



Ashwater Primary School

Newsletter No.2 Autumn Term.

21st September 2021

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Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Dear Parents,

Last week we had our first Celebration Assembly of the term. We have not yet resumed hand-shaking but instead did 'air-shakes' which the children responded well to. We talked about 'Being Resilient' and what is needed to face a challenge after things go wrong. We looked at the examples of Emma Radacanu and Sophia Dunkley. We had discussed both women in the summer term so now we looked at how Emma came back from her health struggle at Wimbledon to win the US Open and how Sophia, the first black woman to play Test cricket for England (and former pupil of mine) needed to be resilient after being 'out for a duck' in a previous match to scoring the winning runs in the recent Test against India. We also looked at the example of David Smith, who won double Gold in the Tokyo Paralympics in Boccia. David is a friend of one of our families so his resilience was more meaningful to children. I was very impressed that even our youngest children are joining in with our motto and showing an understanding of its meaning.

We do hope to invite parents back to the Celebration Assembly but we feel that as this is a weekly event, it will be better to wait until January to do this, just while we wait to see how the COVID situation develops this term. I will keep you updated.

Harvest and Christmas Dates

Rev. Skinner will be joining us for our **Harvest Assembly on Thursday 7th October at 9:15 am**. Now that we are allowed to, we would like to invite parents to this and it will also enable us to see how feasible inviting parents to Celebration Assembly will be. There is no need to pre-book but please do wear a face covering. Please do not come to school if you or someone you have been in contact with has symptoms of or has tested positive for COVID-19.

Our Christmas Church Service will be on Friday December 17th at 9:30 am at The Parish Church of St Peter ad Vincula, Ashwater. Again, we hope parents will be able to attend this, provided the COVID situation allows. Christmas lunch for the children will be Wednesday 15th December. We have not yet set the other Christmas dates.

Trip to Bideford Arts Gallery

On Wednesday 22nd September we have arranged a Federation trip for Class 2 to visit the Burton Gallery in Bideford. Learning opportunities include exploring the 'Face Value' exhibition and taking part in a workshop. The exhibition brings together more than 45 original works by some of the country's most celebrated twentieth-century and contemporary artists, including David Hockney, Barbara Hepworth, Lucian Freud, L.S. Lowry and Chris Ofili. Parents should have received a letter about this last week. Many thanks to Mrs Skinner, Teaching Assistant from Halwill School, for her efforts in organising the trip and in securing a contribution from the gallery towards the cost of transport.

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

RSE stands for "Relationships and Sex Education" and is part of Relationships and Health Education. New statutory guidance has been introduced to teach children about relationships and health. The Relationships Education, RSE, and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019 have made Relationships Education compulsory in all primary schools.

Through the summer term Jayne Miners, Head of Teaching and Learning, worked very hard to review our Federation RSE policy and learning resources we use for teaching this. Governors and staff have been fully involved in this process and now we want you as parents to have a full understanding and the opportunity to share your views and ask questions about the changes to RSE and what it will mean for your child.

This week, Sarah Revers, Systems Administrator will work with Jayne Miners to upload the RSE policy to our website, along with a number of other documents to explain the content and expectation to you further. There will also be the opportunity for you to share your views via a Google form and we will offer a meeting to discuss this further, if parents would like this.

When all the information has been uploaded, to the website, we will text you a link to it.

Booking Lunch Via SchoolMoney App

A big thank you as most parents booked via the app, in advance this week. Please do continue to book by Friday for the following week as this really helps us to run smoothly in the mornings and means learning time can be optimised. Don't forget to 'check-out' even if your child is on Universal Free School Meals (YR,1 &2) or is eligible for Pupil Premium.

After School Clubs

There are still places available. Please find information here on our website: <https://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/ashwater-primary-school/about-us/before-after-school-clubs/>

If your child does start a club, we ask that they commit to the full half-term because it makes organising the club and knowing which children are supposed to be on-site very challenging if children drop-out part way through. We do need to pay our providers and as this is already heavily subsidised by the school, we will still charge if your child does not attend the sessions. Thank you for your support with this.

Wild Tribe

This half term, Class 1 (including Pre-School) have Wild Tribe on Fridays 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.

Thank You

A big thank you to Steve Furse who has cut back the school hedges so beautifully! Thank you, it is really appreciated.

Mrs Ruh Alford
Executive Headteacher

The Carey Qualities



Each Friday children are awarded certificates in our Celebration Assembly for making a significant effort to develop one of our Carey Qualities. Last week the following children were awarded certificates. Well done to them all.

For building Relationships	For being Resilient	For being Resourceful	For being Reflective	For being Respectful
		Amelia Reggie William		Mason

Dates for your diary:

September

22nd KS2 Trip to Burton Gallery

October

7th Harvest Assembly 9.15am

25th to 29th HALF TERM

November

1st Non-pupil day

2nd Non-pupil day

December

15th Christmas Lunch

17th Christmas Church Service 9.30am

17th End of Term

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. Your support is appreciated.



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.

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