

Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Dear Parents,

### **Spring Term Newsletter No. 12**

#### **EASTER BONNETS**

What a treat it was to see the children looking so splendid in their Easter bonnets this morning. Children and staff alike were able to show off their Easter bonnets and springtime themed hats as we came together in the hall first thing and, year group by year group, everyone stood and gave us a twirl. We finished the assembly with a rousing rendition of 'Spring Chicken'. It was lots of fun.

#### **EASTER SERVICES**

Yesterday and on Wednesday, we had our Easter Services. This year, we decided to divide the school down the middle for the services to give us more space to re-enact the Easter Service. We were delighted to have Reverend Cathy with us for both services and thank the children very much for retelling the Easter story so thoughtfully and movingly. It was a time of reflection and celebration.

#### **BOOK PRIZE ASSEMBLY TODAY**

We concluded the term this morning with our final Book Prize assembly when we announced the class Book Prize Winners for the Spring Term. As ever, the teachers have had a difficult task, choosing just one child, but they have now made their decisions and every one of the Book Prize Winners is thoroughly well deserved. The winners for this term are:

<b>Hedgehog Class</b>	<b>Isla Mason</b>
<b>Squirrel Class</b>	<b>Amelia King</b>
<b>Rabbit Class</b>	<b>Alice Duke</b>
<b>Frog Class</b>	<b>Aiden Maddocks</b>
<b>Dragonfly Class</b>	<b>Louie Hill</b>
<b>Butterfly Class</b>	<b>Amelie Zhai</b>
<b>Otter Class</b>	<b>Clara Dobey</b>
<b>Fox Class</b>	<b>Luke Gissendanner</b>
<b>Badger Class</b>	<b>Amelia Petersen</b>
<b>Robin Class</b>	<b>Jadene Bennett</b>
<b>Skylark Class</b>	<b>Emily Jose</b>
<b>Woodpecker Class</b>	<b>Tyler Baard</b>
<b>Kingfisher Class</b>	<b>Olivia Mills</b>
<b>Swan Class</b>	<b>Sophia Ayton-Hill</b>
<b>Owl Class</b>	<b>Jack Souries</b>
<b>Kestrel Class</b>	<b>Kieren Willis</b>
<b>Eagle Class</b>	<b>Zach Cheung</b>
<b>Hawk Class</b>	<b>Gabriel Wild</b>

#### **ART AND DESIGN PRIZES**

We also celebrated eight children today whose creative talents and beautiful artwork have really caught the eye. Many congratulations to:

<b>Reception Year</b>	<b>Zara Rajan</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Aaron Chang</b>
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Saffron Penlington</b>
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Louie Chang</b>
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Issy Elderkin</b>
<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Toby Owen</b>
<b>Hawk Class</b>	<b>Charlotte Elkins</b>
<b>Eagle Class</b>	<b>Sofia Mikutaite</b>

### **SPORTS AWARD**

The Sports Awards this term go to two members of Year 6, who have a real passion for sport, participating with great enthusiasm and representing the school with pride. The Sports Award winners for the Spring Term are **Louisa Carrodus** and **Christopher Moss**.

### **SPORTS COUNCIL NEWSLETTER**

Please find attached the link to the Sports Council newsletter. They hope you enjoy reading it. It certainly is a great celebration of all the sport that is going on at the school!

<https://spark.adobe.com/page/RwnUnzfZmibyp/>

### **DISTRICT SPORTS CROSS COUNTRY**

On Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March, children from Years 3-6 represented Ashley School at the District Cross Country. All the children gave their best and did us proud against some strong competition. The Under 9 boys came second overall, the Under 10 boys came third and there was a fantastic second place run from Lily in the Under 11 girls event. Well done, everyone, and thank you to all the families for the fantastic support.

### **MATHLETICS RESULTS**

Well done to the whole school for a fantastic Mathletics week. The school was buzzing with excitement! Congratulations to our year group winners.

- Year R: Archie
- Year 1: Finlay
- Year 2: Henry C
- Year 3: Poppy
- Year 4: William B
- Year 5: Stephanie
- Year 6: Freya

The infant class winner was Fox Class. The junior class winner was Skylark class. A massive well done to Evan in year 3 for being the whole school winner overall.

### **FRIENDS OF ASHLEY MESSAGE**

We hope the children enjoyed their little treat from the FOA today and a massive thank you to Sainsbury's who donated the 540 Hot Cross Buns! If you're wondering what 540 buns look like, take a look at the photo on our social media.

Today is Movie Night and we look forward to welcoming the children and parents later. We hope everyone has a wonderful time. Thank you to the organising team, Zory Lyoubenova-Wolff and Paola Russell, and all the helpers.

Thanks to everyone for your continued support of the FOA and for all the donations that keep coming in via our trusty FOA bin. We hope you all have a lovely Easter and we'll see you next term for the May Ball and Summer Fete.

We love to hear from you so do get in touch with Gill or Fahima.  
[thefriendsofashley@gmail.com](mailto:thefriendsofashley@gmail.com)

### **HARMONY TEACHERS' GUIDE**

You may be interested to know that I have recently published a Harmony teachers' guide on our approach to learning at Ashley School. The book focuses on four key areas; the values that underpin the school, the enquiries of learning that frame the curriculum, the principles of Harmony that guide what we learn and how we understand the world, and our Great Works that celebrate the outcomes of

the learning the children do each half-term. The challenge, of course, is to make sure the core skills of reading, writing and maths can be secured and applied through this approach. As you may be aware, Ofsted is currently reviewing its inspection framework to ensure learning has greater purpose and, having met a lead Ofsted inspector recently, it is clear that our approach is very much aligned to their thinking. If you would like to see the book or even buy a copy, do drop in.

### **FAREWELLS**

Today we say farewell to two members of staff, one who is moving on to another school and one who is going on maternity leave. Annie Farghihi, who has been such a wonderful Teaching Assistant in Reception and Squirrel Class in particular, and whose warmth and love of children shines through every day, is relocating to a school much closer to her home in Farnborough. Her new role will be at another Good Shepherd Trust School, Farnborough Grange, and we are sure she will have an equally positive impact there. We will miss you very much, Annie, and wish you every happiness in your new position.

Louise Athersuch, as lots of you will know, is going on maternity leave. The good news is that Louise anticipates being back in January and we look forward to having her energy, enthusiasm and smiling face back then. In the meantime, we wish her all the very best for the birth of her first child and we hope that you will get some quality feet-up time before the arrival, Lou. We can't wait to meet your baby! The new teacher in Kestrel Class will be Clare Ferris.

It just remains to wish you all a Very Happy Easter and a restful break. We return for the Summer Term on Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April at the usual time.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Dunne  
Headteacher