



Message from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been fantastic seeing all the children and parents this half term. It has been a very busy and challenging 8 weeks but it has also been a pleasure seeing all the children happy to be back at school and this is what life is all about - trying our best to do all the things that we love to do and returning to some form of normality. We have been able to bring back our Breakfast and After School Club safely and some clubs too such as football and dance. We hope to build on the things we offer even more during the year. Our Reception children will also start Breakfast and After School Club after half term.

The children have all settled back to school very well and our attendance, considering there is a global pandemic, is absolutely amazing at 96.3%! Thank you to all the parents for your dedication in bringing your children to school and for your punctuality. I also wanted to say a big thank you to everyone who has been wearing a face covering during the drop off and pick up sessions. This is really appreciated by all our staff and goes a long way in helping our school stay open through the year and helps to avoid the spread of any germs and viruses.

Thank you to all the parents for walking out of the school site swiftly during drop offs and pick ups. Your support is greatly appreciated. Please can I also remind all our parents the importance of never parking on the school zig zags or yellow lines outside the school. This is paramount for the safety of all our children.

In the event where a class has to be closed for two weeks we will definitely be offering interactive lessons via Zoom and even though we hope that this does not happen too often, we know the reality is that this can easily happen given the current situation in the country. Nevertheless, if we do have to close down a class for two weeks the staff are prepared and ready to continue to deliver online learning for our children. All classes will be informed as soon as possible if this ever has to happen. I am very pleased that the recent Parent Consultations held on Zoom this month went well. The teachers are always willing to speak to the parents and if you ever have any questions or issues always see the class teacher directly. If you cannot catch the teacher for any reason please call to make an appointment with the teacher- after school is normally a better time to speak to them.

In the last few weeks the children have been busy catching up on their learning and teachers have undertaken baseline assessments to help them to plan future lessons and monitor pupil progress for the year ahead. We know that the children have missed school and the teachers have worked hard to create intervention programmes for all the children to help them catch up and build on their overall learning. Our aim as always is to ensure that by the end of the year the children have all made as much progress as possible in all areas.

I wish all our pupils, staff, parents and carers a fantastic half term holiday. We look forward to seeing you all on Monday 2nd November.

Best wishes.

Mr Tofallis
Head Teacher

Our Value
for November
is 'Resilience'.

October
2020



Message from Mrs Gonul Daniels - Chair of Governors

It has been wonderful working with all the amazingly professional staff, all the wonderfully supportive parents and our amazing team of governors but all good things must come to an end. I am sad, and finding it incredibly difficult to tell you, that I will be submitting my resignation as governor and trustee from Ashmole Academy Trust.

To have been part of the team that created a school that has gone on to achieve so much has been such a pleasure and I am incredibly proud of what we have achieved. We all had a part to play in making this an amazing school so thank you all for all your efforts.

My happiest moment was when I was hugged by a mum at the first school opening, because we've had a few, in 2016 and she told me what a difference I had made to her and her family's lives. My second happiest moment was when we achieved an outstanding Ofsted! My third happiest was when Lord Younger opened the school etc...

Best wishes,
Gonul Daniels

Thank you so much to Mrs Daniels for all her hard work and dedication over the last few years. We wish her all the very best in the future.

A Warm Welcome...

We are delighted to welcome three new Governors to our Governing Committee. A warm welcome to Ceri Berkovitch, Philip Cohen and Tania Rotheram.

The work of a school Governor is demanding and complex but we are keen to ensure that their experience as a Governor of Ashmole Primary is both enjoyable and rewarding.

Parking and Pollution

Whilst the majority of our parents and carers park responsibly and with consideration, unfortunately there are still a few that need to be reminded.

It is really important, especially for the safety of the children, that you should not park on the pavement, on yellow lines or zig-zags or over driveways.

Additionally, if you have to wait in the car for your child, please ensure your car engine is turned off, to stop any unnecessary pollution.

