



Message from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers

What a wonderful month we have had, despite the awful weather! The children have enjoyed lots of fun activities, including the Pollution Solution Theatre Workshop on Zoom for pupils in Year 2, Cricket Day for all the children, Year 1 enjoyed a fabulous Victorian Day and Year 2 went back in time to the 1400s to the time of Christopher Columbus - what fun we all had! All the classes have also planted trees in our grounds.

Pupils continue to work extremely hard in the Covid Catch-up programme and our main focus this term continues to be their well-being and to keep working hard in all areas of the curriculum. The well-being of the children at Ashmole Primary has always been imperative to our school ethos and this is especially important after such a challenging year for us all. The children have enjoyed a variety of engaging and fun activities each week. We hope this will encourage all of the children to continue to settle back into school through lots of positive and calming activities. Our Spanish lessons are well under way, which the children are thoroughly enjoying. All of the sessions are being delivered by specialists in each area - Spanish - Ms Tobin (Ashmole Academy); Well-being- Ms Ejdelman (Place2Be Project Manager); Yoga- Ms Alford (Hatha Yoga Teacher); Recorder- Mrs Pocock; African Drumming- Mrs Smith; Ukulele - Mr Hughes

Some of you may know that after more than 20 years at Ashmole (15 years at the Secondary School and 5 years at the Primary School), sadly, Mrs Chown will be retiring at the end of this academic year. I am sure you will all agree that her leaving will be a huge loss to our school community. Mrs Chown has been with the Primary School from the very beginning and is a much loved member of staff, not only by pupils and parents, but staff too and we will miss her deeply. Although completely unique and irreplaceable, we have managed to find a replacement! Mrs Mustafa, who currently works at our school as a Mealtime Supervisor, has been appointed as our new Welfare Officer/Clerical Assistant. She brings with her a wealth of experience as a qualified medical professional and school nurse - I know that she will be a great asset to our school.

As we come to the end of another half term, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support during this half term. I am delighted that we have not reported any positive cases of Covid-19 and that our classes have remained open - thank you to everyone for continuing to wear face coverings whilst on site. As the government slowly eases restrictions, after 21st June our Risk Assessment will be updated accordingly and this will be shared with our parents and carers, staff and governors.

Overseas holidays resumed on 17th May under a traffic light system, with some countries being quarantine free, others not and a watchlist in which countries might move from one category to another. If you are planning an overseas trip during half term, please be mindful of the current travel rules and ensure that your plans allow you enough time to quarantine, if required, before the start of term on 7th June - if you have any concerns or queries relating to this, please contact Mrs Andrews in the school office.

Wishing you all a wonderful rest over the half term and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday 7th June.

With my very best wishes to you all.

Mr Tofallis
Head Teacher



Reception

Orion Class have really enjoyed learning about the life cycle of a butterfly, we loved watching them turn from caterpillars to butterflies and we had so much fun releasing the butterflies in our outdoor learning area. The children had a wonderful time taking part in planting different flowers and vegetables outside and have learnt about the importance of sunlight and water to help them grow. It has been fantastic to see the children's confidence grow with writing independently and we have been focusing on story telling. Also, the children have been working really hard at counting in 2's, 5's and 10's. Have a lovely half term break Orion class!



Calypto Class have had a fantastic month of learning in May! In maths, we have been busy learning how to share equally between groups and have been practising counting in 10s and 5s. In Topic, we have started our new topic of 'Animals' of which the children have been learning about nocturnal animals and exploring different habitats. We have been very fortunate to have had caterpillars in our classroom. They recently turned into butterflies and this week, we released them. We were sad to see them go but we have all really enjoyed watching the life cycle of a butterfly in our classroom.



Year 1

Nova Class have had a wonderful month taking part in many engaging and exciting activities. We very much enjoyed watching our caterpillars turn into beautiful butterflies over the past few weeks. As a class we took great care of them, especially when releasing them into our playground and watching them happily fly away. We also loved our Victorian themed day. We all dressed up as Victorian school children and experienced what school would have been like during the Victorian times. We took part in many great activities including playing some fun Victorian playground games, we even got

to cook together as class. We had a great time!



