

Ashmead News

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



Welcome back!

It has been lovely to see so many of you at the recent 'Meet the Teacher' meetings. If you weren't able to attend, or if you want a reminder of what we went through, the slides from each meeting are on the year group pages on the website: <https://www.ashmead.lewisham.sch.uk/Year-Group-Pages/>

We have been busy in school with School Council elections for all children in Year 2 - Year 6 and as part of this process we have been talking to the children about the value of Democracy. They experienced democracy in action as we set up a Polling Station for them to come and cast their votes. Two of last year's School Councillors acted as Poll Clerk and Presiding Officer giving out papers and checking names and Andy was Returning Officer. Results were announced last week and we are all looking forward to seeing what School Council discuss and achieve this academic year.

School trips, workshops and visits have begun for the year and the children are excited to enhance their learning through these enrichment opportunities. The range of experiences we can offer are only possible through the contributions we receive from families so if you are able to make a contribution towards school trips please do so through the School Shop on Arbor.

Thanks for your ongoing support.

Jane Bickley - Headteacher

SAFEGUARDING - ONLINE SAFETY

An important reminder to all families to be both mindful and vigilant in terms of the online content children are accessing. This includes any programmes/movies children are watching on streaming platforms such as YouTube or Netflix.

As you know we are a Smartphone Free School, but it is also important to remember that even if children have access to a phone at home, no primary aged children are old enough to either have their own social media (e.g. a YouTube account) or access to social media accounts (including WhatsApp).



Club bookings

Clubs have started and it is lovely to see the range of enrichment experiences on offer.

If your child has been offered a club but the place has not been booked we will be offering these places to children on the waiting list so do please book ASAP.



Attendance

Our 'year to date' attendance is 95.8%.
(in line with the National Average of 95.6%).

Don't forget you can now track your own child/children's live attendance via the Arbor app or by logging into Arbor on your browser. We appreciate you bringing your child to school every day they are well enough to be here.

Dates for the diary

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

2nd Oct: NHS Height and Weight screening for Reception and Year 6

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)

8th Oct: Y1 local walk trip

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

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

23rd October: INSET Day
School closed to children

October half term break
26th - 30th Oct (inc)

2nd Nov: Children back to school

6th Nov: PTA Winter Fair sorting - 9.00 - 10am

9th Nov: Y5 trip to London Central Mosque

11th Nov: Y3 trip to Horniman Museum and Open Morning for prospective parents - 9.30am

18th Nov: Y4 trip to Maritime Museum

PTA News

Thank you to everyone that attended the coffee morning last Friday. It was a great turnout and excellent to see so many parents and carers eager to get involved! For those who were unable to join, you can see what was discussed on the PTA page on the school website.

[https://](https://www.ashmead.lewisham.sch.uk/PTA/)

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Family Quiz

The Family Quiz is this Thursday 1st October at The Brookmill Pub. Doors open at 5pm and the quiz starts at 6pm.

The Brookmill are offering deals on food and drinks - £12 steak, £10 cauliflower steak and £7 cocktails.

Last remaining tickets are available here:

<https://ashmead-pta-1.sumupstore.com/product/family-quiz-night-2026>

Annual General Meeting

Join us for the AGM on **Thursday, 15th October at 6:30pm** in the school hall. This is not just a meeting - it's an opportunity to shape the future of our school community!

We'll share exciting plans for the upcoming year and a new committee will be elected. If you would like to know more about joining the committee, please get in touch ashmeadschoolpta@gmail.com

As we have a number of committee members stepping down this year, we are looking for parents/carers to fill the vacant roles. There are three roles that are mandatory and must be filled - Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. If you are considering any of these roles but would like to know more, please get in touch and we would be happy to discuss.

Cake & Costume Sale 3:30pm Friday 16th October, School Playground

The annual cake and costume sale is always a hit with the children. For those on the lookout for new costumes it's a good opportunity to pick up a second-hand costume for a great price.

We would be grateful for donations of costumes that you no longer want. Please leave donations at the school office.

PTA DATES

1st October: 6pm Family Quiz Evening (Brookmill Pub)

15th October: 6:30pm Annual General Meeting (School)

16th October: 3:30pm Cake & Costume Sale (Playground)

6th November: 9am Winter Fair Sorting (School)

27th November: 9am Winter Fair Sorting (School)

4th December: 3:30-6:00pm Winter Fair (Playground)

How to support the PTA and our children

Volunteer

Volunteers are crucial to the running of PTA events

- **Volunteer your time** at our events
- **Join the committee** and play a hands on role in shaping the PTA

Donate

- Look out for specific donation requests for our events
- Buy something at one of our events
- Buy name labels via **Stikins** (use code 885)
- Sign up to **Easyfundraising** - raise funds for FREE
- **Company donations** or charity working days
- Donate via **Wonderful**



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES FOR THIS YEAR

We are always looking at ways we can make our school even better and we will be repeating our now annual parent-carer survey next month at the Parent-Teacher Meetings.

As a school we are also working on three priorities:

1. Every child included and successful (strengthening our inclusive culture)
2. High quality teaching in every classroom (enhancing our cohesive curriculum and responsive assessment)
3. Strong starts, smooth transitions and successful partnerships (appropriate challenge and support as children move up through the school and working closely with families and the wider community).