessary to hold a vote.

Please use the below link to see the candidate information and vote for your preferred candidate. Voting will close at 9am on Monday 26th February.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/parentgovernor2024>

KS1 Choir Club

Reminder that choir club is cancelled Monday 5th February

PTA News

Dates for your diary

Keep an eye out for more details on these PTA fundraising events, coming soon!

Pub quiz - 15 March - tickets going on sale after half term

Smartie challenge - Easter

PTA Summer Fair - 6 July

Did you know...?

Last year £9000 of PTA fundraising provided play therapy sessions for children needing help with their speech and language.

Gareth Jones, Executive Headteacher, said this about the PTA's contribution:

“Support for speech and language is the most common additional therapy that primary schools access. The funding from the PTA helps pay for a day per week of a fully qualified speech and language therapist in school. The therapist supports individual children, and their families, and has a huge impact on the development of the pupils.

“The therapist works in collaboration with our NHS provider, and the impact is that significantly more pupils are having issues with speech and language delay and development addressed much more rapidly.”

We are always speaking to the school about where best to channel the funds that you all help the PTA to raise. We look forward to working with them on exciting projects in 2024.

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

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

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

Wednesday 19th June 2024

Tuesday 23rd July 2024