Your cooperation is very much appreciated. Thank you.

Uniform - Important Reminder

Please be reminded that all our pupils should be adhering to the uniform policy at all times. Therefore, please remember the following:

- School coats should be navy or black ONLY
- Sensible school shoes - no boots, except in adverse weather conditions
- Girls should wear school coloured hair bands (green, blue, black and yellow) and they must be appropriate for school - we understand that there is a vast array of beautiful headbands for sale, but most of them aren't appropriate for school, especially pointed headbands



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Contacting the school

If a need arises to contact the school, in the first instance please speak to your child's class teacher. If the matter is more serious, please contact the Deputy Head Teacher, Mrs Pavlakos at: office@ashmoleprimary.org. If you still feel that your query has not been dealt with effectively and you would like to speak to the Head Teacher, Mr Tofallis, please email Mrs Andrews, Head Teacher's PA at: office@ashmoleprimary.org

The school expects that any parent or carer who contacts the school, does so in a polite and courteous manner.

Breakfast and After School Club

Our Breakfast and After School Club Manager is Mrs McDowell and her team includes: Mrs Kafizas, Mrs Wogan, Mrs Arseti, Miss Walsh, Mrs Silva, Mrs Christophers, Mrs Stone, Mrs Piliarami, along with two Sports Coaches. We wish Mrs Zanelli all the very best as she will be focussing on her work at the Academy and we thank her for all her efforts over the last couple of years in the club.

Mrs Mittins is always available for any enquiries and bookings on: basc@ashmoleprimary.org

Mrs McDowell can be contacted directly on: 07568 664768

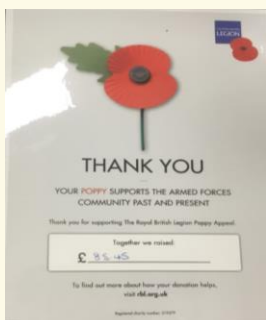
After School Activities

All of our After School activities are currently being run by Foundation Sports. Please find attached next term's flyer. If you would like to book your child into one of the clubs, please liaise directly with Tom Boxer on: 07505 097340 or email: barnet@foundation-sports.com

Active London Holiday Club

Active London, multi activity holiday club is very excited to be back at Ashmole Primary this October half term, 26th-30th October, 9-4pm. Please contact Active London directly to book your place.

Poppy Appeal



Thanks to your generosity, last year we raised £85.45, but can we do better this year? There are lots of child friendly accessories that the children can buy this year, including, wrist bands, ruler snap bands, zip pulls and a reflector. In these unprecedented times, your donations will help The Royal British Legion support the most vulnerable in the Armed Forces community, be it older veterans that they care for, those suffering from social isolation, or those facing challenges associated with the Covid-19 pandemic.





Is your child eligible for Free School Meals?

As you may be aware, the school receives additional funding through the 'Pupil Premium' Grant. This is a Government Grant based on children who are eligible for Free School Meals or who have claimed Free School Meals in the last six years. We are therefore asking all parents, even if your child is in Reception, Year 1, or 2 and in receipt of a school meal under the Universal Infant Free School Meal Scheme, to complete the attached form and return it to the school office with proof of your NI Number so we can ensure the school and your child is not missing out on this valuable funding. For further information, please contact Mrs Andrews in the strictest confidence.

WhatsApp

Please be reminded about the correct use of class WhatsApp groups. Parent/ carer WhatsApp groups should never fulfill the need to complain about teachers or staff. If you do this, it's very possible that rumors can spread unnecessarily and you may create some damaging consequences. Communication can become more difficult. This communication is imperative for your child's education. If you have any issues, the best thing to do is to speak privately to the class teacher. This way, you can find a solution to the problem instead of creating any conflict.

Never comment about another child or create unfounded gossip. Always use language carefully so that things are not misinterpreted by others. Many thanks for your cooperation.

