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|  | WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL  ASHURST CE AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL  SCHOOL LANE, ASHURST, WEST SUSSEX  BN44 3AY    Headteacher: Mrs S Smith BA (Hons) RE & English PGCE  www.ashurstcofe-pri.w-sussex.sch.uk |  | |
| Email: [office@ashurstcofe-pri.w-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:office@ashurstcofe-pri.w-sussex.sch.uk) Telephone: 01403 710426 | | |
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6th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, a very warm welcome back to the new academic year to all families, especially those new to the school, including those of our EYFS children.

We also thank staff, Governors, and all those who have continued to work so hard

preparing our school for the new academic year, including Concept Design Solutions for the toilet refurbishment project and Mr Byrne & son who kindly fenced and prepared our new woodland area.

We hope that all families and children are safe and well and are looking forward to all that is planned for 2023-2024. This term in Mouse Class (EYFS/ KS1) children will be answering the questions ‘What wiped out the dinosaurs?’ and ‘Why did London burn?’, Squirrel Class (Y3&Y4) are wondering ‘Did the Stone Age end because they ran out of stones?’, and the wise Owl Class (Y5&Y6) will be exploring ‘Conflict’ and later on in the term ‘Fair Trade’.

‘New Beginnings’ Service

We would like to invite you to join us at our ‘New Beginnings’ Service this year.

School will attend a church service at St. James’, Ashurst on Wednesday 13th September. The service will be from 2.45-3.15pm. If you are able to attend you may take your children home with you at the end of the service, if you are unable to attend we will walk back up to school in time for 3.30 collection, as usual. If the weather is unkind the service will take place in school at the same time and you will be very welcome to join us.

Annual Sponsored Walks

At the end of last term, the YAG’s unanimously agreed to keep the charities from last year for this year’s Sponsored Walks. These are ‘Team Seas’, ‘Chestnut Tree House’ and ‘The Wholesome Warehouse’. This year Mouse class (EYFS/KS1) walk will be on Tuesday 19th September with Squirrel & Owl classes’ (Y3Y4Y5&Y6) walk on Tuesday 12th

September. Children should wear suitable footwear and may wear home clothes. We recommend long trousers, a couple of layers in case the weather changes, a plastic bag to sit on and certainly a raincoat. All Juniors will require a packed lunch (which they will carry, so we recommend a small rucksack) for Tuesday day 12th. Sponsor forms are

attached, and we thank you in advance for your generosity to our chosen beneficiaries.

After School Clubs

This term, thanks to the generosity of staff, parents and friends in the local community, we are delighted to be able to offer a range of afterschool clubs from 3.30-4.15.

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| Tuesday | Top Trumps  Spanish (from 19.9.23) | Y1-Y6  Y1-Y6 |
| Wednesday | Dance and Drama | Y3-Y6 |
| Thursday | Sports Club | Y1-Y6 |
| Friday | Construction | Y1-Y6 |

Chess club, for those interested, will be held at lunch time for KS2 children. Further information is to be found at the end of the newsletter.

Swimming Sessions

We are pleased to continue our partnership with Steyning Grammar School and ‘MXT Swimming’ to offer swimming sessions in the Autumn term for Y5 and Y6. Sessions for Y4 and Y3 will be in the Spring term. Please remember your child will need a verruca sock if they have a verruca and a swimming hat (they will not be permitted to swim without a hat). Transport will be by minibus and a packed lunch will be required on these days.

FAPS (Friends of Ashurst Primary School)

We hope that new families will join us for the FAPS AGM. The provisional date for this is 2pm on Tuesday 26th September 2023 in school.

As a C of E Aided school, Ashurst is required to provide a contribution of 10% of the school’s annual building work and maintenance costs. The Friends of Ashurst Primary School (FAPS) was set up to help provide this funding and also support the school with any additional needs. Over the past couple of years FAPS were able to buy 14 new Chrome books and also provided funds for the less glamorous, but vital, toilet refurbishment, sewage systems and windows!

Throughout the year they organise and run both small and large events, and are able to not only provide the school with the extra funding it needs, but to go over and above their fundraising target whilst creating exciting events we can all enjoy.

