



Ashley Junior School

Ready • Respectful • Responsible







Bulletin 6— Friday 13th October 2023



Letters home link

Do remember all letters home are available on our new Website:

Whole School PTA Letter -Sparkle and Shine

https:// www.ashleyjunior school.co.uk/ page/? title=Letters+Home &pid=71



ARRIVE ON TIME!

Our school gates are open between 8.45—8.55am, and then they close.

Look out for TOKEN

TIME <u>next</u> week,
and be READY to
pick up your token!



COMMUNICATION NEWS!



The Arbor Parent Portal

Arbor is our school database, which holds all of your child's key data. This information includes your address and contact details.



Arbor can be accessed either through a web browser or an app on your phone. The app also allows you to confirm the contact details we have on file for you.

PARENTS—Please look out for an email next week with information about how to set up your link to the AJS Arbor Parent, using specific login details—thank you!

We would really appreciate it if parents could complete this term's 'Parent questionnaire'.

Click on the link below:

https://forms.office.com/e/ bWYWZ3PELz

THANK YOU!



MarvellousMe Badges

Recognising positive behaviours and awards



142 parents (55%) have signed up to our MarvellousMe— make sure that you have downloaded the app so you can see the praise for your children!

Marvellous Me now also has links to our new website, the school calendar and newsletters...SIGN UP TODAY! DON'T MISS OUT!

YEAR 3 PARENTS -

DON'T FORGET TO GIVE YOUR DONATION IN FOR THE EXPLORER DOME EVENT. THANK YOU!







OUR NEW AJS WEBSITE IS LIVE!

http://www.ashleyjuniorschool.co.uk/

We are very pleased to announce that our new AJS website is now live.

Please have a look to familiarise yourselves with the new layout.

In particular, by clicking on the **top** section options, there is:

- the new 'Newsletters' drop-down option, which will take you directly to the latest Newsletters:
 - the new Contact Form under the 'Contact Us' option
 - the 'Letters Home' section under the 'News & Events' option

AJS CAKE SALE in aid of MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Thank you to the AJS community for donating money to our special cake sale two weeks ago. You helped to raise a grand total of £397.99!

THANK YOU SO MUCH...





WHATSAPP ISSUES

Recently, there have been several incidents related to the misuse of WhatsApp groups, by children, outside of school hours.

We would like to remind parents and children that the minimum age for using WhatsApp is 16 years old.

As a school, we strongly advise you to remove your child from chat groups involving other children, as this can cause issues in and outside of school. We urge all parents to keep an eye on their child's mobile phone and online activities involving social media.

Please note - It is parents' responsibility to monitor mobile phone use outside of school - this is NOT the school's responsibility. Thank you for your understanding and help with this.



Harvest festival 2023

Thank you for the donations to our Harvest festival.

DON'T FORGET—

Year 4 parents are welcome to join us in our Harvest assembly 9:15am - 9:30am on Thursday 19th October .

PTA SMARTIES CHALLENGE 2023

Thank you to those who have returned their smartie tube.

Closing date - Wednesday 18th
October



Medication



In school, we keep a supply of pain relief in the event of an emergency.

If you *know* your child will require pain relief during the school day, please send a supply in from home in its original packaging and make sure that permission has been shared directly with our office team.





Year 6 welcomed Mr Anderson, Headteacher of The Arnewood School, into their assembly this week.

They had lots of great questions to ask him and loved finding out all about life in Year 7 at Arnewood.

Thanks for coming, to visit AJS, Mr Anderson!

YEAR 6 PARENTS: Countdown to secondary school application deadline

If you have not already done so the deadline is 31st October

Parents yet to apply can now <u>go online</u>, or alternatively request paper forms by emailing <u>admissions.team@hants.gov.uk</u> or from any Hampshire school.

Parents who apply online and on time will be notified of the outcome of their application on 1 March 2024, and two to three working days later by letter if they applied using a paper form.

For more information about the admissions process, visit the County Council's website.



CHILDREN NEED TO WEAR A COAT EVERYDAY!

AS AUTUMN HAS NOW FINALLY AR-RIVED, PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR CHILD HAS A NAMED, WATERPROOF COAT TO WEAR TO, DURING AND FROM SCHOOL, EVERYDAY.



THANK YOU!

If you need any support with providing school uniform please contact the school office



Ashley Family Hub

Dear families,

Ashley Infant School is delighted to re-launch the Ashley Family Hub from Tuesday 3rd October. Our new & improved Hub is focused on providing a fun and inclusive session aimed at babies, toddlers & pre-schoolers and their families. Each week there will be FREE craft, toys, a visiting interactive session (Rhyme time, movement and dance, Jiggy Wrigglers) and refreshments.

