



Our Value for
January is
Positivity

December
2024

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 and Christmas Lunch, a production of Jack and The Beanstalk, Year 6 enjoyed a Spanish lunch at La Paella in Southgate as well as a trip to The Golden Hinde in London, Year 2 visited the Tower of London, Reception enjoyed a visit to Christ Church in Southgate, Reception and Year 1 performed the Christmas Nativity to their parents/carers and if that wasn't enough, the PTA, yet again organised a hugely successful Winter Fair - we raised just over £6k.

We are sad to be saying goodbye to Miss Macdonald, who will be relocating to Maidenhead with her fiancé, and we wish them both our very best wishes. However, we are delighted to welcome back Mrs Charalambous who returns from her maternity leave. Mrs Charalambous will work in Year 5 Vesper Class from Monday - Wednesday and our newly appointed Mrs Shah will work in Year 5 Vesper Class from Thursday - Friday. Mrs Charalambous and Mrs Shah are both very experienced and dedicated teachers. There will be an opportunity for Vesper Class parents and carers to meet with both teachers in the new year. In other staffing news; Mrs Themistokli has been promoted to HLTA and we are delighted to inform you that Mrs Pavlakos will be returning to Ashmole Primary School from January for one day a week. We also welcome Ms Akdeniz as a SEN TA in Year 4.

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 incredibly proud to announce that The Times newspaper recently ranked Ashmole Primary 190th out of over 16,000 UK primary schools. This means that we are in the top 1% of primary schools. This is an incredible acknowledgment of the hard work and dedication of all the staff, parents/carers, governors and pupils of our school. When I took on the role of Head Teacher of a brand new school in 2016, my goal was and will always be to aim high for the benefit of all its pupils, but none of this would be possible without the support of all of you.

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 2025 and to thank you for your kind and thoughtful gifts for all the staff, it is always very much appreciated.

Please note that Monday 6th January is a staff training Inset day and pupils should not come to school on this day. The new Spring term starts for all pupils at 8.50am on Tuesday 7th January 2025.

Mr Tofallis
Head Teacher



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Reception

This month, the children in Reception have been VERY busy practising their nativity! They learned songs and dances and performed them to the rest of the children in the school, parents and carers and a couple of residents from Minchenden Lodge Care Home! We are so proud of how quickly they learned the words and dances and how excellently they performed on stage. We really hope you all enjoyed our show! We have now finished learning all of our phase 2 sounds in phonics and the children have been busy using these sounds in their reading and writing. In maths, we have explored capacity and 2D and 3D shapes. The children loved exploring how much liquid different containers were able to hold and seeing whether the tallest container always has the biggest capacity. The children have had a great first term at Ashmole and we wish you all a wonderful break and a happy, healthy new year!



Year 1

Year 1 have had an amazing month this December! 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! In Maths the children have been working very hard to continue to develop their subtraction skills and have developed knowledge of 2D and 3D shapes. Children identified vertices, edges and faces of 3D shapes. 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. In Computing the children have been excellent at creating their own cooking TV show where they made gingerbread biscuits. Well done Year 1 you are amazing and we cannot wait to see you in the new year!





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Year 2

The children in Year 2 have had a fantastic December, where they have all showed the value of 'determination' in their attitude to school life!

In Literacy, we focused on persuasive writing. The children wrote amazing letters to Queen Victoria persuading her to choose their inventions in a royal competition! They used emotive, persuasive language and justified their reasoning.

In Maths, we have been consolidating our knowledge of place value including partitioning, using part whole models and working out missing number problems. The children have used a range of resources, such as Base 10 to support their learning and have enjoyed a range of practical tasks.

In D&T we received a letter asking us to make improvements to the removal vans of 'The London Removal Company'! The children used their design, sawing, assembling and painting skills to make some brilliant vehicles which were strong, sturdy and had free flowing axles. They definitely fulfilled their brief!

In RE, we have looked at how the Jewish community celebrate Hannukah and also how Christmas is celebrated around the world. We continued to focus on how light plays a big part in religious festivities.

The highlight of the month was our trip to the Tower of London! The children were impeccably behaved as we travelled into London on the tube. When we arrived, we were greeted by 'Emily' from 1666 who taught the children all about the Great Fire of London and we even got to see the crown jewels! The children couldn't believe that the Tower of London used to be a zoo, with even an elephant living there!

And as if all that wasn't enough, we also enjoyed the exciting pantomime performance of Jack and the Beanstalk! All in all, a brilliant month!

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a restful break with your loved ones. We look forward to welcoming you back in the new year!

