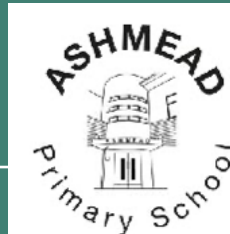


Ashmead News



Through excellent teaching and care every child knows they are both loveable and capable



Welcome back!

I hope everyone had a fantastic summer break - it was a summer to remember with record breaking temperatures and a solar eclipse! I have loved catching up with the children over the first 7 days in school to hear what they've been up to. As we return to school we welcome three new teachers, Jess Porter (Y2), Jenny Speight (Y5) and Charlotte Stapleton (Y6) who have all settled in well and already feel like part of the Ashmead family. *See their messages and photos below.*

In terms of other welcomes we will be welcoming Ofsted in to the school this term so look out for more information about that once we get the call. They love to hear from parents, carers and children as well as staff so look out for how to do that if you'd like to contribute. We'd love them to see just what an amazing place Ashmead is. Thanks to the PTA who have already been busy in the playground working on the raised beds and seeing which plants survived the drought! See the PTA News section for upcoming events and dates and join us for the AGM, this year it will be in the evening so hopefully lots of you will be able to come along.

If I haven't seen you on the gates yet then do catch up and say hello, here's to another great year! As always if you have any feedback or want to contact me you can do so at headteacher@ashmead.lewisham.sch.uk

Jane Bickley - Headteacher

Messages from our new teachers

From Jess: It's been really lovely joining Ashmead this year. I'm very happy to be part of such a caring and creative school!



From Jenny: I have really enjoyed settling into Ashmead and feeling part of such a welcoming, vibrant community.



From Charlotte: I've had a very warm welcome to Ashmead - everyone has been eager to help me settle in, staff and children alike!



If you don't already know your child's Seesaw log ins then the teachers will be sending these home in the next week or so/at the meet the teacher meetings.



Club offers have now gone out and booking opens tomorrow (Tuesday 15th Sept). Check your emails for details.



Attendance

Our 'year to date' attendance for the first 8 days of the school year is 94.8% (just below the National Average of 95.5%). Every day counts!

Dates for the diary

15th Sept: Y5 Meet the Teacher - 9am in school

16th Sept: Y6 Meet the Teacher - 9am in school

17th Sept: Y3 Meet the Teacher - 9am in school

18th Sept: Y2 Meet the Teacher - 9am in school

Week beginning 21st: Clubs start

21st Sept: Y4 Roman Britain workshop (in school)

22nd Sept: Y1 Meet the Teacher - 9am in school

23rd Sept: Y4 Meet the Teacher - 9am in school

24th Sept: Open Morning for prospective parents - 9.30am

25th Sept: Reception Meet the Teacher and PTA Coffee Morning - 9am in school

1st Oct: Y4 trip to London Mithraeum and PTA Family Quiz (6pm at The Brookmill)

2nd Oct: Y6 school journey meetings for Y6 parents - 9.15 (in school) and repeated online at 5pm

6th Oct: Flu immunisation team in school

7th Oct: Y2 Lego workshop (in school)

9th Oct: Open Morning for prospective parents - 9.30am

14th - 16th Oct: Y6 away on School Journey residential

15th Oct: PTA AGM - 6.30pm in school. ALL WELCOME.

16th Oct: PTA Cake and Costume Sale - 3.30pm in playground

19th, 20th and 21st Oct: Parent-Teacher-Child conferences 3.50 - 5.40pm



PTA News

In 2025/26, we raised an impressive £15,000 through the incredible support of the Ashmead community! This will be spent on a new PA system, a curriculum mural for the stairwell in the upper school building and a mural project for the Lewisham Way entrance, which we'll get everyone involved with this year - watch this space! (You can see more about our 2025/6 targets [here](#).)

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Join us for the Annual General Meeting on Thursday, 16th October at 6:30pm in the school hall to learn how it was done and what's next.

This is not just a meeting - it's an opportunity to shape the future of our school community! Whether you're a long-time member, have been considering joining the committee or are brand new, your voice matters. We'll share exciting plans for the upcoming year and a new committee will be elected - you can self-nominate; each nomination must be seconded by two additional members. Want to know more? Get in touch: ashmeadschoolpta@gmail.com

Anecia, Rudolf, and Sarah are stepping down after years of dedicated service, allowing fresh change makers to join the committee - though they'll remain part of the support crew. A big thank you to Annie, Ezma, Irina, Kate, Oci and Zoha who continue their fantastic work!