The Hub is fully inclusive and welcomes all children from the local area to our friendly and fun sessions.

The Hub is run by our fabulous volunteers who have a wealth of experience to support families and signpost them to local events and family centred support. We are proud to be chosen as this year's Mayor's Charity.

We'd love you to come along with your little ones (ages 0-5) and bring your friends, every Tuesday at Ashley Baptist Church, BH25 5AA from 10.30 – 12pm during term time.

This term at the Hub:



Rhyme Time - 3rd October, 7th November, 5th December



Sing and Move with Candice - 10th October, 21st November



Dancing with Michelle from NM Academy of Dance - 17th October, 14th November



Jiggy Wrigglers - 31st October, 28th November, 12th December

SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO DEAL WITH UPSETTING CONTENT

A Guide for Parents and Carers

Raising children in the digital age seems to be getting tougher, with the world currently experiencing so many uncertainties. From climate change to the war in Ukraine and the conflict in Israel, right now children across the globe can scarcely go online without being exposed to unsettling stories, images and ideas. Reassuring a concerned child can be difficult, especially when bad news feels omnipresent. We've put together some advice to help you in discussing upsetting events with young ones.

FIND OUT WHAT YOUR CHILD KNOWS (1)

There are many ways that children are exposed to upsetting content in the media, both online and offline. Before swamping your child with infermation, find out what they know already. Show them you're interested in what they have to say, practice active listening and try to gauge how much your child has been impacted by what they've seen.

RIGHT TIME, RIGHT PLACE

Starting a conversation about upsetting content probably isn't the best idea when your child is studying for an exam or about to go to bed. Choose a time when they're relaxed and open to talking, to make sure you have their full attention. Remember, these conversations can become emotional, so choose somewhere your child feels safe and comfortable.

KEEP IT AGE APPROPRIATE

With younger children, try and keep the conversation more general and avoid leading questions and complex detail. You can go slightly deeper into the specifics with young teenagers but keep monitoring their emotional response. With older teens, you can be more open about the realities and consequences of what's happening – but again, do stay aware of their emotional state.

EMPHASISE HOPE

Upsetting content can make anyone feel angry, scared, and or overwhelmed.

Try to find stories of hope, generosity and strength related to the content you're discussing. Children often feel reassured when they know they can do something to help, so encourage your child's sense of control through activities which make them feel they're positively impacting the events they're concerned about.

MONITOR REACTIONS

All children react differently, of course, and young people might not directly say that they're scared, angry, anxious, confused or uncomfortable. Emotional reactions are natural when discussing upsetting topics, so take note of your child's body language and reactions. Allow them to express their feelings in a non-judgmental space and try to stay mindful of how they might be feeling.

CONSIDER YOUR OWN EMOTIONS

It's not only young people who find upsetting news difficult to process: adults also have to deal with strong emotions in moments of stress. Children develop coping strategies by mirroring those around them, so staying on top of how you appear to be regulating your emotion on the outside is important for supporting your child through worrying times.

Meet Our Expert

Cayley Jorgensen is the director of FaceUp South Africa, which is a reporting system that is currently being used by schools and companies to light bullying around the world. FaceUp helps give a white to bystanders by encouraging them to speak up and get the help they not only want but need.

SET LIMITS

Managing screen-time and content can be difficult even in normal circumstances, but especially in unusual or stressful periods (at the start of the pandemic, for example), it's virtually impossible to keep children away from upsetting content completely, but it's important to try to limit exposure by using parental controls, talking about the dangers of harmful content and enforcing screen-time limits.

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TAKE THINGS SLOWLY

Try not to overwhelm your child with information oil at once: instead, take the discussion one step at a time. You could make the first conversation a simple introduction to a potentially upsetting subject and then wait until your child is ready to talk again. Opening the door to the conversation and demonstrating that your child can talk to you about this type of issue is a vital first step.

ENCOURAGE QUESTIONS

Online, troubling images, posts, videos and staries are shared across multiple platforms, many of which your child might access. Even if the content is actually inappropriate, encourage your child to discuss what they saw instead of being angry at them for seeing it. Children are still learning that not everything online is accurate — you want to be their ultimate source of information, not their device.

FIND A BALANCE

There's often a tremendous compulsion to stay right up to date with events. Our phones frequently send us push notifications urging us to read the latest article or view the most recent video on social media. It's essential to remind your child that it's healthy to take regular breaks, and to locus on positive events instead of 'doomscrolling' and risking becoming overwhelmed by bad news.