Luna Class have worked very hard this half term. In literacy, they all enjoyed researching and writing their own non-fiction book about plants. They wrote their own contents page, facts page, a step by step guide and finally a glossary. In maths, they have continued to practise telling the time and answering reasoning question. But most of all, they all thoroughly enjoyed their Victorian Day! They baked a Victorian Sponge Cake as this was Queen Victoria's favourite dessert. Then, they created their own cup and ball game and finally played some Victorian games in the playground. All the children and adults dressed up as Victorians and fully embraced what school would have been like during their era.



Year 2

What a lovely first summer half term we have had in Lyra class. We have been busy thinking so much about our wellbeing, cricket day, yoga and mindfulness. We have written amazing portal stories and Mrs Toal and Mrs Morreale are so proud of all the children. We have even managed to squeeze in a Humanities WOW day all about the Voyages of Columbus topic. We made clay ships, painted and printed images of the Santa Maria, created compasses and had some wonderful food tasting. Well done Lyra Class!



Carina Class have been very busy this month and have enjoyed lots of the special learning opportunities that they have been given. They have taken part in chocolate tasting yoga, planting and a theme day where they got to make compasses, taste Caribbean fruits, make their own biscuits, make their own boats out of clay and paint their own sailing boat. As well as this they have written some fantastic fantasy stories based on a magical portal in their Literacy lessons.

Year 3

During the month of May, Astra Class have enjoyed the various activities in school such as Yoga and Well Being sessions. The children have loved re-starting Spanish and reminding themselves of all of the amazing vocabulary they already know. They have spent the lessons building on existing knowledge and are becoming more and more fluent in conversations in Spanish. During our Well Being sessions each Friday, the children have worked on different skills such as teamwork, cooperation and have focused on how to develop and maintain self-confidence and self-positivity. We also had lots of fun planting new trees outside and are looking forward to watching them grow over the years.

In our Geography lessons, linked to our Raging Rivers Fantastic Pharaohs topic, the children have learnt about rivers and their key features. We have been working on our map and atlas skills as the children located and labelled many rivers around the world. We are SO impressed with the amazing progress the children have made and the interest they have shown in our new topic. We can't wait to find out more about Ancient Egypt and the River Nile.

One Friday morning, we had a special, surprise visitor in class. Kobe the cockapoo came to visit! The children were so excited as they had heard all about the beautiful puppy. We were so proud of how sensible and mature the children were around him. We hope Kobe will visit us again soon :)



This month in Computing, Lynx class have been working together to develop a basic understanding of how emails work, gaining skills using email, being aware of broader issues surrounding email including 'netiquette' and online safety. The children have been working hard on their presentations using Microsoft PowerPoint to create an imaginative presentation on their chosen Egyptian Pharaoh. In Science, Lynx Class have been looking at forces such as pull, push and twist and how different surfaces effect force. The children have also been exploring how different materials are magnetic. Lynx class have had another fabulous month of learning and Mr Osman, Mrs Keshini and Ms Ahmet are so proud of you all and how truly resilient you all are. Well done Lynx class - you are all superstars!

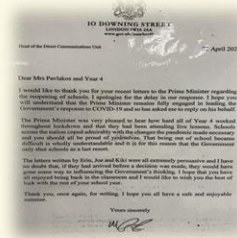


Our Value
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Year 4

Apollo have had a busy half term and have been working really hard. In lock down the children wrote letters to the Prime Minister sharing their opinions regarding whether the schools should open or not. We were really excited to get a response from Downing Street congratulating the children for writing such powerful persuasive letters. A special mention to Erin, Kiki and Joe for their letters which he particularly enjoyed reading. We have been learning about Anglo Saxon life in Britain and the children have enjoyed learning the skill of sewing and making purses to keep their Anglo-Saxon coins in! The children are still enjoying weekly yoga and the ukulele lessons. It has been lovely to watch their progress week by week. Enjoy a well-deserved half term break.



