

# Ashfield Junior School

*Inspiring our children to dream big, be extraordinary and change the world*



**SEPTEMBER 2021**

## Welcome to the Autumn Term

A very warm welcome to the new academic year to all our children and families! We hope that our children have a very successful year, enjoying a wealth of opportunities to learn in a fun way and making lots of happy memories.

Over the summer break our caretaker, Bob, has been busy as ever. He has repainted the Year 4 classrooms, so the children and staff have come back to lovely fresh rooms.

This term we welcome four experienced teachers to Ashfield: Miss Lazarus in Year 3, Mrs Gow in Year 4, Miss Bolton in Year 5 and Mr Parnell in Year 6. They have settled in very well and look forward to meeting you at the Curriculum Evenings next week.

Thank you for the lovely messages I have received with the announcement that I am taking on the Acting Head teacher role for the Autumn Term. It is an absolute privilege to lead such a wonderful school and I am just loving it!

Miss H Flint, Acting Head teacher

## Charity Bike Ride

We are delighted to hear that Noah Cunningham in Year 4 will be taking on a Charity Bike Ride. Here is the link to his page if you would like to sponsor him.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/noahcyclesforchildautism>

Hello my name is Noah and I am 8 years old.

I have 2 cousins who are Autistic and the Child Autism UK Charity provides lots of support for children and their families. I want to raise awareness so that families with Autistic children are able to get the support they need. I thought it would be a good idea to challenge myself to complete 50 laps on my bike around my local park and to raise money whilst doing this.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and if you can sponsor me that would be very kind.

Noah (4M)

## Defibrillator

Just to update you: the defibrillator that was donated by Cala Homes care of Mr Holden has now been installed in the school reception. We are very pleased!

## Year 6 Tie Assembly

Year 6 tie assembly will be held on Monday 20th September at 2.45pm in the school hall. All Year 6 parents are welcome to attend. Please enter the hall through the Year 6 double doors which will open from 2.35pm. We ask that you wear a face covering for this event unless you are exempt.

## 4CG Swimming

Swimming for 4CG starts on 23<sup>rd</sup> September and will continue each Thursday through the Autumn Term, excluding October half term. The children will walk to and from the pool, leaving school at 9am. Payment can now be made on The Gateway. If you are able to walk to and from the pool with the children and help supervise changing, please call the office.

## Curriculum Evening

Teachers are looking forward to meeting you on Monday 13th September. Each Year Group will hold 2 meetings running from 6pm to 6.25pm and then 6.30pm to 6.55pm, so it is possible to attend 2 different meetings. Please enter via the bottom gate for Y5 and Y6 meetings and the top gate for Y3 and Y4 meetings. There will be a member of staff ready to direct you to the right classroom if you are unsure. The Ashfield staff are preparing Powerpoint presentations detailing all the important information for your child's year group and these will be available on the Ashfield website if you are unable to attend. We ask that you wear a face covering for this event unless you are exempt.

## How to get in touch with your child's class teacher

If you have a worry that you need to bring to your child's class teacher's attention, simply email the office on [admin@ashfield.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@ashfield.herts.sch.uk) and Miss Whalley or Miss Golding will make sure the message gets through to the teacher. If you need to speak to a teacher, they will try their best to call you back within 24 hours, but please understand this may not always be possible.

## Parent Consultation evenings

These will be held remotely this term in the week beginning 18th October, during the school day. More details will follow later in the term.

## Secondary Transfer

For those of you with children in Year 6, I hope that the consortium test went well if you chose for your child to sit it. I am sure you are well aware of the dates for the various aptitude tests. The link to the consortium website is <https://www.swhertsschools.org.uk/schools/> and the calendar there is very helpful. I would just like to remind you of your final application deadline date of 31st October.

For those who have children in Year 5, you should have received an electronic copy of the Moving On 2022 booklet which will tell you more about the process and give you open days / times of secondary schools, should you wish to visit this year. We will also put a copy on the school website.

## Uniform

Most of the children have come back in their full winter uniform—thankyou for that! If your child is still in summer uniform whilst the weather is warm, that is fine, but please ensure they are kitted out with their winter uniform by the end of September. Just a reminder that children should come to school dressed in their PE kit on their PE days. We have a policy of no jewellery other than a simple wrist watch and stud earrings. For PE, children need to be able to remove their earrings themselves or cover them with their own micropore tape.

## Snacks

We do encourage children to bring a healthy snack to eat in the middle of the morning to keep them going until lunchtime. A piece of fruit or vegetable is ideal, but as the children are growing and using up a lot of energy, particularly on PE days, they may need to have something slightly more substantial. We are aware that there is a lot of confusing information about what constitutes healthy, so we ask parents to follow these guidelines when choosing a snack:

1. Look at the ingredients label of pre—packaged snacks.
2. If sugar or an alternative name for sugar appears in the first three ingredients, then this would not be a healthy snack and should be considered a special treat.