

# Ashbrow School

## Newsletter

Sept 2018

### Welcome

A very warm welcome back to school - we hope you have had a wonderful summer and enjoyed the good weather. It is lovely to see our pupils - both old and new - in school looking so smart in their uniforms and ready to learn.

As always, the summer in school has been spent improving the school premises, including the heating system in the KS1 building and the new hall roof in KS2. You may also be aware that our Nursery has been relocated to our Forest School Building, creating a spacious learning environment for our youngest pupils and providing our Reception children with a much greater space. This is already proving to be a success.

The most noticeable improvement is to our car park and on page 2 overleaf we have explained the changes in more detail. Thank you to the parents who have been so positive in their feedback to staff. Most have appreciated how much safer our new car park is for our pupils - which is, of course, our top priority.

### REMINDER:

**Thursday 25 October** -  
early finish 12.45pm (for whole school staff training)

**Friday 26 October** -  
school closed for staff training

**Week commencing 29 October** -  
HALF TERM

**Monday 5 November** -  
back to school

### Mobile phones

Some children in Year 5 and 6 who have written parental permission to walk home also sometimes bring mobile phones into school.

If it is essential that if your child in Year 5 or 6 brings a phone to school please understand that we cannot accept responsibility for these items and cannot guarantee their safe keeping.

### Nut free zone

Please remember that we have a number of children who are allergic to nuts. This includes food that include nuts as an ingredient eg peanut butter, certain snack bars, etc. It is important for us to continue to be a safe nut free zone. Please remember that this includes ALL buildings in school and in the school grounds.



### Contact details

Can we please ask if you have changed any of your contact details, including telephone numbers and change of address to please kindly inform the office.

### School clubs

School clubs (including homework club) will start week commencing Monday 24 September. Letters will be coming home shortly.

## New improved car park

During the summer, extensive work was carried out on our car park. Those who had a peek during the summer would have been surprised by the level of engineering this took, including extensive underground works.

Improvements include:

- An increased number of spaces
- Four disabled spaces
- A drop off zone
- A safe walkway
- Barriers to ensure that the car park is not in use out of school hours.

### Drop off zone

This zone is strictly for parents dropping off children who are independent and old enough (eg KS2) to be able to walk on their own into school. Cars should not be left here for any period of time.

### Disabled zone

These spaces are for families who have a *Disabled Badge* (which must be displayed). You will see that the area is coned off and this is to ensure that cars do not park in front of the disabled spaces.



### Important

- If the car park is full please park on the main road, ensuring that you do not block residents' driveways.
- We are very fortunate as a school to have the car park - not all schools do - please bear in mind that not all parents will be able to find a space every day.

Parents will be aware that during past years the school has grown - that makes parking increasingly difficult. Please bear this in mind when you decide what time to leave home, allowing enough time to park.



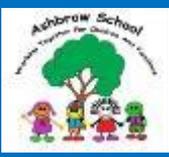
### Walk to school!

Why not avoid having to park your car by walking to school? It's a fantastic way to improve your fitness, save money and get some extra quality time together...



Finally, our car park attendant Dominic will continue to be on hand for the next few weeks to help ensure the smooth flow of traffic. As with all our staff in school, verbal or physical abuse of any kind towards him will not be tolerated and could result in abusive parents being stopped from coming on to school property.

**Again, thank you to all those who have been so supportive of our school improvements.**



## School council request

Three members of our School Council were asked to consider how our family assemblies could be improved. They spoke to a randomly selected group of children across school and came up with the following guidance for parents and guests which they believe will help everyone get the most of this special time.

- Be on time and don't leave the assembly early.
- Switch off mobile phones.
- Be good role models and avoid talking during the assembly.
- Respect babies and young children who cry or need to run around by giving them a cuddle and taking them out for some fresh air

## Moving safely

We would like to remind families that no bikes or scooters or similar should be ridden on school grounds - all areas are for walking only, with the exception of the staff cars in the staff car park. The exception to this rule would be mobility scooters and other disability aids, which must be driven at a very low speed for safety.

This is particularly important during the drop off and pick up periods, which are extremely busy. The hill from KS2 down to the gates can result in an unexpected increase in speed! We ask that adults and pupils all use the paths allocated to ensure safety.

We also remind families that no pets are allowed on school premises without prior permission.

## Immunisations

Pupils will be able to receive flu immunisations in school on Tuesday 20 November. Parents will receive further information and forms to opt in or out of this opportunity.

The children's nasal spray flu vaccine is for Reception children and Years 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. It protects them from flu for a year.

Meanwhile, the NHS have produced a helpful child-friendly video - please take the time to download it:

<http://www.nhs.uk/video/pages/flu-heroes-nasal-flu-spray-for-kids.aspx>



## Healthy eating school

Ashbrow School is a healthy eating school - we believe the eating habits children learn early on have a big impact on their long term health, their dental health and also eating habits as an adult. Sweet 'treats' are not allowed to be brought into school.