Best wishes

Mrs Joyce, Mrs Bennett, Miss Sudo and the Year 2 Team



Year 3

Year 3 have had an amazing month of December. We had a fantastic Stone Age Wow day when we learnt lots of fascinating facts about the Stone Age with Stone Age Pete and we participated in some fun activities such as spear throwing, excavating artefacts and necklace making. We also had great fun last week on Christmas Jumper Day when we were videoed singing 'Feliz Navidad' which we have been practising everyday including sign language. In Maths we have been learning our 4 and 8 times tables and the corresponding division facts and in Literacy we had a great time using persuasive language to convince Mr and Mrs Twit to start being kind to each other. In Humanities, we have enjoyed learning about deserts and in Science we have been learning about rocks and different types of weathering. We are really looking forward to our Christmas break and what 2025 will bring.





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Year 4

We've had a busy month in Year 4, filled with lots of learning and fun Christmas celebrations. A big well done to all the children for doing so well in their assessments!

In Maths, we've been working hard on our times tables, building confidence and speed. In Literacy, we've become adventurous newspaper reporters, writing exciting reports. In Science, we've explored how we can positively impact the environment, learning ways to take care of the world around us. In Music, we've been enjoying playing the glockenspiel, creating beautiful sounds together. In Art, we've created amazing artwork inspired by natural disasters, expressing the power of nature through our creativity.

Well done for all your hard work, Year 4! We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Enjoy the festive season, and we look forward to more learning and fun in the new year!



Year 5

December has been a fun-packed month in Year 5! In Science, we've been learning about the human life cycle, and the children shared photos from their own lives to illustrate each stage. In Design Technology, they designed and built Viking longhouses, showing great creativity. We ended our singing curriculum with a fantastic performance of our Year 5 Christmas song, which we featured in our Christmas video. To top off the term, the children enjoyed a festive lunch followed by an end-of-year party filled with fun and games. Well done Year 5 for all your hard work this month, and we look forward to the new year!





Our Value
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Determination



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Year 6

December is always a busy month in school, and this one has had plenty of highlights!

First, our amazing trip to the Golden Hinde near London Bridge. The Golden Hinde is a replica of Sir Francis Drake's ship that circumnavigated the globe in 1577. The children were fascinated as they heard tales of the abysmal living conditions the scurvy ridden seamen endured aboard the cramped, dirty ship. But the children surmised that it was all worth it as the ship brought back a bounty worth £1.4billion pounds in today's money!!

Second, the children sang their hearts out at Southgate underground station and Asda supermarket raising lots of money for charity with their amazing voices, warming the hearts of Southgate and filling the area with Christmas cheer and the festive spirit! You should all be so proud of your children!!

Third, Year 6 recorded their 'rendition' of Wham's absolute mega-classic 'Last Christmas'. They gave an incredible performance singing and dancing that you should all look forward to seeing!!!

We watched the school Panto 'Jack and the Beanstalk' on home turf in the school hall, and from Reception to Year 6 it was just fantastic seeing all their little faces light up at the colour filled spectacle of song and dance being played out in front of them.

Finally, we visited 'La Paella' a Spanish restaurant in the heart of Southgate that you should all know and if you don't - you have to go!!! The children absolutely loved immersing themselves in Spanish culture and feasted on a fine spread of whitebait, potatoes bravas, tortilla, paella (of course), calamari, Madrid meatballs and the biggest hit of them all CHURROS!! I've never seen anything disappear so fast!!

The Year 6 team would like to take this opportunity to wish you all an amazing Christmas break filled with good cheer and fun filled times. We also wish you a Happy New Year and a healthy and prosperous 2025.

Year 6 Team





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Breakfast and After School Club

December at the Breakfast and After School Club is always warm, even though it's cold outside. In preparation for the Christmas holidays, we've been making lots of different Christmas tree decorations, painting and drawing amazing pictures of winter and Father Christmas. We also held a Christmas competition, and in the spirit of the season, all the children were rewarded for their fantastic work. We would like to thank you for all your kind wishes and generous presents. Wishing you all a happy Christmas holiday and all the best for the new year.



Ashmole Primary Newsletter



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Sports News

Netball match against St John's

Our incredible netball team played a well-fought first match of the season! Despite the outcome, we all had heaps of fun testing ourselves against St John's on Wednesday. Martha scored the first goal and after that, the team pushed on. The teamwork we showed was outstanding, so I am proud to say I was a part of that match. It was good for us to build on our skills, because it showed where we could improve, but also where we excelled in the game. After this, the determined group (who were: Sienna, Darcy, Martha, Skye, Maria and Alexandra) are ready to bite back, with Skye (player of the match) carrying the team with great passes and reliability and many close shots all round. All in all, we had a great game (especially since it was the first game ever for some) and we are ready for our next re-match. Look out, St John's! Martha and Skye

Netball match against All Saints

Our amazing netball team played an incredible match showing their fantastic skills which led the score to end up 3-2 to Ashmole. The people who participated were: Skye, Martha, Maria, Seb, Alex, Sienna and Darcy. All Saints were very tall but that didn't stop us because we ended up winning. Skye, Martha and Seb scored. Maria, Alex, Sienna and Darcy really carried the team with their spectacular passing and footwork. In conclusion, we all played an exceptionally great game and the outcome was well deserved. Martha and Skye

