



Message from the Head Teacher

December has been an incredibly exciting month for all the children and staff. We have enjoyed so many lovely events this month, including Christmas Jumper Day, a trip to the theatre for pupils in Year 5 and Year 6 to see *Wicked!* Reception enjoyed a visit to Christ Church in Southgate, Chef Ellie and her wonderful team served a delicious Christmas lunch for all the children and staff, and despite the rain, the children in Reception and KS1 enjoyed a wonderful performance of *Cinderella* at the Chickenshed Theatre on Tuesday.

Thank you to Reception and Year 1 who performed their Christmas Nativity to their parents and carers. I hope you all enjoyed the show and were able to appreciate all of the hard work that had gone into making it a huge success for you all. With thanks to the APPTA Media Team - recordings and photographs of the performances will be available very soon.

Did you see Year 6 at Asda and Southgate Tube Station on Monday? The children spent the morning carol singing to all the wonderful folk of Southgate whilst raising money for a charity of their choice.

Thank you to the APPTA for yet again a hugely successful Christmas Fair - we raised just over £7k. The work that goes into making these events such a success should never be underestimated. The money raised will go towards new group room cabins which will create much need extra space for the children.

We are sad to be saying goodbye to Mrs Charalambous, who will be going on maternity leave, but we wish her and her family our very best wishes during this special time. Mrs Bennett will replace Mrs Charalambous on Monday - Wednesday and we would like to welcome our Year 2 Lyra Class parents and carers to meet Mrs Bennett in the school hall on Wednesday 10th January at 9am.

I would like to thank our team of volunteers in making Ashmole Primary a fun and positive environment for all the children, your contribution means so much to us and we wish you and your families our very best wishes during the festive season.

I am pleased to be returning to school full-time from January 2024 following my recent role with supporting a local school. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Miss Costas - Deputy Head Teacher and Mrs Toal - Assistant Head Teacher for taking over the leadership of our school, during the days of my absence. The school continues to be 'outstanding' and I am grateful for their support during this time. I would like to reassure all our parents and carers that I continue to be totally dedicated and committed to our school and look forward to its continued success.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a restful break during the festive season and my very best wishes for a prosperous New Year 2024.

The new Spring term starts for all pupils at 8.50am on Monday 8th January 2024.

Best wishes
Mr Tofallis
Head Teacher



Reception

What a thrilling month in Reception! We have been very busy practising for our Nativity, the children thoroughly enjoyed learning all the songs and dances. We hope you all enjoyed the show! In Literacy, we have been using our fantastic phonics skills to use our new learnt sounds to segment and blend words together. We have now learnt all our Phase 2 sounds. In Maths, we have explored capacity, the children used different container to explore and describe how full or empty the containers were. We have also been looking at 2D and 3D shapes and their properties and have gone on exciting shape hunts around the classroom and playground. In topic, we have been exploring Hanukkah and The Christmas Story. The children enjoyed learning about the celebrations and making their own Menorahs and Christmas trees. The children also enjoyed our school trip to Christ Church Southgate, they enjoyed acting out The Christmas Story. Well done to all the children in both Orion and Calypso! What an excellent term we've had! We hope you all have a wonderful break! ☺
Miss Powell and Miss Popova (Reception Class Teachers)



Year 1

Year 1 have had an amazing month this December and have settled into KS1 perfectly this term! We have performed our nativity and everyone did brilliantly, we hope you enjoyed it just as much as we did. The children have been writing to the Baboon on the moon and have written brilliant diary entries about what they did when they visited the moon! Year 1 have been working very hard in Maths. They have continued to develop their subtraction skills and have developed knowledge of 3D shapes. Children have explored the shapes in detail exploring vertices, edges and faces. The children have shown great creativity during Art lessons creating some beautiful self-portraits and working together in groups to create portraits while looking at different artistic styles from Van Gogh to Picasso. Well done Year 1, you are amazing and we cannot wait to see you in the new year.





Year 2

December has been a most exciting month filled with fun and learning throughout!

In Literacy we focussed on our persuasive writing. The children wrote amazing letters to the Prime Minister persuading him to give Florence Nightingale medicines and supplies to treat the injured soldiers in the Barrack Hospital in Scutari, Turkey. They used emotive language and justified their requests with reasons like real experts.

In Maths we have been covering the topic of money. The children became familiar with the different denominations in coins and notes, and worked on adding up amounts. We even pretended to go shopping at Mr Greens Greengrocers, to see how much a basket of fruit would cost.

