



### Message from the Head Teacher

I hope you all a good rest over the half term. The children have returned to school with a continued enthusiasm for learning, which is always pleasing to see.

I can confirm that the National Education Union (NEU) will be continuing with their industrial action on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023. Therefore, Ashmole Primary School will be closed for our pupils this Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 due to the absence of our teaching staff. I will keep you updated with events for the upcoming possible strike dates on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March, as soon as I am aware of any updates.

We have a fun packed month ahead. Miss Macdonald and Mr Bonallo have been working incredibly hard behind the scenes setting up lots of fun and inspirational activities which will take place all this week during Book Week. Parents/carers will be able to purchase books for their children at our Scholastic Book Fair in the Hall, which runs every day throughout the week before school and at the end of the school day. As normal, the week will end with staff and pupils dressing up as their favourite 'villain' book character - watch this space!

Science Week begins week commencing Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March. Miss Macdonald is also working hard to create lots of fun and exciting activities which will take place in class and at the Secondary School throughout the week. Again, the week will come to a close with staff and pupils dressing up as a Scientist for the day.

As you may know, Roza stepped down as Chair of the APPTA. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Roza for her hard work and dedication during her time as Chair. Her successor is Vinod (Year 1 parent) and I look forward to working with him and the core committee on some very exciting projects! I would like to thank the PTA for purchasing the new Outdoor Classroom. The outdoor classroom will be a huge addition to our pupils' learning space during the warmer months and will be used for many years to come. Thank you to all the members of the PTA that gave up their free time to ensure the outdoor classroom project ran smoothly. Their next big project will be the purchase of some much needed cabins. The cabins will be used for group work and instrumental lessons. The APPTA are busy arranging lots of lovely events throughout the Spring term, including class parties and cake sales. We want to build on our Wildlife Garden, purchase a table-tennis table, build on our reading books and play equipment.

Parent Consultations are due to take place at the end of March for all year groups. Further information will be sent out in the coming weeks. If you are unable to book an appointment for any reason, please speak to your child's class teacher directly.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to a new member of our Kitchen Team: Mrs Blankson. I wish her a long and successful career at Ashmole Primary.

Wishing you all a very exciting, fun packed month ahead.

Best wishes

Mr Tofallis  
Head Teacher



## Reception

We have had a busy month in Reception! In Maths, we have continued to explore measuring - weight and time. We explored the balancing scales and we particularly enjoyed pretending to be a human balancing scales too! When learning about time, we were able to identify times to o'clock and enjoyed sharing what we do at different times of the day. Since we have come back from half-term, we have started investigating our new topic of 'people who help us'. Both classes are very excited to learn about a variety of jobs and meet people from these occupations!



## Year 1

Year 1 has had a very busy month at school. They were busy practising for their class assembly which was all about the 'Victorians'. They performed this to their parents and carers and I think we can all agree they did an amazing job. We have definitely got some movie stars in the making! In Literacy, Year 1 was given the task to help Mr Tofallis catch some creatures that had invaded Ashmole Primary School! They learnt about the features of instructional writing and then planned and wrote their own set of instructions on how to capture either an alien, dinosaur, dragon or fairy. It is safe to say all creatures have been caught and the school is now safe thanks to the wonderful writing of Year 1. Finally, Year 1 thoroughly enjoyed their recent music workshop from the Beatbox Collective group. They learnt about the history of beatboxing and the basic skills.





## Year 2

This month the children have started their new topic in Maths on shape, and have already had lots of fun finding lines of symmetry in 2D shapes. As well as exploring the three dimensions of solid shapes too.

In Literacy we have started to explore the features of an explanation text, and how they are used for a range of purposes. We linked this topic with our Science theme and used our skills to explain the life cycle of a butterfly.

We have absolutely loved seeing all of Year 2s fantastic model dinosaurs that were made over half term. They are already on display in the classrooms giving the whole place a prehistoric feel. A major highlight this month, was the visit of the Beatbox Collective for our interactive session. The children were absolutely amazed (as were the adults) at the skill of these artists, and the incredible sounds they can make with just their mouths and a microphone! It was wonderful to see the children get to try this art form and have such fun in the process.

We look forward to the month ahead and it already feels like we have started our descent into Easter!

Thank you again for all your help and support.



## Year 3

Year 3 have had a fantastic start back to the second half of the spring half term. We had the amazing opportunity to meet some real-life beatboxers! We had a great time learning to make new sounds and performing on stage to our friends and teachers. In Maths we are learning about fractions and how to recognise unit and non-unit fractions as well as identifying equivalent fractions. We are learning about fair trade in Geography and where our food comes from. In Literacy, we will be learning about how to make chocolate and we will be writing all about this process. In Science, we will be learning about forces and magnets and we are also looking forward to Science Week when we will get the chance to visit the secondary school to carry out some experiments. In Spanish, we have been learning a song about transport which has been so much fun!