BUILD RESILIENCE

News has never been more accessible. While our instinct may be to shield children from upsetting stories, it's important that they're equipped with the tools to manage this content when they are exposed to it. Talk about upsetting content more generally with your child and emphasise that they can always tell you or a trusted adult if something they see makes them feel uneasy.

IDENTIFY HELP

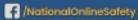
It's hugely important that children know where to find support if they encounter upsetting content online. Encourage them to open up to an adult that they trust, and make sure they're aware of who their trusted adults are. It is essential that children understand that they're not alone, and that help is available if and when they need it.

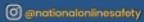


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STAR READER HIGH **TIMES TABLES** FLYERS **TOP DOODLERS ROCK STARS FLYER** Wren Wren Wren Wren Jake Sophie Sophia **Maths Sophia Spelling Arya** Kestrel Kestrel Kestrel Kestrel Louis Oscar **Maths Darcy Spelling Oliver** Kingfisher Kingfisher Kingfisher Kingfisher Iris Iris Iris Maths Luca **Spelling Kaitlin** Skylark Skylark Skylark Skylark Theadora Liam Harry **Maths Amber Spelling Grace Barn Owl Barn Owl Barn Owl Barn Owl** Thomas Marley **Thomas Maths Will Spelling Erik Eagle Eagle Eagle Eagle** Faiz Iris Iris **Maths Finley Spelling Sisi** Hawk Hawk Hawk Hawk Freya Samuel **Maths Alex Spelling Alex** Osprey Osprey Osprey Osprey Hollie Hollie **Daniel Maths Kajetan Spelling Aliou** Merlin Merlin Merlin Merlin Jeffin Isabelle Lois **Maths Jeffin Spelling Joey** Robin Robin Robin Robin Isabelle Raymond **Maths Tom Spelling Molly**











<u>Families can take various steps to support pupils' attendance, so that every</u> child is READY for school:

- create opportunities, after school, for children to talk about their time at school
- staying up to date with all communications from school
- avoiding school absences where possible for example, by arranging GP and dental appointments outside of school hours
- building consistent bedtime routines sleeping well, for the right length of time, helps improve energy levels, mood and concentration
- establishing good morning routines at home to help children arrive at school on time, having had a good breakfast and ready to start the day



Attendance Figures

Did you know? 90% attendance may seem like an acceptable level of attendance, but the reality is that 90% attendance means that your child will miss 19 days of the school year ...which is nearly 4 weeks!

97% and above - Less than 6 days absence in a school year. Pupils with this attendance should achieve the best possible outcomes.

96% - 8 days absence in a school year. "Good attendance". Pupil with this attendance are more likely to achieve their targets.

<u>92%</u> - 15 days absence in a school year. Pupils with this attendance are missing 3 weeks of school per year; it will be difficult for them to achieve their best. AJS may ask for medical proof to authorise absences.

<u>90%</u> - 19 days absence over the school year. Pupils with this attendance are missing approximately a month (19 days) of school per year and may fall behind academically and socially. With this level of attendance, the Department for Education consider children to be a 'Persistent Absentee'. Parents will receive letters about attendance and be asked for a meeting to discuss attendance.

<u>85%</u> - 29 days of absence in a school year. These pupils are missing approximately 6 weeks of school a year. It will be very difficult for them to keep up and achieve their best and build relationships in school.

<u>80% - 75%</u> - Pupils with this attendance are missing a day for every week of school! It will be almost impossible to keep up with their work. Parents of pupils with this level of attendance will be made known to the Hampshire local authority Attendance Team and also may face legal action if there is no medical or other authorised reason for their child's absence.

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY..... NEW EVENTS IN RED

19th October Harvest Festival Whole School Assembly 9.15am

(Year 4 Parents Welcome)

23rd—27th October Half Term

30th October Inset Day - School closed to all children

10th November Remembrance Assembly (Year 6 Parents invited)

1st November PTA meeting 6:00pm - 7:00pm parents welcome

3rd November PTA Doughnut Friday

(more details to follow)

13th—17th November Anti-bullying week

17th November Children In Need—SPOTacular—wear something spotty for a donation

20th—24th November Maths week

22nd November Flu immunisation (pupils)

29th November Year 3 Onsite event—Explorer Dome

1st December PTA Sparkle and Shine Day - donate raffle prize

5th December Poetry performance—Lower School 2-2.45pm

Year 3&4 parents invited (details to follow)

7th December Poetry performance—Upper school 2—2.45pm

Year 5&6 parents invited (details to follow)

12th December Whole School visit to Ashley Baptist Church (children only)

13th December Christmas lunch & Christmas Jumper day

13th December PTA—Movie Night

15th December Sing-a-long and Carols (children only)

15th December School finishes 1:30pm