In D&T we were tasked with making improvements to the removal vans of The London Removal Company. The children made some incredible "removal vans" which were strong, sturdy and had free flowing axles. The children painted them and they looked great!!

The highlight of the month was our Florence Nightingale WOW day! The children cut vegetables to make a hearty stew for the soldiers in the hospital. They made nurses aprons, sashes and headbands and roleplayed treating the injured soldiers. The children wrapped each other up in bandages (toilet paper!!) to simulate being hurt.

And as if all that wasn't enough, we walked to the Chickenshed theatre to enjoy an inclusive alternative performance of Cinderella. The children loved the interactive elements of the show and had a great time!

We in Year 2 would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and we hope you enjoy a restful break with your loved ones. We would also like to thank you for your help and continued support this year and look forward to welcoming you back in 2024!

Kind regards and best wishes
Mrs Charalambous, Mrs Joyce and Mr Evaghoras



Year 3

In Year 3 we have been very busy during this month. We had a lovely trip to Neasden temple, where all the children were able to apply what they had learnt within their RE lesson to the Mandir. We have been busy within Music, composing different pieces of music and learning to play notes; e, d and c on the glockenspiel. We have also been very busy within D&T making our torches. We used our knowledge of circuits to join different materials together to ensure that the bulb lit up. We then attached this to the inside of a toilet roll to form a torch with a switch. We also enjoyed creating our shape poems and calligrams about different vegetables within our English lessons.

Well done for all of your hard work Year 3, we hope you have a lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year!
The Year 3 Team 😊





Year 4

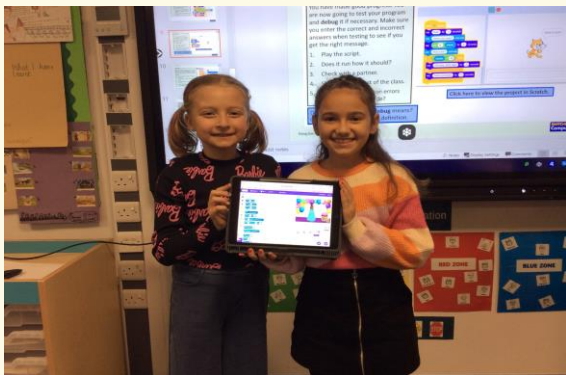
We can't believe we've reached the end of 2023 and the end of our first term in Year 4.

We have worked hard and had lots of fun.

This month we learnt about the Grinch and wrote our own instructions for 'How to Steal Christmas'. We have created salt crystals in Science and recreated an earthquake using cocktail sticks, jelly tots and jelly. It's amazing seeing what might happen in an earthquake.

We learned how to use micro bit in Computing, we've played glockenspiel in Music and learnt sign language for the Christmas song.

We can't wait to see what next year has in store. Merry Christmas Year 4, enjoy your holiday and see you in 2024!



Year 5

We hope this newsletter finds you well and ready for an exciting update on the fantastic month your children have had in Year 5! December has been a whirlwind of learning, creativity, and unforgettable experiences. Our most significant event being a trip to the West End to see Wicked! We travelled there by tube and enjoyed a very special show based around the theme of anti-bullying. This linked to our anti-bullying workshop completed earlier in the month. Thank you to all of the parents who came with us this day. Not only did we get to see a show in Central London but we also were totally treated and got to see our friends perform in a Chickenshed performance! It was amazing to see our very own Onegie and Anna in Year 5 showcase their brilliant drama skills! We have reflected on the great times we have shared in 2023 and look forward to the memories we have ahead in 2024, especially the start of our swimming lessons in January! We wish you all a fantastic break and hope you have a very Merry Christmas!

Love from the Year 5 team!





Year 6

Year 6 have had a fantastic December. We went on two trips : Chickenshed to see 'The Toymaker's Child' and to the Apollo Theatre to see 'Wicked' both of which were amazing experiences.

On Monday, we went carol singing to Asda and Southgate station and we managed to raise £165 which we will be donating to charity. In class, we have been learning all about how our heart works and we had great fun measuring our pulses before and after exercising! In literacy, we have been reading a book called 'Street Child' and we wrote some excellent diary entries from the perspective of the main character 'Jim Jarvis'. In Maths, we learnt about measurements and we have just commenced our new topic on ratio. We are looking forward to our Christmas break. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year !!





Breakfast and After School Club

December is one of the most favourite months of the year for many people, including everyone at BASC.