## Year 4

Year 4 have been involved in exciting activities since returning from half term. We were lucky enough to have a beatbox artist come in for a workshop. We learnt different beatboxing skills and how the various sounds are made. Some of us even performed on stage! We all thoroughly enjoyed this activity and had lots of fun! This week in Literacy, we have been focussing on different types of grammar such as coordinating conjunctions, subordinating conjunctions and much more! As well as this, in D&T we created our own Tudor menus consisting of 3 courses - we learnt all the different types of food that was eaten in Tudor times. In Geography we have been looking at changes in weather. We have had discussions about the different countries we have visited and what the weather is like, while also looking at their location on a map. We also enjoyed making paper chains for Children's Mental Health Week around the topic of 'Feeling Connected'.



## Year 5

We hope you all had a lovely half term? Hopefully we now have better weather on the way as we have a fun term ahead. February may be the shortest month but we still managed to work hard and have lots of fun in Year 5.

We have been enjoying our new Science unit the Earth and Beyond. We have had more and more 3D space projects being brought into school and have been busy creating space art based on the art work of Peter Thorpe. It's a very stylised 1950's sci-fi design and we enjoyed designing our own versions of his paintings.

We had a visit from the Community Police Officer which was very interesting and she gave us lots of helpful tips and advice for keeping ourselves safe.

The main point being that we really need to know our own address and our parent's phone number in case of an emergency. We also had a fantastic music workshop with the Beatbox Collective on the first day back after the holiday. They were absolutely fantastic and we learned lots of amazing fun ways to use our voices to make music.





## Year 6

This month, our Year 6 pupils have been successfully studying and demonstrating the skills required to tackle algebra in their Maths. They have done really well to understand the steps they need to take in order to solve algebraic equations and even form some of their own! On top of this, we are very proud to see what an interest they have taken into learning about the Second World War - using research and discussion they have looked at how an evacuee child coped with leaving their families; it was interesting to view both the negative and positive aspects to this. In History this week, we are debating whether bombs should have been dropped on Pearl Harbour and Japan during the WW2. We are also gearing up for the Wye Valley trip so we are very excited!



## Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal

Thanks to your generosity, we have raised an amazing £1,265 for British Red Cross. A special thank you to everyone that donated.

Your donations will be used to reach people in urgent need in the aftermath of the earthquakes. It will provide support and aid that includes:

- Distributing essentials like food water and blankets
- Setting up temporary shelters to support thousands of survivors who are facing freezing conditions
- Providing first aid and crisis support
- Assisting with the rescue efforts and getting people vital medical aid
- Providing psychosocial support to those who have been traumatised

More than 9,000 Turkish Red Crescent (Kizilay) and Syrian Arab Red Crescent staff and volunteers have been working around the clock in unimaginably difficult conditions to help people who have lost everything.

Thanks again for your support.







# Breakfast and After School Club

This month in BASC, we concentrated on Valentine's Day. The children produced lots of beautiful artwork. We talked about our families and friendships and how important they are in our lives.

Even during the cold weather, we encourage children to play outdoors. Being active is not only great for physical health and fitness but also for mental well-being. This being said, the children also enjoy playing board games and puzzles.







## Sports News

On 9<sup>th</sup> February, the boys A team represented Ashmole in the second round of the Dick Bailey Cup Match. The boys played against Foulds Primary School and demonstrated excellent sportsmanship and teamwork. We were all incredibly happy with the 1-0 win scored by Maxi and are looking forward to our next game in the Dick Bailey Cup. Well done boys!



On 24<sup>th</sup> February, some of our girls who play football played a league game against Brunswick Park. Although we lost 2-0, it was evident to see the progress that the girls have made since September. Keep up the fantastic football girls and we look forward to our next match! Well done girls!





## Our Value for March is Respect

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### Diary Dates - March 2023

Respect all things  
BIG & small



Show respect  
even to people  
who don't deserve  
it; not as a  
reflection of their  
character, but as a  
reflection of yours.

Value for March is Respect

Date	Time	Event
All week	Before and after school	Scholastic Book Fair in the Hall/Library
1 <sup>st</sup>	7pm-9pm	Governors Meeting - Standards and Curriculum
2 <sup>nd</sup>	All day	NEU Strike Action - SCHOOL CLOSED
3 <sup>rd</sup>	All day 3.15pm 6pm - 8pm	Dress up as a book villain character APPTA Cake Sale APPTA Year 4 Disco
6 <sup>th</sup>	AM	Reception - Hearing and Vision check
7 <sup>th</sup> 9 <sup>th</sup> 10 <sup>th</sup>	AM All day AM	Reception - Hearing and Vision check Year 5 trip to the British Museum Year 4 Church trip
13 <sup>th</sup> 15 <sup>th</sup>	All week All day	Science Week NEU Strike Action - <b>to be confirmed</b>
16 <sup>th</sup>	All day	NEU Strike Action - <b>to be confirmed</b>
17 <sup>th</sup>	All day All day	Comic Relief Red Nose Day - £1 donation Dress up as a Scientist
20 <sup>th</sup> 24 <sup>th</sup>	Every day for 2 weeks All day 9.15am	Big Walk and Wheel Year 3 Trip to Celtic Harmony Year 4 Assembly in Hall
28 <sup>th</sup>	4pm-8pm	Parent Consultations - all year groups
29 <sup>th</sup>	2pm 7pm-9pm	Year 2 Glockenspiel Concert in Hall Governors Meeting - Full Committee
30 <sup>th</sup>	9am 3.45pm - 6.15pm	Ashmole Academy Trust Meeting held at the Primary School Parent Consultations - all year groups
31 <sup>st</sup>		APPTA - Break the Rules Day! Last day of Half Term