New - Prospective Parent Videos

Our new school videos will be live on our website by the middle of November for all our prospective parents. This includes a welcome video by Mr Tofallis, Key Stage videos by staff and a tour of the school.

PTA AGM

The PTA will be holding their **Ashmole Primary Parent and Teacher Association (APPTA) 2020 Annual General Meeting (AGM) at 8.30pm on Wednesday 4th November 2020 via Zoom**, and would like to invite all parents to attend. A link will be sent out nearer the time.

ALL Committee Officer positions are open to **ALL** parents. If you are interested in taking part, and wish to nominate yourself for Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Vice Secretary, Treasurer, or as an Elected Trustee, please come to the AGM and you will be invited to say a few words about yourself so parents can get to know you better before positions are voted for by the parents.

We are especially keen to fill the positions of Chair and Treasurer. The Chair leads the Committee, working closely with the Secretary and Treasurer to ensure the association is run smoothly. The Treasurer will support and organise the finances of the PTA. They will ensure accounts are up to date and audited effectively. They will be responsible with designated members for the signing of cheques.



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Music Lessons

Dear Parent/Carers

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Amanda Beacon and I am the Music Manager at Ashmole Academy. This is my 9th academic year there! I will now be working at the Primary School one day per week, and will be managing the music instrumental tuition and music extra-curricular activities. I will be working closely with Mrs Toal, who looks after curricular musical activities.

We are very excited that instrumental lessons are beginning again after half term, for years 3 and 4. Lessons will now be on a rotation basis so that your child isn't always out of class at the same time each week. Timetables are on display in the classroom, and will soon be available on Purple Mash. Timetables do change from time to time, so it is worth checking them regularly. (Please note that we will come and collect your child from the classroom for their lessons, so they don't need to worry too much about the times of their lessons).

Please make sure your child brings their music and practice notebook to each lesson, and a pencil! All of our teachers will be wearing the appropriate PPE. We will also ask your child to wash or sanitise their hands before and after their lesson. All keyboards, chairs and music stands will also be wiped down between lessons. As of course you are all aware, extra-curricular activities are very restricted at the moment, particularly with Music. We are currently researching the most up to date guidelines to see if we can begin choir again. We would plan for this to be 'bubble based'. We do have lots of plans for the future once things are a little bit more settled, including lots of collaboration with the Academy.

If you would like any further information about instrumental lessons or extra-curricular activities, then please contact me - musicmanager@ashmoleprimary.org

Caretakers Corner

I hope you have all now settled back into the school routine and are looking forward to the half-term break, where children and staff will be able to recharge their batteries after a difficult 7 months. As a school we continue to employ best practises in the prevention of the virus spreading and I thank you all for your quick adoption to the school's mandatory requirement for all adults to wear a face covering whilst on the site. The fight against COVID-19 is becoming a long one and interruptions are expected, as experienced by Year 3 Astra Class very recently. As time passes, 'lockdown' fatigue is inevitable, but please remember our collective effort in these times will be remembered.

Caretaker's Corner will now be a regular feature in the school newsletter. With more 'airtime' brings more opportunity to communicate insight from the maintenance team and more importantly keep you all abreast of premises related updates, such as Health & Safety and site projects. It also poses the question of what our lovely readers want to see! Upcoming pieces will include 'meet the team' and 'a day in the life'. Please feel free to contact me on what you would like to hear more about, whether that be monthly COVID-19 updates or a specific topic: premises@ashmoleprimary.org

Have a lovely half-term and see you all soon.

Your caretaker,
Mr Constantinou



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Reception

Calypso class have had a lovely October! They are continuing to settle well into school life. We have started looking at sounds in our Phonics sessions and the children have really enjoyed using actions when saying each of the letter sounds. The children in Calypso class have also thoroughly enjoyed learning about repeating patterns in maths and making their own ones in the classroom.