School Website

<http://www.ashurstcofe-pri.w-sussex.sch.uk>

The school website is updated regularly and is where the most up-to-date information can be found including: Newsletters, OFSTED and SIAMS reports, PE/Sports Funding statements, Pupil Premium and Local Offer statements, School Policies (e.g. Admissions, Attendance and Absences, Child Protection and Safeguarding, Complaints, DfE

information and Health and Safety). You can also find our Twitter feed there too!

Celebration Assemblies

This term we would like to invite parents and carers to our Celebration Assemblies. These occur twice a half term on Friday at 3.00pm (See dates below) and are an opportunity to recognise our children’s achievements both in and out of school. It is the forum for awards, certificates and birthdays! You are all very welcome to attend!

eSchools Lite App

Did you know that a very quick way to access school dates and information is by

downloading the eSchools Lite App. It has links to the school calendar, latest newsletters, online safety information and school contact details. It’s a quick and easy way to get information you may need.

Safeguarding

As always, should you have any concerns regarding your child/children, please contact the school as soon as possible in order that matters may be quickly and effectively resolved. Should you have any safeguarding concerns please contact the DSL team, Mrs Smith, Mrs Clarke, Mrs Hedley or Mrs Sansbury direct or via [DSL@ashurstcofe-pri.w-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:DSL@ashurstcofe-pri.w-sussex.sch.uk).

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Kindest regards,

Mrs S Smith

Headteacher

Uniform requirements for Academic Year 2023-2024

We ask that all children wear the Ashurst school uniform every day. The requirements have remained the same and have not changed for over 5 years. We are very proud of our school and ask for your support in maintaining the correct uniform. Please ensure that all items are named.

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| Grey skirt, culottes or pinafore dress  Grey tailored trousers (long or short)  Green sweatshirt with school badge or green sweater/ cardigan (not their PE hoody).  White shirt/ blouse/polo shirt  White, black or grey socks  White, grey or green tights  Sensible shoes or sandals (not boots)  Green and white checked dress/checked ‘playsuit’ |
| PE Kit:  Green or white shorts/skorts, white T-shirt with a round neck, white socks, trainers, green hoody and green joggers.  Trainers are preferred footwear as they are more substantial than black plimsoles. Leggings are not permitted, nor are joggers and shorts/skorts in other colours. We continue to ask that PE kits be worn to school on days that your child has PE, or is attending the after-school sports club.  After-school Dance & Drama Club is on Wednesday, Sports Club is on Thursday. |

Please note that our school uniform requests that children wear sensible school shoes or sandals. It does not include boots for any children, or trainers except for PE.

Please could you ensure that children have footwear that they can do up themselves.

PE Kit:

Green or white shorts/skorts, white T-shirt with a round neck, white socks, trainers, green hoody and green joggers. Green hoodies should not be worn during the rest of the week. Trainers are preferred footwear as they are more substantial than black plimsoles. Leggings are not permitted, nor are joggers and shorts/skorts in other colours. We continue to ask that PE kits be worn to school on days that your child has PE, or is attending the after-school sports club.

PE: Mouse Class - Thursday & Friday, Squirrel Class -Thursday & Friday, Owl Class -Wednesday.

After-school Dance Club is on Wednesday, Sports Club is on Thursday.

Jewellery/ hair wear

Jewellery should not be worn by children with the exception of stud earrings which should be removed or covered with tape for PE.

Hairbands/scrunchies are to be green, white, grey, black, navy or brown. Children’s hair should be completely tied up once it is long enough to do so and this applies to both boys and girls.

May we also ask that children have a coat, a water bottle and school book bag (order via the school uniform link on the website) in school every day. These fit in the children’s drawers and help letters, homework and reading books make the journey home safely!