On occasions, eg birthdays, if you feel that you would like to send in a celebration 'snack', please make sure it is a healthy snack, for example cheese and biscuits, or some of the more unusual fruits. Some of our school council are creating an alternative list of ways to celebrate birthdays. This will be circulated soon. Bubbles seem to be a hot favourite!



Introduce school planners to support children's learning

Develop 'Marking and Feedback' and make more efficient use of time and to include SEE-SAW record keeping

Accelerate the progress of all pupils



Accreditation  
P4C Silver  
Sing Up Community  
Food For Life Gold  
ECO Green Flag



Diminish the gaps between different groups



Effectively support and manage the induction and training of new staff and those new to role



Develop Philosophy for children



Exploit opportunities to improve the development of early skills in literacy





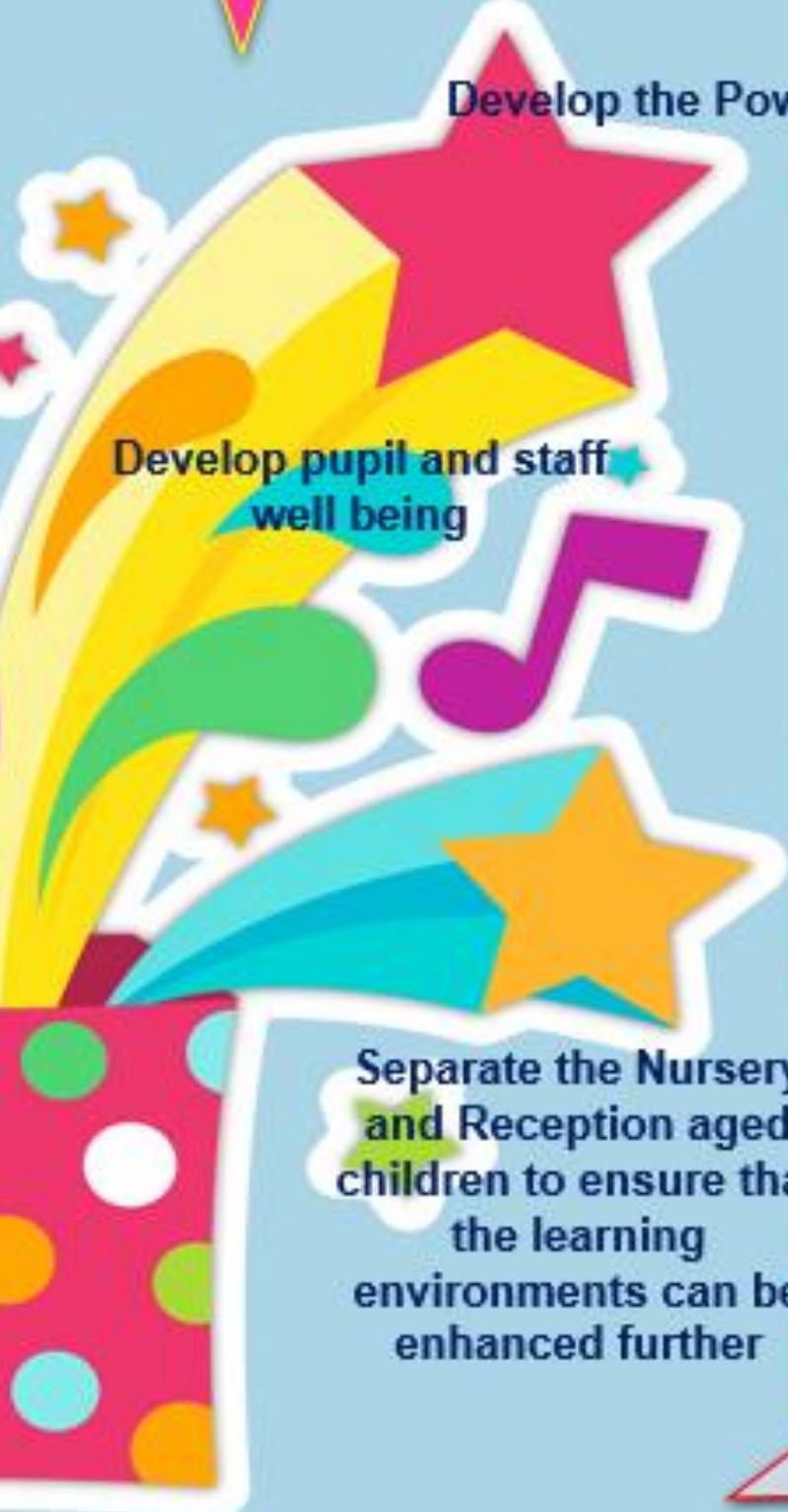
Effectively manage  
the strategic  
maintenance plan