Orion class have had a fantastic month so far. They have really settled into school life and are beginning to enjoy more structured carpet sessions. We have started learning our phonics sounds and tricky words, as well as counting and recognising numbers and 2d shapes. The children are starting to build some lovely friendships in the class and have been working on their team work skills.



Year 1

We have had a wonderful month in Nova class, taking part in many fun activities and learning lots along the way. We especially enjoyed lots of our fun Art activities focused on our theme of portraits, where we were given the chance to explore mixing colours and adding texture to our paintings. We worked together in groups on several group pieces and were then given the chance to create our own self-portraits which look absolutely incredible! We also very much enjoyed our visit to the wildlife garden where we learnt how to plant different vegetables such as onions and spent some time listening to stories together. We had so much fun 😊



We have been very busy this month learning about how we can add more detail to our writing by including lots of interesting adjectives. We read Handa's surprise and used adjectives to describe the key events of the story. We even started to think about different verbs to describe the animal's actions! In science we have continued to learn about our five senses, we were very brave when it came to the taste test. Finally, we had a lovely day learning about Vincent Van Gogh and created our own self portraits.





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Year 2

We have had a wonderful time this month. So many great fun activities and lots of hard work. We have completed two different Science investigations - one checking absorbency of materials and one seeing which material was the most waterproof and would make the best umbrella. Your children can tell you the results. Our other main focus was of course the Great Fire of London, we wrote some fantastic diaries in literacy and then on Thursday we eventually burned the houses. Thank you so much for all your hard work at home building the houses. The burning was a huge success and the children realised how quickly fire can spread. Thank you to Firefighter Beattie for coming in again to be our Marshal. It reassured the children so much having him there.



What an exciting month Carina Class have had! We have really enjoyed learning all about The Great Fire of London. In History, we re-enacted the Great Fire of London, where we watched our 17th Century houses burn. In Literacy, we then wrote diary entries from the point of view of a child living in London in 1666. In Science we have been learning about different materials and their properties and have carried out lots of investigations to test if materials are waterproof, absorbent, stretchy or bendy. In Art we created our own scenes of London using different media inspired by Claude Monet and Sara Sherwood. We can't wait to learn even more next half term!!!!



Year 3

Lynx class have been working so hard this half term and I am super proud of how resilient they have been during this pandemic. Well done Lynx Class! In Maths Lynx have been naming and identifying different types of angles (acute, obtuse and right angles) which has been very enjoyable for the children. We have also been incorporating iPads into our Maths research lessons and using our Computing skills to up level their work. The children have been working together to communicate, collaborate and produce outstanding work in all lessons. Well done Lynx class. You're all superstars!



Mrs Charalambous and Miss Elia are SO proud of all of the children in Astra Class for their amazing attitude and hard work on Zoom over the last two weeks. We would also like to thank all parents and carers for their support during this time. Everyone worked so hard and demonstrated a fantastic, mature attitude! We are so happy to be back in school together 😊

The children are continuing to enjoy their Ancient Greece topic and worked so hard using a variety of different tools to create their Ancient Greek pots with clay. We are so excited to paint our pots with the geometric patterns that we designed after half term. In PSHE, the children demonstrated excellent team work skills when working together to cut out smaller shapes and create larger patterns. We hope you all have a relaxing half term and we look forward to seeing everyone back at school.





Year 4

We have had such a wonderful October in Apollo Class! This month is 'Black History Month' so we have been learning all about some very important and influential people from the past who have helped shape the world as we know it today. We spent a lot of time learning about Martin Luther King and even acted out his speech before writing out a diary entry and poem dedicated to his hard work. In Computing, we have been using Scratch to create our very own game. We have learnt how to use the software to give characters and objects instructions to follow, in order to create our game. This is called coding and it was great fun for the children to explore. Recently in Maths, we've been focusing on multiplication and division. We investigated using place value counters to tackle this practically before moving onto written methods. All in all, it has been a great half term for us and everyone is working hard and having fun. Well done Apollo Class! :)