Ashurst CE Aided Primary School Dates for your Diary 2023-2024

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| First Half Autumn Term | Monday 4th September – Thursday 19th October |
| Half term | Monday 23 October to Friday 27 October |
| Second half Autumn Term | Monday 30th October - Friday 15th December |
| First Half Spring Term | Tuesday 2nd January - Friday 9th February |
| Half term | Monday 12 February to Friday 16 February |
| Second Half Spring Term | Tuesday 20th February – Thursday 28th March |
| First Half Summer Term | Monday 15th April - Friday 24th May |
| Half term | Monday 27 May to Friday 31 May |
| Second Half Summer Term | Monday 5th June - Friday 19th July |
| INSET DAYS | Friday 20th October 2023, Monday 19th February 2024,  Monday 22nd July 2024 & Tuesday 23rd July 2024. |

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| Family Service St James’ Church Ashurst, 10.30 | Sunday 10th September |
| Squirrel and Owl (Y3/Y4/Y5&Y6) Sponsored Walk | Tuesday 12th September |
| New Beginnings Service in St James’, Ashurst 2.45-3.30 | Wednesday 13th September |
| Y6 Swimming packed Lunch required | Friday 15th September |
| Celebration Assembly 3.00pm | Friday 15th September |
| Mouse Class (EYFS/KS1) Sponsored Walk | Tuesday 19th September |
| Squirrel Class Daylands Farm visit | Wednesday 20th September |
| Full Governing Body Business Meeting 5.30 | Thursday 21st September |
| Y6 Swimming packed Lunch required | Friday 22nd September |
| Y5/Y6 Tangmere visit **(**Date to be confirmed) | Tuesday 26th September |
| FAP’s AGM in school 2.00 | Tuesday 26th September |
| Y5 Christ’s Hospital Maths Challenge | Wednesday 27th September |
| Y6 Swimming packed Lunch required | Friday 29th September |
| Y5/Y6 Tangmere visit (Date to be confirmed) | Tuesday 3rd October |
| Y6 Swimming packed Lunch required | Friday 6th October |
| Celebration Assembly 3.00pm | Friday 6th October |
| Family Service St James’ Harvest Sunday 10.30 | Sunday 8th October |
| Bikeability Sessions for Y6 | W/B Monday 9th October |
| Y6 Swimming packed Lunch required | Friday 13th October |
| Open Afternoon 2.30-4.00 | Monday 16th October |
| INSET DAY | Friday 20th October |
| HALF TERM | |
| ASHURST SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS  Victorian Day- in school time  Evening entertainment –to be confirmed/decided | Friday 3rd November |
| School Open for celebration of our history and our school, for past pupils, staff, families, local community and guests | Saturday 4th November 11-3pm |
| Remembrance Day Service in school | Thursday 9th November |
| Family Service St James’ 10.30 | Sunday 12th November |
| Individual and in school sibling photographs | Thursday 16th November |
| Full Governing Body Meeting 5.30pm in school | Thursday 16th November |
| Children in Need Day | Friday 17th November |
| Y5 Swimming packed Lunch required | Friday 17th November |
| Celebration Assembly 3.00pm | Friday 17th November |
| Y5 Swimming packed Lunch required | Friday 24th November |
| Y5 Swimming packed Lunch required | Friday 1st December |
| Christmas productions | w/b 4th December |
| Advent Service @ St James’ Church TBC | Tuesday 5th/ Wednesday 6th |
| Y5 Swimming packed Lunch required | Friday 8th December |
| Celebration Assembly 3.00pm | Friday 8th December |
| Family Service St James’ 10.30 | Sunday 10th December |
| Open afternoon Bazaar 2.30-4.00 | Monday 11th December |
| Children’s Christmas party 1.00 | Tuesday 12th December |
| Mouse Class Nativity 9.15 | Thursday 14th December |
| Talent Show | Thursday 14th December |
| Last day of term | Friday 15th December |

Extra-Curricular Activities

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| Top Trumps Club / Spanish Club Y1-Y6 Tuesday 3.30-4.15pm | |
| 12th, 19th, 26th | September |
| 3rd, 10th, 17th 31st | October |
| 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th | November |

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| Dance/Drama Club Y3-Y6 Wednesday 3.30-4.15pm | |
| 20th 27th | September |
| 4th 11th 18th | October |
| 1st 8th 15th 22nd 29th | November |

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| Sports Club Y1-Y6 Thursday 3.30-4.15pm | |
| 7th 14th 21st 28th | September |
| 5th 12th 19th | October |
| 2nd 9th 16th 23rd 30th | November |

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| Construction Club Y1-Y6 Friday 3.30-4.15pm | |
| 15th 22nd 29th | September |
| 6th 13th | October |
| 10th 17th 24th | November |