Ashmole Primary vs Danegrove

On 6th December, Ashmole Primary took on Danegrove. The line-up consisted of Edward - GK, Akwasi - left CB, Alfie - Right CB, Seb - left CM, Alborz - CM, Johan - right CM and Lucas - ST. Danegrove are a very good school and have won all their games well, but we are the only team they haven't scored 6 or more goals against! The score was 3-0 to them. Seb

Ashmole Parent Football

The Ashmole Parent football match was a great experience for all involved on Friday 13th December. We had 26 parents and coaches playing and everyone displayed wonderful team spirit throughout the match. Well done to everyone who played! We will definitely play again in the new year!





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Ashmole Choir

Ashmole Choir visited the local Autumn Gardens Care Home on Monday 16th December. Thank you to the children from Year 6 and Year 3 who sang Christmas songs and cheered up the local residents. They also gave them cards and shared their wonderful Christmas spirit. Thank you to Miss Burke, Mr Wightman and Ms Hui.





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Religious Week

We will be holding a 'Religious Education' focus week on 3rd February 2025, as a celebration of all of the religions, beliefs and world views in our school.

We would like to invite in parents to share their religions or world views with the children, either in class or as an assembly. Please do get in touch with me via the school office if you would be interested in coming in during this week or alternatively at another point during the year to coincide with a religious event or celebration.

Also, if you have any links with religious/community leaders who would want to join in our celebrations, please do let us know.

Mrs Joyce
RE Leader

Charity

Christmas Jumper Day

ASHMOLE PRIMARY
SCHOOL -
CHRISTMAS JUMPER
DAY

RAISED
£171

TARGET
£100



ACHIEVEMENTS

GIVE NOW

£171

£0



Thank you for supporting this worthy cause!



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Diary Dates - January 2025

Diary Dates for January 2025

Date	Time	Event
6 th January	All day	Staff INSET DAY
7 th January	8.50am	First Day of new Spring Term for pupils
8 th January	9.15am 9.30am	Year 6 Drumming Show Prospective Parent Tour
10 th January	All day	Winning House Treat Day
13 th January	9.00am	Year 1 Phonics Screening parent meeting in the hall
15 th January	AM	Year 5 Swimming Lessons commence for ten weeks
20 th January	9am	Year 6 SATS parent meeting in the hall
29 th January	8pm	PTA Annual General Meeting (AGM) in school hall
30 th January	7pm	Governors Meeting
31 st January	9am	Phonics Workshop for parents in hall

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 Determination and the winner is Anna Doolan in Year 6 Andromeda Class. There is a £5 book token for the winners each month and our value for January is Positivity.

Please help us to keep the school site safe and secure

We have noticed that some parents are opening the pedestrian gate and leaving the cone in front of the gate when picking up for Afterschool Club or Extra-Curricular Clubs, this must stop due to safeguarding as anyone can walk in or out as they please which puts the children, staff and parents at risk.

The gate should only be left open by a member of staff authorised to do so.

Thank you
Site Team



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Celebrating Achievement

Well done to all the children this month that have received a special award from Mr Tofallis for their outstanding efforts and hard work. We are very proud of you.
Keep up the fantastic work!

Road Safety

Thank you to all the children that took part in the Road Safety - 'Be Bright Be Seen' dress up day and creating some great posters!
The winners of the £10 voucher competition are:

Roven in Year 6
Edward in Year 3
Nikalas in Year 2

Well done!



House Point Results for Autumn 2024

- 1.Green Emeralds - 38 points
- 2.Red Rubies - 29 points
- 3.Yellow Diamonds - 28 points and Blue Sapphires - 28 points

Well done to the Green Team! On Friday 10th January 2025 the Green House Team can come to school in non-uniform and will have an afternoon treat in the school hall!

Attendance

Monthly Attendance Figures

Reception - Calypso Class 94%	Reception - Orion Class 90%
Year 1 - Luna Class 89%	Year 1 - Nova Class 86%
Year 2 - Lyra Class 90%	Year 2 - Carina Class 96%
Year 3 - Astra Class 89%	Year 3 - Lynx Class 93%
Year 4 - Apollo Class 88%	Year 4 - Cosmo Class 96%
Year 5 - Vesper Class 98%	Year 5 - Aquila Class 94%
Year 6 - Andromeda Class 94%	Year 6 - Pavo Class 90%

Well done to VESPER CLASS for achieving the highest attendance this month!





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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 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

Dr Bowry - Safeguarding Governor

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.

Lettings and Hall Hire

A variety of facilities at Ashmole Trust 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@ashmoletrust.org for more information. Thank you.