

Ashwater Primary School

Newsletter No.1 Autumn Term.

14th September 2021

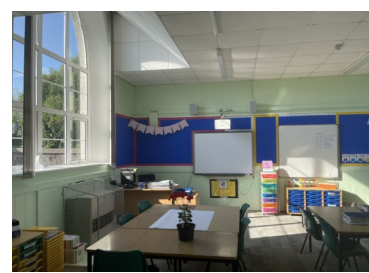
01409 211228

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Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Dear Parents,

The children had an excellent first week back and have settled well in to the new routines and new class, if they were moving up. Class 2 have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know Miss Frayn. She has done a super job of setting up her newly refurbished classroom. A huge thank you to Andy Moakes who co-ordinated the refurbishments over the summer.



Our new reception children have made a seamless transition from Pre-School. Naturally a new school or change of routines can be unsettling for some children and we are very mindful of this and support the children if they need extra nurturing.

Class Dojo

Class teachers have been setting up their Class Dojo groups so hopefully if you haven't already been added you will be soon. Teachers will continue to use Class Dojo to set homework and share messages with parents. Please let us know if you have problems accessing Class Dojo.

For more general enquiries or messages for me, please email or call the school office.

Class Pages on the Website

As we have a new website, teachers will be undertaking training this afternoon in how to upload to the website. They will then be able to update their Class Pages with information about topics for this term. We will let you know once this has been done.

Read, Write Inc.

This is the reading programme we introduced last year for Reception to Year 2 and for some Year 3 children. We have found it made a real impact on children even through the lockdown. Thank you to Mrs Cawsey who has been leading on this. She will continue to work alongside Mrs Rothery, who is based at Halwill and is our joint Head of Teaching and Learning. As Covid restrictions have eased we are now able to access the support of an external Read, Write Inc. specialist so we can refine our delivery.

We didn't manage to hold a parents meeting last year due to the further lockdown so we will plan this soon, as we would like to go through the programme theory with you and how you can support your child with it at home. I will let you know when this is happening. Here is some information for parents who are new to Read, Write Inc.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sjIPILhk7bQ>

Booking Lunch Via SchoolMoney App

A big thank you as most parents booked via the app, in advance last week. Please do continue to book by Friday for the following week as this really helps us to run smoothly in the mornings. Don't forget to 'check-out' even if your child is on Universal Free School Meals (YrR, Yr1 & Yr2) or is eligible for Pupil Premium.

School Funding Parliamentary Review

The Government will review how school funding is to be allocated and MPs will vote on this soon. Ahead of this, I had the opportunity to go to Westminster last week and speak to MPs about the issue. I felt it was important to raise the flag for rural schools because having worked in both urban and rural areas, I know that discussions can be very London-centric with little understanding of the challenges in small, rural schools. It was well received and our MP Geoffrey Cox as well as other Devon MPs attended. There was certainly a buzz about rural schools and an appetite to do something positive following the event, which I hope will be capitalised on.

After School Clubs

You should have received information about this last week. It can be found here on our website:

<https://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/ashwater-primary-school/about-us/before-after-school-clubs/>

Wild Tribe

This half term, Class 1 (including Pre-School) have Wild Tribe on Friday and will require waterproofs to wear over school clothes and wellington boots. If they don't have waterproofs then some other long clothing to cover arms and legs (not jeans) should be sent in.

Tribute to Trevor May

We are saddened to learn that Trevor May has passed away. Trevor regularly delivered assemblies to the children at Ashwater School. They were always full of warmth, kindness and joy and he will be missed by us all. We send our sincere condolences to Trevor's family.

When thinking about Trevor, Mrs Barrett said, 'Trevor was on my interview panel and came into school often, when he was a governor. He did so much for the village, church and school and played the part of Father Christmas wonderfully.'

Mrs Cawsey added, 'He was also the best Father Christmas I've known, he spent time talking to each child and told them stories about countries of the world, the children were always spell bound.'

Mrs Hazell agreed, 'Yes, he was always warm and fun with the children and lived an inspirational life, an absolute gentleman.'

I am sure there will many more who will echo similar feelings. I found him to be a wonderful inspiration to the children and a great supporter of our school as a governor and beyond. I am very sad that we will not have the opportunity to have him in school again but he will always be in our hearts and I am sure his impact on the children will be felt for many years to come.

Mrs Ruh Alford
Executive Headteacher

Contacting Ashwater School

The school office (01409 211228) is open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. If you urgently need to contact a member of staff when the office is closed please either call the Classroom direct line or contact Halwill school on 01409 221476.

Please remember to order your School lunches via schoolmoney by Friday of each week. This helps us cater correctly. Thank you.

NO NUTS Please keep our children with severe nut allergies safe. It is imperative that no **Nuts or Nut products** are brought into school. Could all parents **PLEASE** be extra vigilant, especially with some cereal bars which contain nuts.



If your child has:
a runny nose, is sneezing or feeling unwell
But they don't have:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough, or
- a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste

These are
not normally symptoms of coronavirus

Seek advice from a pharmacy,
dial 111 or see your GP

If your child has:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough, or
- a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste

This could be a sign of
coronavirus

Book a test