Cosmo class have been working very hard this month. We have been learning about the different states of matter in science and we carried out experiments discover the different properties of solids, liquids and gases. We enjoyed working together to explore the different materials. We have continued to learn about Judaism and sent our questions to a rabbi who kindly sent us a video with his answers! We also made little scrolls and wrote in Hebrew on them. Did you know that Hebrew is written from right to left? As it was Black History month, we also listened to Martin Luther King Jr.'s famous "I Have a Dream" speech. This speech was spoken in front of thousands of people back in 1963! Some of our writing was inspired by him in our English lessons. We also finished making our books about the Romans in DT. As you can see, it has been a very busy month for us!

Art Corner

Year 2 have been focusing on the bright lights and big city for their focus in History and Literacy. Children have been looking at various artists such as: Sara Sherwood and Claude Monet and how they incorporate different medias in their work. Well done Year 2 for creating outstanding drawings of scenery of London.



On Tuesday 17th November children can come to school wearing their school House Colours: Red Rubies; Blue Sapphires; Green Emeralds and Yellow Diamonds. The children will be designing their new House Shields to decorate the school hall. Mr Wightman will be working with our staff and children to design the extra large shields that will be displayed in the hall and remain a key feature of the school.



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Monthly Attendance Figures



Our attendance this month has been amazing! Well done everyone!

Calyпсо Class 98.02%	Orion Class 99.0%
Luna Class 98.99%	Nova Class 98.85%
Lyra Class 98.74%	Carina Class 97.78%
Astra Class 96.54%	Lynx Class 98.31%
Apollo Class 98.55%	Cosmo Class 96.02%

"Building resilience in children is not about making them tough. Resilience is the ability to recover from difficulties and manage how you feel."

Our Value for November is: Resilience

Values Poster Competition



Thank you to all the pupils who have designed a Values poster. Our Value for October was Truth and the value for November is Resilience. There is a £5 book token for the winner each month.

Well done to **Johan Year 2 Carina Class** who is this month's winner!

Celebrating Achievement

	Luna	Nova	Carina	Lyra	Astra	Lynx	Apollo	Cosmo
Merits	Karim Edward Luca Mabel Orla Darcy	Arjun Ayda Mira Kaiden Elias Massa	Amani Riki Alex Nora Lia Denis	Ben Hazal Elisia Alexander Maria Ali	George Ellie James Freya Gulcihan Roan	Tanishka Rory Marina Sofia Jennah Ariyan	Henry Maxi Seb Rahi Erin Joshua	Florrie Jimmy Ayaz Evie Erin Ted
Values	Olivia Rose Oliver	Murat Amelia Sara	Ayla Nihal Alborz	Kieran Olivia Alaz	Kaner Aleana	Dimitar Jude Yiannis	Muzeeba Alexandra Nikolaos	Ted Zahir Andy
Handwriting	Nikol Deniz Pariza	Kaiden Arianna Milo	Almira Adele Simeon	Onekie Maria Mason	Leyla Sophie Ella	Abigail Jason Alyssa	Ankit Erin Aston	Oliver Lara Lewis



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Dates for your diary

November 2020	26 th - 30 th October		Half Term
Value for November - Resilience	2 nd	8.45am- Rec 8.50am- Y1/2 9.00am- Y3/4	First Day of Half Term
	4 th	8.30pm	PTA AGM on Zoom
	5 th	All Day	Y3 Ancient Greek Day - whole school to eat packed lunch on this day - provided by the school for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
	12 th	All Day	Y2 Scooter Training - Y2 pupils to all bring their scooters/ helmets to school.
	13 th	All Day	Children in Need dress-up day - Pudsey theme - £1 for charity
	16 th 20 th	All week	Anti-Bullying Week. The children will be taking part in various PSHE lessons/ assemblies and creating posters on this theme. Every week is Anti Bullying Week at Ashmole Primary School.
	17 th	All Day	Art Day
	23 rd	All Week	Road Safety Week
December 2020	Y2 Phonics Screening Check for all Year 2 pupils - to be held in December 2020		
Value for December - Determination	7 th		Pantomime in school for each class - whole school packed lunch on this day
	8 th		Pantomime in school for each class - whole school packed lunch on this day
	11 th	All Day	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch
	17 th	All Day	Reception and Year 1 Christmas Show to be recorded for parents.
	18 th		Last day of term Reception finish at 12.40pm Year 1/2 finish at 12.45pm Year 3/4 finish at 12.55pm