### Values Competition

Thank you to all our pupils who have followed the value of the month and worked hard to be top role models. Our Value for February was Humour. There is a £10 book token winner for KS1 and KS2. The winners for the best and funniest story in our competition will be announced next week. Our value for March is Respect.





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## Celebrating Achievement

In recognition of their outstanding work this month, the following pupils have received an achievement certificate from Mr Tofallis.

### Reception - EYFS

#### Orion Class

Estelle, Iliyas, Hafsa, Matia, Anuj, Alina, Keyden, Anthony and Sophia

#### Calypso Class

Alby, Sofia, Jivan, Rachel, Rowan, Alicia, Jidenna, Mahhir and Hadi

### Key Stage 1

#### Year 1

##### Luna -

Alex, Tiana, Enzo, Aliza, Edward, Hayes, Elsa, Rory, Hayes and Sovereign

Nova - Artemis, Kiyan, Zimal, Aarian, Gabriel, Olivia, Nate, Kerim, Sameeha, Alexander, Achim and Christine

#### Year 2

Carina - Serra, Maxwell, Callie, Ava, Yusuf, Conor, Kvaan, Benjamin, Piya and Sam.

Lyra - Demir, Anastasia, Beau, Maria, Ella, Arrian, Leo and Brandon

### Key Stage 2

#### Year 3

Astra - Deniz, Dominic, Frankie, Pariza, Reya, Anya, Tia, Klay, Maya, Rose, Karim

Lynx - Flo, Ibrahim, Arianna, Iklim, Milo and Zoya.

#### Year 4

Cosmo - Riki, Lia, Seb, Alborz, Sienna, Johan, Seb, Ashok, Amani, Natalie and Mason.

Apollo - Neve, Lucas, Kornelia, Milo, Skye, Maria, Kayden, Shayan and Elisia.

#### Year 5

Aquila - Kheon, Freya, Nicholas, Niyan, Ellie, Kaner, Leyla and Kaan

Vesper - Jennah, Zhane, Isla, Tanishka, Jayden, Aaira, Juse, Abigail and Joseph.

#### Year 6

Andromeda - Jake, Elizabeth, Vivaan, Evie, Andy and Gabriella

Pavo - Alexandra, Eren, Sophie, Ankit, Eren, Nikolaos, Ediz, Max, Rohan and Dante



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## Reminders

### Lost Property

If your child has lost any of their belongings, please speak to their class teacher or take a look through the lost property benches located outside the school office.

### THIS SCHOOL IS NUT FREE



THANK YOU  
for keeping our school safe!

We are a **NUT FREE** school. This also includes Sesame Seeds. Other banned items include, Pesto, Kinder Bueno, Peanut Butter and other nut spreads, including Nutella.

### Keeping Children Safe

For your information, our Designated **Safeguarding** Officers are:

Miss Costas - Designated

Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Toal - Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Mr Tofallis - Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Our School Safeguarding Policy is available to view on our website:

[www.ashmoleprimary.org](http://www.ashmoleprimary.org)

### School Uniform

Please be reminded that pupils should be wearing uniform as per our Uniform Policy <https://www.ashmoleprimary.org/page/?title=Uniform&pid=26> Girls should be wearing appropriate footwear and **not boots**. Pupils should also be wearing the correct Ashmole Primary PE kit. School coats should be black or navy ONLY and hairbands should also be school colours.

### Belongings

Please remind your child to bring all of their belongings with them at the beginning of each school day. It is extremely time consuming for the office staff to distribute belongings such as coats, musical instruments, packed lunches, snacks, after school kits, water bottles etc. Thank you for your support.

## Lettings and Hall Hire

A variety of facilities at Ashmole Primary school are available for hire to clubs and organisations, both in the evenings and at weekends. Facilities include a hall, a 5-a-side football/ basketball/ netball/ multi-use games area (MUGA) and outdoor space. In certain circumstances classrooms may also be let for educational activities. We are also happy to take bookings for birthday parties etc. Please contact [lettings@ashmoleacademy.org](mailto:lettings@ashmoleacademy.org) for more information. Thank you.