This month, Cosmo have had a lot of fun designing and creating purses during art. Threading the needles was the most difficult part! During history lessons, learning about the Anglo-Saxon grave found at Sutton Hoo was also very interesting and triggered many insightful discussions. In Science, we have continued to carry out experiments to explore sound. The children of Cosmo have been learning about writing biographies in literacy and they did wonderful research about their chosen person to help them with this. Cosmo have also been working very hard during maths while learning about shapes and symmetry. It has been a very productive month for Cosmo. Well done to the pupils for working hard!

Message from the Chair of Governors

Dear Parents and Carers

As this half term draws to a close, I wanted to place on record my thanks to Mr Tofallis and all the hard working staff at Ashmole Primary School. I am sure you all agree that they have continued to work tirelessly to ensure that the children are getting as close to a normal education as possible at the moment. It is so encouraging to see and hear how wellbeing has been such a priority for the school, whilst also ensuring that the children do not continue to fall behind with their studies.

Maintaining a safe environment has also been crucial, as has the support and positivity of parents. The initiatives of the school in enrichment and extra-support, allied with the tremendous work of the APPTA, has enabled the school to continue to flourish, even in these difficult times. Thank you to everyone involved with this.

As Governors, we continue to work closely with Mr Tofallis to support and evaluate the school provision. It is a privilege to work with a team who have such enthusiasm for the school and its success. To that end, we are delighted to announce that Neel Bowery has recently joined as a Parent Governor, and newest member of the Governing body. We look forward to meeting together in person in the coming weeks.

Tim Sanders
Chair of Governors



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Art Corner



It's that time of year again when we get creative and get planning for our annual Art Week. This year we have decided to explore African art through dance and mask making, as well as many other fun activities planned for the week.

On the day of the workshop, the children will decorate their own masks with geometric designs and use their handicrafts to learn an African Mask Dance led by professional dancers. The children work together as a class to learn and perform this elaborate dance, which will be recorded and placed on the website for parents/ carers to watch.

All equipment and materials for every child will be provided. The masks are sculpted from sustainable Albesia wood grown in community smallholdings which support the local communities in Africa.

If you would like your child to take part please could you kindly make a £7 donation via parent pay by the 4th June 2021. Although this is a voluntary contribution, if we do not have enough pupils participating in the workshop it will not be able to go ahead. Many thanks.

Mr Osman
Art Subject Leader

Breakfast and After School Club

From next term, pupils must not attend Breakfast and After School Club unless they have a pre-booked session. We have had a number of parents dropping pupils off without any prior notice. Whilst there are a few extra spaces at the Club, some days are completely full. Unfortunately, due to the pupil's safety, we cannot overbook the club. Any extra sessions, must therefore be booked via e mail at least 2 days before your child needs a space. If you email the team over the weekend, your email will not be read until Monday morning, so Monday breakfast club slots, should always be booked on Friday at the latest.



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APPTA News



We hope all the children had fun choosing their favourite buddy bear picture at our recent exhibition! The team are currently going through most 'likes' for entry into our new **Buddy Bear School Calendar**, which will be available for sale later this year.

Our April **Happy School Bag collection** was a great success, we raised **£298.80**. Thank you for all your donations. (Next collection: Friday 18th June).

Another fun filled evening was had by all at our **Spring Quiz Night** too. This raised **£122.50**.

We have been hearing about some interesting **21for21 challenges** that the children are doing throughout May and hope that those who opted for the 'hardcore' option are still on track! Don't forget to take a picture of your child carrying out their challenge for our photo montage. Please send all donations in by 7th June and if any of the donations are eligible to claim gift aid, please ensure that all the complete donor addresses are added to the sponsorship form, as we will require this information to claim gift aid (to enable us to maximise all donations.)