Parent suggestions & skills survey

Thank you to everyone who filled in our parent survey at the end of last term. You've given us so many great ideas - from new events like 'Pints & Ponytails' to things we could offer like cycling skills. You've also told us how we can improve, including giving clearer information about what we're raising money for and how we can communicate better. We're going through the results carefully and will incorporate as many of your ideas as we can. Thanks also if you said you could help out - we'll be in touch!

PTA DATES

Friday 25th September: 9am Coffee morning (School Hall)
 Thursday 1st October: 6pm Family Quiz Evening (Brookmill Pub)
 Thursday 15th October: 6:30pm Annual General Meeting (School Hall)
 Friday 16th October: 3:30pm Cake & Costume Sale (Playground)
 Friday 6th November: 9am Winter Fair Sorting (School Hall)
 Friday 27th November: 9am Winter Fair Sorting (School Hall)
 Friday 4th December: 3:30-6:00pm Winter Fair (Playground)

SAFEGUARDING - AFTER SCHOOL PLAYGROUND SAFETY

Once you have collected your child please leave promptly via either the Ashmead Road or Lewisham Way gates so that After School Club can safely start accessing the outdoor space. Staff are busy dismissing children so are not able to supervise the playground.

Areas like the climbing frame are out of bounds at the end of the day (even if the children are with a parent). The playground equipment should be in trugs ready for the next day but if you see a stray ball or racket then do please return it to a trug. Thank you.

Dates for the diary

We hope it is useful to have some key dates up front for the rest of the year. Of course we will be adding to these dates as the year progresses and we add more exciting events, trips and workshops.

See the section above for dates up until October half term.

22nd Oct: Open Morning for prospective parents - 9.30am

**23rd October: INSET day
(school closed to children)**

**26th - 30th October
Half term break**

6th Nov: 9am Winter Fair Sorting (School Hall)

11th Nov: Open Morning for prospective parents - 9.30am

11th Nov: Y3 trip to Horniman Museum

24th Nov: Open Morning for prospective parents - 9.30am

27th Nov: 9am Winter Fair Sorting (School Hall)

**Friday 4th December: PTA Winter Fair
3:30-6:00pm**

8th Dec: Y2 nativity - 2.30pm in school hall

9th Dec: Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch

11th Dec: Open Morning for prospective parents - 9.30am

15th Dec: Reception Christmas songs performance - 9.05am and Year 1 Christmas songs performance - 3.00pm

16th Dec: Year 5 Christmas songs performance - 9.05am and Year 4 Christmas songs performance - 3.00pm

17th Dec: Year 6 Christmas songs performance - 9.05am and Year 3 Christmas songs performance - 3.00pm

19th Dec: Last day of autumn term

**21st Dec - 1st Jan (inc)
Winter break**

**4th Jan: INSET Day
(school closed to children)**

5th Jan: Children back at school

6th Jan: Open Morning for prospective parents - 9.30am

19th Jan: Choir taking part in Young Voices at O2 (evening)

**15th - 19th Feb (inc)
Half term break**

23rd Feb: Children back at school

1st, 2nd and 3rd March: 3.50pm - 5.40pm:
Parent-Teacher-Child conferences

11th March: Y5 performing at The Albany as part of Shakespeare Schools Festival (evening)

25th March: Last day of spring term (Thursday)

**26th March - 9th April (inc)
Easter break**

13th April: Children back at school

12th - 23rd April : Y4 Lime Swimming sessions

10th - 21st May: Y4 Pine Swimming sessions

10th - 13th May: KS2 SATs week

**28th May: INSET day
(school closed to children)**

**31st May - 4th June (inc)
Half term break**

7th - 11th June: Sports Week (inc Sports Days)

12th - 16th July: Report afternoons

21st July: Y6 leavers' assembly (am) and last day of summer term

**22nd July: INSET day
(school closed to children)**

**23rd July - 31st August (inc)
Summer break**

**1st Sept: INSET day
(school closed to children)**