

NEW ASH GREEN SCHOOL NEWS



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JANUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER

Curriculum Core Values - 'Together Everyone Achieves More'

CURIOSITY

RESILIENCE

CHALLENGE

INSPIRATION

INDEPENDENCE

SELF-MOTIVATION

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to our January 2021 Newsletter. As we head towards the February half term in a couple of weeks, I sincerely hope that everyone in our school community will be able to enjoy a restful and relaxing break. All children, whether they have been learning from home or attending school, have worked exceptionally hard throughout this term during an incredibly challenging time. None of this would have been possible without your continued patience and dedication, so I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our parents and carers for your unwavering support. As the national lockdown will still be taking place after the half term break, please be reassured that all children will continue to receive consistent learning whether they are at home or are attending school. The last day of Term 3 is Friday, 12th February. Term 4 will begin on Monday, 22nd February 2021. Kind regards,

Mrs C.A. Cain, Headteacher

**If your child is currently learning at home,
the following timetable may provide some assistance:**

Reception = daily learning to include:

Priority	Subject
1	Phonics
2	Literacy
3	Reading
4	Maths
5	Understanding the world or expressive arts and design
6	Child initiated learning through play

KS1 = 3 hours of learning a day to include:

Duration	Subject
15 minutes	Reading for education
30 minutes	English – includes input and time to complete task
30 minutes	Maths – includes input and time to complete task
30 minutes	Foundation subject e.g. History, Geography, Science or Art
15 minutes	Maths skills
30 minutes	PE/daily exercise
15 minutes	Feedback from tasks – children to check from day before
15 minutes	Spelling/phonics

KS2 = 4 hours of learning a day to include:

Duration	Subject
30 minutes	Reading for education
45 minutes	English – includes input and time to complete task
45 minutes	Maths – includes input and time to complete task
45 minutes	Foundation subject e.g. History, Geography, Science or Art
15 minutes	TT Rockstars or maths skills
30 minutes	PE/daily exercise
15 minutes	Feedback from tasks – children to check from day before
15 minutes	Spelling

Sportshall

Last term our Years 3 to 6 children took part in a virtual Sportshall Athletics tournament.

A fantastic well done to:

Years 3 and 4 team who gained a final team score of **1531**

Years 5 and 6 team who gained a final team score of **2347**

Our **Years 5 and 6** team won **5th** place out of 12 schools overall.

Congratulations to all involved!

Thank you also to...

Mr Rowe, a grandparent to one of our children, who has kindly donated two tablets for the school to use during lockdown.

Another local resident, who wishes to remain anonymous, has also kindly provided the school with a laptop as well as very generously donating £500!

Thank you very much to both residents for your very kind donations!



Thank You to Rotosound!

Rotosound is a company who makes instrument strings and they wish to support schools in the local area by very kindly donating 40 violin strings to be used in our school. This is very much appreciated and will help the children resume their lessons once the lockdown is over.

Reading at New Ash Green Primary



We all know that reading is so important for your child and it is therefore essential that this continues during the current lockdown. Remember, reading does not always have to be from a book. It could be reading for pleasure from a comic, picture book or the back of a cereal box. It could also be reading for purpose, for example instructions for a computer game or a recipe.

You can currently access books via the Oxford Owl website, which is free and shortly we will be sending out login details for the Rising Stars Online Library to make more books available. Some Kent libraries are also offering a click and collect service and further details of this can be found here: <https://www.kent.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/libraries/visiting-a-library/select-and-collect>

Children need to continue to record what they are reading either in their contact book or in their reading journal if this is at home. Finally, we have attached to this newsletter a poster and a Guide to Book Chat, to help you get the most out of your reading with your child. Please do contact the school if you have any queries or questions about your child's reading.



World Book Day
4th March
2021

World Book Day will still be taking place this year. The school will celebrate books and authors as usual. £1 book tokens may be issued in digital form, further details will follow in due course.

Children's Mental Health Week: 1st - 5th February 2021



**Express
Yourself
Friday
5th February
2021**

Children's Mental Health Week this year is Express Yourself

Expressing yourself is about finding ways to share feelings, thoughts or ideas through creativity. This could be through art, music, writing and poetry, dance and drama, photography and film as well as doing activities that make you feel good. Children will be learning what self-expression is and why it is important. They will be encouraged to take part in a range of activities to support this learning, at home and in school.