Improve pupil  
attendance



Develop the Power of Reading



Develop pupil and staff  
well being



Increase  
attainment in  
all subjects  
particularly  
Phonics,  
Spelling,  
Maths,  
Writing and  
Reading



Separate the Nursery  
and Reception aged  
children to ensure that  
the learning  
environments can be  
enhanced further



Ensure the more able  
pupils are consistently  
and effectively  
challenged throughout  
their learning

**Ashbrow School**

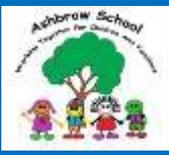
**2018-2019**

**School Improvement Plan**



Work alongside the  
Imaginary  
Communities team  
to enhance  
provision





## High school applications

We will be writing to our Year 6 parents shortly to explain how to apply for high school places for next year. The deadline for applications is Wednesday 31 October 2018, during the half term holiday. It is extremely important that applications are made on time.

[www.kirklees.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/admissions)

## Term time holidays

As parents/carers we all want the best for our children and know that having a good education will open up more opportunities in adult life. Bearing this in mind, we would just like to remind you of the law regarding term time holidays.

As parents/carers you have a legal duty to ensure your child/children attend school on a regular basis. The Education Act makes it a criminal offence for a parent to "fail to secure their child's attendance at the school".

The amendments to the Regulations some time ago remove any reference to family holidays, extended leave and the statutory threshold of ten school days. This amendment makes it very clear that Head teachers may not grant any leave of absence (holiday during term time) unless there are exceptional circumstances.

The amendments give parents no entitlement to take their child out of school for a holiday in term time and require the school to determine if the reason is exceptional. If parents, contrary to the guidance, still decide to take their child out of school for a leave of absence then the absence will be coded as unauthorised.

An unauthorised code may also apply if the child is said to be ill but is known to be absent due to a holiday. This will lead the school to referring the matter to the Local Authority Education Welfare Officer who may issue a Fixed Penalty Notice.

## School office

We have over 430 children at Ashbrow so we have a very busy school office. There has been an increase in the number of parents/carers bringing items to the school office that they wish the office staff to deliver to their child/ren. Can we please ask that parents/carers refrain from coming to the office to ask for such items to be taken to their child; these tasks remove our office staff from their daily responsibilities in the office so that they are unable to answer the phone or support with medical needs.

## Swimmer superstars

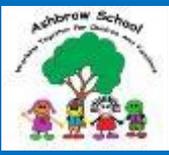
Two of our pupils were swimming superstars and helped raise £2,207 at an event held at North Huddersfield Trust School last term.

Harley Cuniffe and Lily-Mai Holmes (now year 3) swam the event with Aqua Strokes (their swim school) to raise funds to buy a defibrillator for the high school. **Well done!**



## Moving on

After several years at Ashbrow Miss Barrett is moving on. She is looking forward to new opportunities that lie before here. We wish Miss Barrett every happiness and would like to thank her for her hard work and commitment to the school. We are delighted that Miss Barrett has promised to stay in touch.



## School app

A larger number of people have downloaded our school app; which is a great.

As mentioned last term all letters, newsletters and notices will now come to you via the app. If you know of any parents/carers who have not downloaded the app as of yet, then please encourage them to do so. Simply search for 'Ashbrow School' or use 'HD2 1EX' to download the app from your phone's app store.

No paper copies of letters will be sent unless you request this at the school office. Paper copies of letters may be sent from time to time if a permission slip is required or if the letter is only for a small, specific group of children.

Follow us on Facebook  
and Twitter!



## Head boy, head girl and prefects

At the end of September we will be holding interviews for members of our pupil leadership team. We will be looking for one Head-Girl and one Head-Boy Plus deputies. Primarily the elected pupils will be excellent role models for other pupils in the school.

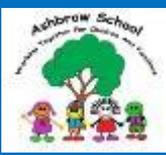
When we are choosing our head girl and boy and our prefects we will be taking many things into account including:

- thoughtfulness and care for others
- reliability
- trustworthiness
- positive attitude to learning - growth mindset
- good organisational skills
- adaptability
- good attendance
- perseverance

- knowing the right thing to do and doing it. They will also lead the Prefects in their duties.

### The roles and responsibilities of the head boy and girl and prefects:

- show visitors around the school
- prepare for singing assembly and other assemblies, when required
- intervene on the playground if necessary
- help to organise functions
- hand out certificates
- give out notices in assemblies
- check that all pupils and parents come into assembly in an appropriate manner
- support Parent evenings



# Autumn Word Search

B	U	G	U	N	T	L	C	Z	M	A	D	A	O	F
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E	T	A	U	H	S	P	S	T	K	P	E	M	G	F
A	C	N	A	N	A	N	U	E	L	O	I	W	N	E
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ACORN  
APPLE CIDER  
AUTUMN  
BONFIRE

FAMILY  
HAYRIDE  
LEAVES  
PUMPKIN

SCARECROW  
SMORES  
TURKEY  
THANKS