

Ashfield Junior School

School Lane, Bushey Herts WD23 1SR

www.ashfield.herts.sch.uk T: 020 8950 2350

School Council Bring and Buy Sale

Congratulations to our School Council and Eco Council for organizing a splendid Bring & Buy Sale in the Hall last Wednesday. The children raised over £450 which goes directly to the children (they will decide how to spend their money through the School Council). Well done children.

ASHA Events

The Christmas Fair and Secrets' Room raised a wonderful £1,736.83. A huge thank you to the ASHA committee and all those parents and friends who supported the events by manning stalls and donating so generously. The fair was a lovely event and it was good to see so many of you there.

Sporting Achievements

Queens' School Athletics Tournaments

Our Year 6 and Year 4 teams took part in the Sports Partnership athletics events at Queens' School. The children competed in individual track and field events such as long jump, speed bounce and javelin, as well as team pursuits. Spirits were high throughout the events. The most thrilling moment came in the relay races at the end of the afternoon. While neither team got through to the finals, a tremendous amount of fun was had by all and the children displayed a great example of Ashfield team spirit.

Under 10 Gymnastics Tournament

Congratulations to the Y3 and Y4 gymnastic squad who took part in a tournament at Queens' school. They put a lot of effort into learning their two routines and how to perform them in unison. The standard of performance of all the gymnasts on the day was extremely high. One of our teams finished joint 2nd and will compete in the county finals later in February. Our other team narrowly missed out on a place in the finals against strong competition

Netball Team Results

Our netball team played York House on 29th January. Our Year 6 team lost 5-3, but our Year 5 team won 3-2. In their match against Bournehall on 5th February our Year 6 team lost 5-1 and our Year 5 team won 4-0. Congratulations to all the children who took part –they gave their all. And thank you to Linda Leyshon for coaching and managing the teams.

Thank you to all the parents who kindly offered transport for the events.



Upcoming Events

February 12 - 16

Half Term Week –school closed

March 1 & 2

Family Group Hockey Tournament

March 8

2.00-3.00pm SEND Parent Focus Group

March 6 & 8

Provisional Date for Mothers' Day Secrets Room –to be confirmed

March 16

9.00-9.30 & 2.30-3.00 Open Classrooms – more detail in this newsletter and booking forms to follow after half term

March 19-23

Year 6 School Journey to Manor Adventure

March 29

ASHA Easter Egg Hunt

Internet Safety

Just a reminder to parents to be vigilant when children are using the internet. Please check your internet settings to ensure you have the right level of parental control. All the major providers offer this – if you get stuck with filtering to the right level, contact your internet provider.

A warning that the most innocuous of games can still cause problems. Some free games require you to pay for a premium service in order to remove adverts, or to customise an avatar. Children may experience pressure from their peers to spend money on extras – this can lead to unkind remarks being made for those children whose parents say "no" to going premium or to paying for extras. But remember that this is the same as in the real world - children who don't turn up with the latest style of pencil case or football boots can receive unkind remarks from other children - the only difference is that it's happening on-line and is more difficult to monitor. However, teaching children how to deal with this is important - one of today's life skills. Please make sure your child knows how to block someone who upsets them and how to report an issue-e.g. someone behaving inappropriately. You must know what your children are doing on-line and help them use technology responsibly and keep themselves safe.

There is more advice on internet safety on our website.

A Message from our Safer Neighbourhood Team Regarding School Lane

You may have noticed that Police, PCSO's and a man with a clipboard have been attending the area recently to look at school drop off and pick up parking issues and traffic congestion at Merry Hill and Ashfield schools.

The man with the clipboard is from the Highways department and he is looking at the long term solution of the road layout and the fact that there are safety issues for children and adults walking along the footpaths. The reality of the situation is it will take 18 months for the authorities to agree and rubber stamp any changes to be made.

As a result of this I have been looking at the short term options:

- We do nothing and the children and adults keep plodding on with their precarious walk to school, dodging cars mounting the pavement.
- Parents and residents take charge of the situation and work together as a community to make improvements to the area during drop off and pick up.

I am proposing that we have parent volunteers who will wear high visibility tabards who will be present outside each school between 08.40-09.00 and 15.00-15.25.

The volunteers will take registration numbers and photographs of vehicle parked illegally. These details are forwarded to PCSO AINSLEY who will send a warning letter to the registered owner warning that any further breaches of the road traffic law will result in a ticket being issued and a £30 fine.

We are looking to approach the residents in the road to volunteer as well. This is only going to work if enough of you volunteer. If there are sufficient numbers we can create a rota so that you will be doing this every now and again.

There will be no confrontation and adequate training will be given by police to any volunteers.

We get information on a daily basis of vehicles parking illegally, we are not in a position to be there all of the time but you are.

Please contact the school if you are interested in this project and want to be empowered to deal with the situation in a positive and effective way.

Sergeant 627 Leah McDermott

Open Classrooms

We will be holding our next Open Classroom event on Friday 16th March. Feedback from the Parent Focus Group, after our first Open Classroom event in the Autumn Term indicated that Parents really appreciated and enjoyed being able to spend time with the children, taking a proper look at their work and doing activities with them. However, a couple of issues arose – Year 4 was a little crowded and some parents with more than one child felt a little rushed.

After listening to the suggestions from the PFG, we are going to trial having 2 time slots, one from 9.00-9.30am and the other from 2.30-3.00pm. There will be a bookings system so that we know which parents will be in school for each session – and in Year 4 this will be a first come, first served basis with a maximum of 15 parents at each session. Forms will be sent out after half term.

A reminder that those of you with pre-school children or children off sick on the day will not be able to bring them to this event.