

9th July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Head Teacher's Update July 2021

I just wanted to update you all again as we come to the end of the school year.

We had a fantastic Sports Week this week with lots of fun activities and exercise for all the children in Reception to Year 4. All the children were amazing and thank you to Miss Cleary for organising the week, along with the Foundation Sports Coaches, volunteers and Mr Dale Wightman for recording all of the Sports Day events.

The Sports Day House Points were as follows:

Reception:

1. Blue Sapphires - 321 points
2. Red Rubies – 268 points
3. Yellow Diamonds – 255 points
4. Green Emeralds – 204 points

Key Stage One:

1. Blue Sapphires – 550 points
2. Green Emeralds – 492 points
3. Red Rubies – 479 points
4. Yellow Diamonds – 435 points

Key Stage Two:

1. Red Rubies – 561 points
2. Yellow Diamonds – 441 points
3. Blue Sapphires – 428 points
4. Green Emeralds – 419 points



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Head Teacher: **Mr Chris Tofallis**

Well done to all the children this week! Every child gets a special medal to keep and remember the occasion. Congratulations to the Blue Team for winning in Reception and KS1. Well done to the Red Team for winning in KS2. Overall the whole school winners were the Blue Sapphires for winning in two Key Stages of the competition! It was a great week for everyone involved.

Looking forward to next week – on Monday 12th July we have our Fun Day for the children organised by the APPTA with various inflatables booked in for the children on the field throughout the day. This is a non-uniform day. **Please can the children wear sporty clothes/ clothes appropriate for using the inflatables.** The APPTA are requesting a £5 donation per pupil for this day to help with some of the costs. The donation link is attached below:

<https://paypal.me/pools/c/8AnrnURQoI>

There will be a games, events and a covid friendly cake sale after school for each year group separately. Full details are attached on the link below:

<https://spark.adobe.com/page/dHd7kkfhXkNzc/>

Thank you for all your support.

Next week, all the children's end of year school reports will be handed out on paper, rather than by email. The reports include comments on all the subjects taught at school over the year as well as comments on pupil effort and achievement. They will note whether your child is working towards the age related expectations, working at the age related expectations or exceeding. Please be reminded that this year there were no statutory tests or assessments. All our pupils have been assessed by our teachers. The reports will include attendance statistics for when our school was open, along with general comments for each child. If there are any comments regarding the reports, please kindly speak to the class teacher before we close for the summer term.

Next week, the Year 2 classes will be recording a special end of year assembly which will also be shared with our parents.

On Friday we will have a final non-uniform day to celebrate the end of the month and school year. The children will have their set packed lunch before they are all dismissed. The children in KS2 will need to bring their own packed lunch on this day as per normal.

On the last day of term (Friday 16th July 2021) school finishes at:

Reception – 12.40pm

Y1 and Y2 – 12.45pm

Y3 and Y4 – 12.50pm

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This has been a long and hard year for everyone and I would like to thank everyone for all your support and patience. I wish everyone a fantastic summer holiday and I hope that everyone has a peaceful break. We will all come back refreshed ready for the challenges ahead in September 2021.

It has been announced by the government that when we do come back to school, we will all be able to mix again with no need for class or year group bubbles. Self-isolation of close contacts will not apply to children or those double jabbed from 16.8.21. If there are any cases of covid in the autumn term, pupils/ adults will need to do a PCR test for any close contacts. Face coverings will also no longer be required. There will be no more extra stagger times as our times will revert back to our original school timings:

September 2021 –

Reception and KS1 8.50am morning register and 3.15pm end of school day.

KS2 (Y3-5) 8.50am morning register and 3.25pm end of school day.

‘Meet the Teacher Meetings’ in the School Hall at 9am (for 15 minutes):

Monday 6th September – Y5 Aquila with Mrs Toal

Tuesday 7th September – Y5 Vesper with Mrs Macdonald

Wednesday 8th September – Y4 Apollo with Mr Osman

Thursday 9th September – Y4 Cosmo with Miss Sauka

Friday 10th September – Y3 Astra with Mrs Pavlou

Monday 13th September – Y3 Lynx with Mrs Huggins

Tuesday 14th September – Y2 Lyra with Miss Costas

Wednesday 15th September – Y2 Carina with Mrs Aliberti

Thursday 16th September – Y1 Luna Class with Miss Burke

Friday 17th September – Y1 Nova with Mrs McNamara

Wednesday 13th October – Reception Orion with Miss Cleary

Thursday 14th October – Reception Calypso with Miss Powell

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There will be no restrictions on group sizes. Classes will be able to mix again as will clubs. We will of course take a careful approach when required to ensure we keep everyone as safe as possible. I also want to say a huge thank you to all my staff and parents for working together to help keep everyone safe since we have come back this year in March 2021. It is an amazing achievement that we did not have to close a class down over the last 5 months, when you consider what we have all been through over the last 18 months. Thank you to everyone that has helped our school community by wearing face coverings and has respected and supported each other during these tough times. We will update and share our new risk assessment for September 2021 in due course and as always, we welcome any feedback for the new start of the year.

We look forward to welcoming our new Reception children next year, as well as our new staff that will be joining us. In addition to this we look forward to having our two new Year 5 classes – Aquila and Vesper - two more constellations added to our 'stars' at Ashmole.

From September 2021 we will be trialling and offering the opportunity for our Year 5 parents and carers the option to drop off/ pick up their children using the drop off car park zone. This was always part of the council's school travel plan to aid parents and carers from when the school was originally built for the older children. This is a trial arrangement only and will only be offered to Y5 parents/ carers that request a permit badge from the school office and they will have to display this badge on their car screen. It will also support some of our original parents/ carers that live further afield. This trial is also safety dependent, so if we feel that this is not contributing to our safety plan for our school community we hold the right to modify the offering. The Year 5 parents will be able to drop off their children in the morning and will need to write a letter to the school to give permission for their child to walk to class independently (including supporting siblings) where necessary in the morning. For the pick-up option, this will only be available to children in Year 5 - not younger siblings. A detailed letter will be sent to the Year 5 parents next week. As a school we continue to stress the importance of walking, scootering and cycling to school and we always support these types of transport to our school but this measure will be offered to see if it will help our Year 5 parents. We will have Barnet Council monitoring these measures in the autumn term, along with our health and safety team.

In September, I would like to increase our volunteers again back to our numbers that we used to have pre-covid. It will be great to see our parents/ carers fully helping in the library, in the classrooms and in other parts of the school again. All volunteers will need a DBS check and we can organise this as soon as we come back in the autumn term. If you are interested in volunteering, please see Mrs Andrews in September - thank you. This is a great way to help and support our children and teachers and it is also great training for anyone interested in a career path in education.

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Please look out for our final newsletter next week and please be reminded that all key information is available on our school website:

www.ashmoleprimary.org

Yours faithfully

Mr Tofallis
Head Teacher

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