



Ashwater Primary School

Newsletter No.9 Autumn Term.

24th November 2020

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Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Dear Parents,

It was great to see so many children take part in 'Odd Socks Day' last Friday and if they chose not to wear odd socks, that was OK too because the idea was to celebrate differences as part of Anti-Bullying week. Throughout the week we looked at the theme, 'United Against Bullying'. It was emphasised to the children that we are a 'Telling School' and that they must tell an adult if someone hurts them with their words, hands or feet. Bullying will never be tolerated in our school and we take concerns of children and parents seriously so please do let us know if you have any concerns. In Celebration Assembly we shared the Anti-Bullying Week Odd Socks Day Assembly, which the children engaged well with. If you would like to watch it with your child, it can be found here: <https://youtu.be/6AUB79YxkwQ>



School Staff: As we continue through the Autumn term, staff will occasionally be absent from school due to the usual winter coughs, colds and illness and as you know we are being more cautious this year so absence may increase. This could result in there only being one or a different member of staff in your child's class or group and the usual changing of reading books, giving out of home work and other school routines may not happen on the expected day. If this occurs, please be patient with us as everyone is working very hard to ensure school continues to run as smoothly as possible under very challenging circumstances - thank you for your understanding.

Virtual Parent Consultation: These will take place this afternoon. If you have chosen to do this via Zoom, joining instructions should have been shared via Class Dojo. To make transitions between meetings smooth, the teachers have created one class Zoom invite. This means that it is really important that you join just before your meeting is due to start. The teacher will keep you in the 'Waiting Room' until the previous parent has left the meeting. At the end of your meeting, please leave the meeting promptly so the teacher can allow the next parent to join. Teachers will try very hard to keep to time but if there is a delay or any technical hitch, please bear with them. This is the first time we have run a Parent Consultation like this.

Please make sure you use your name / child's name on your Zoom account so the teacher knows who you are. Otherwise, they won't be able to let you in.

You should also have received a short report for you to refer to in the meeting.

If you have difficulty with internet connection and would prefer a telephone call, please let the office know and teachers will arrange these with you.

Christmas: Sadly, we won't be able to have parents in for the usual events this year but we are working on a plan to make Christmas very special for the children in school. I am delighted to tell you that the PTFA have very kindly offered to buy us a real Christmas tree to go in the playground! This will give us and the whole village some much needed cheer. We will be making a virtual Christmas Show to be shared on Class Dojo and Facebook and we hope to do a live draw for the PTFA Christmas hampers on Facebook. Christmas lunch has already been planned for Wednesday 16th December and children can wear a Christmas jumper or something Christmassy (even some tinsel) on this day in aid of Save the Children. It is taking a little more thought to organise other activities so a full plan of Christmas events will be shared in next week's newsletter. In the meantime, I can confirm that children can bring in Christmas cards for their friends and details of how and when this should be done will be shared next week.

Vacancies: We have the following vacancies across the Federation, please see our website for details <https://www.thecarey federation.co.uk/job-vacancies-1/>

Foundation Stage Practitioner – Ashwater School

Meal Time Assistant – Ashwater School

Meal Time Assistant – Halwill School

Senior Meal Time Assistant – Halwill School

All the roles have the potential opportunity for additional part-time, temporary, Teaching Assistant hours, if the successful candidate is suitably able to do these.

Bags4School

A huge thanks to everyone for contributing to this. Please bring in bags by Thursday morning. Many Thanks.

Christmas Hamper Draw Tickets

Thank you to those who have already sold tickets, if you still have yours please do support our PTFA by selling them. The hampers are amazing and don't forget, 'You have to be in it to win it!'

NSPCC 'Speak out. Stay safe' Virtual Assembly 27th November 2020 On Friday we will be sharing an online assembly and supporting classroom based activities from the NSPCC. 'Speak out. Stay safe' is a safeguarding programme which aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse in a child friendly, interactive way. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a trusted adult or Childline.

The NSPCC have developed an online version of their Speak out. Stay safe. programme to help overcome some of the challenges that the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has presented in relation to having external speakers in school. In the online assembly, the Speak out. Stay safe. messages continue to be delivered in a fun and interactive way with the help of their mascot Buddy as well as special guest appearances from Ant and Dec.

We have studied the content of the materials and are extremely confident that they are appropriate for primary-school-aged children. By the end of the programme, we hope children will feel empowered – knowing how they can speak out and stay safe.

If you would like to know more about the Speak out. Stay safe. programme you can find more information on the NSPCC website www.nspcc.org.uk/speakout or I would be happy to discuss any questions that you may have.

Mrs Ruh Alford

Executive Headteacher

Christmas lunch is on Wednesday 16th December.

To help with catering numbers, please order as soon as possible using the schoolmoney ordering system. Thank you

The Carey Qualities

In the Carey Federation, we are aspirational learners who build

Relationships by being **Resilient, Resourceful, Reflective and Respectful**

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
		Carly Nancy Bradley	Reuben	

Dates for your diary:

November

26th Bag2School Collection 9am

December

16th Christmas Lunch (Please order through schoolmoney)

18th Last day of term

January 2021

4th Term Starts

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 in the Afternoon

If trying to contact the school in the afternoon when the office is closed and if you need to speak to us urgently **please call (No texts please) the school mobile number (temporary number): 07375 958482** 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