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PTA News

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you to those who could make the PTA Zoom meeting on Wednesday 14th October. It was great to see so many there! In the future, the PTA can look into holding more meetings online, which would ensure we have great parent/carer participation throughout the academic year.

At the meeting, parents and carers voted in £500 for books for the Juniors Library. The Library Team are continuing to work hard on making this space exciting for the Juniors! The Wildlife Garden Team are also working daily on shaping the Garden into a wonderful space for the children! With parent/carers of up to 6 people meeting every Saturday morning from 10am, it's amazing to notice the change from one morning's hard work! Please let your class rep know if you can help on any Saturday! We also need donations for the garden, please see the poster emailed out.

Parent volunteers have been working consistently to re-do playground markings with a fresh coat of paint! Plans to expand the rainbow up onto the wall near the Library doors are in progress, along with ideas on how to bring more colour and art to the school! After further discussion with the school, buddy benches will not be used in the playground due to Covid. The PTA have currently voted against a spend on buddy benches due to the circumstances.

Thank you to all the parent volunteers who are helping to make the school an amazing place for the children. If you would like to get involved to volunteer in the Library, Garden, or in the Playground, or have any creative, artistic skills please get in touch with your class rep or via

ashmoleprimarypta@gmail.com

On Wednesday 4th of November 2020 at 8.30pm we will hold our Ashmole Primary PTA AGM via Zoom!

Please submit nominations in to ashmoleprimarypta@gmail.com by 31st October 2020.

We need parents to get involved and continue with supporting the school to support our children!

Please do join the AGM to vote on your next PTA Committee!

Finally, we are asking all children to submit what activities, workshops or club ideas they would like to do in school, in school time. The PTA are here to enrich the children's wellbeing and experience of school life, where the children are the heart of things. Please encourage your child to write their idea(s) and email to ashmoleprimarypta@gmail.com. School to send form out via email.

Finally, wishing everyone a wonderful half term break.
Look forward to seeing everyone on our return!

Zina Shah
APPTA Chair



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Library News

Thank you for supporting our two fantastic libraries.

Fancy joining our team of parent volunteers to design innovative spaces in the library? Or facilitate library sessions and create school competitions? Please speak to your class rep or the school office about library volunteering opportunities.

The November borrowing sessions will be on:

Thursday 5th and 19th for years 1 & 3
Friday 6th and 20th for years 2 & 4



The Library

What's new...



And thank you to Arden from Apollo class for this superb donation to our Junior Library.

James Brown and Richard Platt travel through time in *A World of Discovery*, covering a range of topics from the wheel, to cinema and television, to the internet. With elegant infographics and easy to understand text, there's a discovery for everyone in this fantastic compendium.

Buzz

Thank you to Milo from Nova class for your kind donation to our Main Library.

Coming to England by Floella Benjamin follows ten year old Floella on her voyage to England from Trinidad. A true story, Floella's journey is beautifully illustrated by Diane Ewen and captures the challenges Floella and her family faced integrating in England.

With a strong and powerful message that self belief and courage will overcome adversities, this book has been written so that even the youngest of readers will be charmed by Floella's truly inspiring tale.



AND DON'T FORGET . . .

ALL LIBRARY BOOKS CAN BE RETURNED TO THE BOX IN THE SCHOOL RECEPTION
OR LEFT ON THE LIBRARY TROLLEYS.

THANK YOU.