Forthcoming Events

Tuesday 8 June - Virtual PTA meeting, all are welcome (Zoom details to follow)

Friday 18 June - Next Happy School Bag collection

Saturday 10 July - Summer Fair 1 - 4pm

We are currently planning the **Summer Fair** and will need everyone's help to make it successful; please speak to your class rep to sign up to volunteer on the day and please do get involved with all the other things we will need your help with to make the day a success!

Finally, thanks very much to those of you who have listened to our messages about ways to donate to the APPTA and have generously donated (in lieu of us being able to hold our usual in-person events all year). We have big plans for things we'd like to purchase for the children and your generous donations will make it all possible, so we can enrich the school experience for all of our children.

Many thanks
Celeste Menich
APPTA Chair



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Dates for your diary

Value for June is Cooperation	7 th 7 th 14 th 15 th	PM 1.30pm All Day	First Day of Half Term Y3 African Drumming with Mrs Smith every Monday Fire Engine Visit - Reception ONLY STOMP Musical Workshop - Y2, Y3 and Y4
	w/c 21 st 28 th	1.00pm - 3.00pm	Arts Week Stay and Play Sessions for new Reception pupils
Value for July is Courage	2 nd w/c 5 th 5 th	All Day All week 4pm - 6pm	Inset Day - School closed to pupils Sports Week - further details to follow Open Evening for all parents - tbc. Reports out for children
	7 th	All Day	ABRSM exams - please see Ms Beacon for further information
	8 th	All	ABRSM exams - please see Ms Beacon further information
	10 th		APPTA Summer Fair 1-4pm
	16 th	12.45pm	Last day of Summer Term
	19 th	All Day	Inset Day for staff

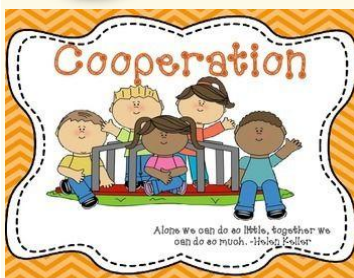
Values Competition

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 April was Appreciation and the winners were Arjun (Y1) and Rocco (Y3). Our Value for May was Self-Belief and the winners are Adele (Y2) and Muzeeba (Y4)! Well done to all of our winners! There is a £5 book token for the winner each month. The Value for June is Co-operation.



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Celebrating Achievement

Reception	Orion	Calypso
Merits	Amelie Noah Maxine Arrian Evelyn Anna Christopher Yoana Ravi	Suendam Leo Alice Amelia Casper Kvaan Mya Max Yusuf Ayia Vihaan Amelia
Values	Brandon Alexa Arjan Ella	Ella Jayden Millie Yusuf

KS1/KS2	Luna	Nova	Carina	Lyra	Astra	Lynx	Apollo	Cosmo
Merits	Emilia Darcey Johnny Maya Inaya Anyia Luca Orla Gabriel	Mairi Ibrahim Milo Ayda Michael Elif Zoya Ayden Arjun Victoria	Reyyan Nora Aun Lewis Johan Sienna Riki Alborz Ayaan Alex Ashok Callum	Ali Neve Aron Lucas Elisia Ben Alexander Skye Edward Hazal Kayden Ayden	Alexander Poppy Aara Kaner Alaena Nicholas Della Ashwin Gulchihan Aaryan Nathaniel Alaena	Jason Sofia Iza Tami William Sara Dimitar Jayden Marina	Elodie Serena Eren Nikolaos Kuzey Joshua Muzeeba Natalie Ankit Jasmine Erin	Amaya Ted Malaika Keana Armin Zahir Max Gabriella Andy Jimmy Evie Erin
Values	Saanvi Tia Azra Frankie	Victoria Elif Olanna Michael	Amani George Melis Aun	Ben Maria Onokie Georgia	Anyia Leyla Ella	Iza Jayden	Dante Eliza Elodie Kleo	Evie Freya Eisa Elizabeth