We had so much fun making lots of different Christmas decorations. Some of them were sold at Christmas fair. Thank you for all your support on the day. With your help, we raised £160.48 🙌

Our last competition of this year was making mini Christmas wreaths. This time, everyone was a winner, and all the children were rewarded for their amazing craft.

On behalf of BASC, I would like to thank you for your kind wishes and generous gifts - all greatly appreciated.

I wish you and all the family a very happy Christmas and all the best wishes for the New Year.





Sports News

Football Match against Danegrove Primary

On Friday 8th December, we played against Danegrove Primary School. I believe they were an absolutely brilliant team and they worked well together. This is not to say that Ashmole do not have a good team.

In the first half of the match we were losing by five goals. As a team, we did not display our best performance as we were all mixed and out of our positions, as well as being a bit too easy on the opposition.

During half-time, our wonderful coach motivated us and went through our game plan with us, including trying to think of new ways to get round the oppositions defenders.

In the second half, we were much more organised and played in our positions well. We had some chances to score but unfortunately we did not manage to get the ball in the back of the net. In the last ten minutes of the match, Danegrove took full advantage and scored another three goals, making the final result 8-0. We tried hard and did not let our heads drop, but sadly lost in the end.

Overall, it showed that sticking to the game plan, as advised by the coach in the second half, yielded positive results and something we must carry forward into the next match and hopefully manage to gain victory!

By Niyan
Year 6 - Andromeda Class

Celebrity Book Signing!

Siblings, George, Olivia and Mia were excited to meet the award winning children's author, David Walliams. What a special memory for the siblings who get to keep their newly signed book!





Celebrating Achievement

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

Key Stage 1

Year 1

Luna - Well done to all the children in Luna Class who received a merit award this month. You are all amazing!

Nova - Anthony, Ayub, George, Cleo, Chelsea,

Year 2

Carina - Sovereign, Sumayya, Torden, Elsa, Aarashi, Enzo, Bazil and Edward

Lyra - Aiden, Yasemin, Emirhan, Jay, Alexandros, Mya, Aria, Edwin, Leyna, Amaanah, Eva and Maria

Key Stage 2

Year 3

Astra - Alexa, Brandon, Maria, Beau, Amelia, Amelie, Eleni, Noah and Arrian

Lynx - Ava, Serra, Mya, Conor, Sam, Jayden, Benjamin, Alice and Ella

Year 4

Cosmo - Rose, Reya, Frankie, Klay, Daniyal and Inaya.

Apollo - Ayden, Mia, Flo, Alexia, Massa, Victoria, Aria, Ayda and Ibrahim

Year 5

Aquila - Michael, Neve, Shayan and Mason

Vesper - George, Simeon, Bella, Berkin and Ria

Year 6

Andromeda - As most of this month's merit assemblies have been held in class this term, Andromeda Class have been opting to use this time to complete big projects in their foundation subjects and enjoy some well-earned 'Golden Time' as a class. For their outstanding efforts, commitment and demonstrations of kindness, the whole of Andromeda Class have earned this week's merit award.

Pavo - Sara, Avash, Alyssa, Jayden, Rory, Taniska, Jennah, Ariyan, Yiannis, Timo, Sofia, Joseph and Mikey



Our Value for
January is
Compassion

December
2023

Diary Dates - January 2024

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Date	Time	Event
8 th	8.50am	First day of the Spring Term
9 th	9.30am	Prospective Parent Tour
10 th	9am	Year 2 Lyra Class - Meet the teacher meeting with Miss Bennett in the Hall
11 th	AM	Reception and Year 6 pupils - Height and Weight check with Barnet School Nursing Team
12 th	9am	Y1 Phonics Screening Check Parent Meeting in the school hall with Miss Burke and Miss Costas.
	3.20pm	Year 6 Cake Sale for all after school
26 th	9.00am	Year 6 SATS Parent meeting in the Hall
30 th	8pm	PTA Annual General Meeting (AGM) in the Hall- TBC

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 December was Kindness and the winner is Kornelia in Year 5 Aquila Class. There is a £5 book token for the winners each month and our value for January is Compassion.



Our Value for
January is
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December
2023

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 that are 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

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.

Roads outside the school

If you have any concerns or questions regarding traffic or parking on Summit Way or its neighbouring streets, please email highwayscorrespondence@barnet.gov.uk

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 for more information. Thank you.

www.ashmoleprimary.org