All children in school are invited to 'express themselves' and wear what they would like to on **Friday 5th February**.

Children learning at home will also be invited to do the same. Teachers will confirm the day for children at home and the time of their live lesson.

For more information, visit <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

Kent Community Health - School Update

At a time of complex challenges, Kent Community Health are committed to supporting our school community wherever possible. School Health staff are offering schools a wellbeing call to discuss any worries or concerns parents and carers may have regarding children's physical and emotional health needs at this time. They are able to offer:



Emotional Wellbeing Support for Children:

- **Strategies for Low level support** - for some children and young people it can be difficult to manage and understand their feelings. Kent School Health are able to support low level emotional health needs and can provide strategies to help build resilience. Young people may be offered up to 6 virtual sessions over 12 weeks to improve their wellbeing.
- **Children and Young People's Counselling Service** - Kent School Health are also able to offer counselling sessions to help a young person gain understanding and develop strategies to feel better. Primary school aged children may receive 6 sessions with a counsellor, or if it is more appropriate, parents may have these sessions with advice on practical, easy to use strategies to support their child. Kent Health have also extended their service to include bereavement counselling for children aged between 4-19 who have been bereaved as a result of the Coronavirus. Sessions are delivered virtually or face-to-face within a clinic setting.

Support for Parents and Carers:

- The Kent Resilience Hub is aimed at parents and carers who have slightly older children aged between 10 and 16. It has a range of helpful articles, tools and resources to help increase understanding and to find tools and approaches to help build your child's resilience. For further details, please click onto the link attached: <https://kentresiliencehub.org.uk/>



Safer Internet Day: Tuesday 9th February 2021

On 9th February, the school will be focusing on being safe online.

**The theme this year is:
An Internet We Trust:
Exploring Reliability
in the Online World**

Activities will be taking place for those children attending school throughout the day to raise this awareness. Online safety tasks will also be available for children learning at home.

Please refer to the attached link for more information:

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2021>

During lockdown, it is more important than ever that any device children are using has the correct parental settings to ensure their safety. Please refer to the school website within the e-safety section of the parent tab for several links which give further details on how to set effective parental controls as well as the latest advice on new apps and games that children may be using.

Installing Microsoft Office for Parents and Carers

As part of our school licence for Microsoft 365, all children now have access to the Office 365 apps on their device for free. These can be installed on up to 5 devices and can be used to support your child with their learning at home. The apps include Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and OneNote. Instructions on how to install the apps onto your device are attached to this newsletter, for your information.





CH&CO: From the Kitchen

Every week, the school's catering company will be issuing a Learning from Home edition to support families at home with fresh cooking ideas during the lockdown. We have attached one of these editions to this newsletter for your information and we will also be sending these regular updates to our school community on a weekly basis. We do hope that our parents and carers find these ideas useful.



Change4Life have created recipes and shopping lists for families which can be used to create lunches for around £15 each week. Please see the link attached below for more information:

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/lunch/cheap-lockdown-lunch-ideas/>

Thank you and Farewell to Mr Brown

We would like to thank Mr Brown for his long and distinguished service as formerly the school's Chair of Governors and more recently as a hugely experienced Associate Governor. Mr Brown has been a member of the Governing Body at New Ash Green Primary School for many years and so his presence will be sorely missed.

Thank you, Mr Brown for your invaluable service

Academic Term Dates 2021

SPRING TERM 2021

INSET DAYS	Monday 4 th and Tuesday 5 th January
Term 3	Wednesday 6 th January - Friday 12 th February
HALF TERM	Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February
Term 4	Monday 22 nd February - Thursday 1 st April
Bank Holidays	Good Friday 2 nd April and Easter Monday 5 th April
EASTER BREAK	Tuesday 6th April - Friday 16th April

SUMMER TERM 2021

Term 5	Monday 19 th April - 28 th May
Bank Holidays	Monday 3 rd May and Monday 31 st May
HALF TERM	Tuesday 1st June - Friday 4th June
INSET DAY	Monday 7 th June
Term 6	Tuesday 8 th June - Wednesday 21 st July

INSET days: In-Service Training Days when children do not attend school

