

Ashby Hill Top Primary School

Newsletter



Friday 10th February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been another busy week in school. All children have been working hard on their learning and I have seen some excellent writing, maths work and geography from children who have been sent to my office for a special Headteacher sticker- well done everyone! Walking around classrooms, I have been amazed by the children's fabulous attitudes and hunger for learning- they are all working successfully on their own, in pairs or in small groups: skills that will stand them in great stead as they move on through the school. There is a genuine warmth and enjoyment radiating from classrooms at Hill Top and it is so lovely to see! I know that there will be lots of very proud parents and families when you hear more at parents evening next week!

Over the last few weeks, governors and school leaders have been revisiting our school vision to ensure that we are happy that it represents what we want our school community to say about Hill Top in the years to come. I am delighted to share with you the revised Ashby Hill Top Primary School Vision below. I hope that you all agree that it accurately reflects our school now and into the future.

Ashby Hill Top Primary School Vision

We offer the children in our school 'the brightest of beginnings' in order to lay strong foundations for a successful future. The lives of all who leave our school will have been enhanced by their experience at Ashby Hill Top.

Values- at Hill Top we...

- **Belong**
- **Thrive**
- **Succeed**



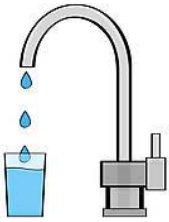
We provide:

A secure environment where everyone has a voice and is equipped with the life skills needed to keep themselves and others safe. A place in which everyone is valued, celebrated, shown respect and is proud to be part of the Hill Top Family.

A culture of wellbeing which nurtures self-worth and develops resilience in order to prepare our children for life in an ever changing world.

An ambitious, relevant and enjoyable curriculum that motivates every child to achieve well, become a lifelong learner and to find and develop their own personal strengths, ensuring that they are well prepared for the next stage of their education.





Drinking Water in School

We are trying to encourage children to drink more water during the day! Water is available at lunchtimes and we encourage children to bring in water bottles to class. (Water bottles can be purchased from the office) There are also water fountains available in the main school building.

Why drink water?

It boosts learning. *When we are thirsty, mental performance including memory, attention and concentration can decrease by around 10%. Pupils concentrate better because they are not distracted by the effects of dehydration such as thirst, tiredness and irritability.*

It's healthy! Drinking enough water regularly throughout the day can protect health and contribute to well-being. It can help prevent a range of health problems that stem from dehydration such as lethargy; dizziness; constipation; headaches and bladder, kidney and bowel problems. In addition, water has none of the health problems associated with drinks containing sugar, additives, sweeteners or caffeine. Remember a hydrated child is a much happier child!

Parent Code of Conduct

At Ashby Hill Top Primary School, we are very fortunate to have a supportive and friendly parent body. As a partnership, our parents understand the importance of a good working relationship to equip children with the necessary skills for adulthood. For these reasons we continue to welcome and encourage parents/carers to participate fully in the life of our school.

We believe that staff, visitors and children are entitled to a safe and protective environment. Behaviour that will cause harassment, alarm or distress to users of the premises is contrary to the aims of the school.

We expect parents, carers and visitors to:

- Respect the caring ethos of our school
- Understand that both teachers and parents need to work together for the benefit of their children
- Demonstrate that *all* members of the school community should be treated with respect and therefore set a good example in their own speech and behaviour
- Work with the school to reconcile a child's perception of events with other points of view in order to bring about a peaceful solution to any issues
- Approach the school to help resolve any issues of concern



In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment the school cannot tolerate parents, carers and visitors exhibiting the following:

- Approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them because of the actions of this child towards their own child. (Such an approach to a child may be seen to be an assault on that child and may have legal consequences)
- Shouting, either in person or over the telephone
- Speaking in an aggressive/threatening tone
- Physically intimidating, e.g. standing very close
- The use of aggressive hand gestures/exaggerated movements
- Physical threats
- Shaking or holding a fist towards another person
- Swearing
- Pushing/Hitting/Spitting
- Posting inappropriate comments on Social Networking sites
- Racist, homophobic or sexist comments
- Smoking or vaping
- Consumption of alcohol or banned substances

Should **any** of the above behaviour occur on school premises, the school may feel it is necessary to contact the appropriate authorities and if necessary, ban the offending adult from entering the school grounds. Thank you for your continuing support of the school.

Covid

Unfortunately, we have some confirmed cases of Covid in school, amongst staff and children. Following simple steps can help protect our school community and minimise the spread of illness in school.

If your child is unwell and has a fever, they should stay at home from school until they feel better and the fever has resolved. We will be reminding children about the importance of good hand hygiene and to catch coughs and sneezes in tissues before placing used tissues in a bin.

British Values Day

On Friday 17th February it is British Values Day. Schools across the country are asked to teach these five values throughout their curriculum;

- Democracy
- Individual Liberty
- Rule of Law
- Tolerance
- Mutual Respect

We regularly discuss these in assemblies and PSHE lessons. Next Friday, we will be exploring our 5 key British Values in a special day. Throughout the day, children will be taking part in creative and thought-provoking activities inspired by the book 'My Shadow is Pink' by Scott Stuart. The book explores self-identity, acceptance and encourages children to celebrate their own uniqueness. In honour of this message, we would like to invite



all our wonderful pupils to wear something that expresses themselves. This could be something sporty, bright, or muted depending on their interests, personality, or passions.



Parking

Can I ask that you are considerate to local residents and other parents whilst coming and going from school; please do not block other people's paths and driveways. Please consider parking a short distance from school and walking the remainder of the route.

If you see unsafe road use I recommend that you do not approach other road users and contact the police to report your concerns.

School Closure for use as a Polling Station– Thursday 4th May 2023

We have been notified by the Local Authority that school will be closed for use as a polling station on **Thursday 4th May**. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

Additional Bank Holiday – Monday 8th May 2023

Following the announcement of His Majesty's Coronation on Saturday 6th May 2023, an additional bank holiday has been announced for Monday 8th May. School will be closed on this day and will reopen on Tuesday 9th May.

End of Key Stage SATS

SATs week for our current Year 6 children will take place from Tuesday 9th May 2023 with the last test being on Friday 12th May. National testing for Year 2 children will take place during the month of May 2023. We will be sharing information regarding testing arrangements for Year 6 and Year 2 later on in the school year.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact school.

Regards,

Sylvie Newman
Executive Headteacher

Diary Dates Spring 2023	
13 th & 16 th February	Parents Evenings
16 th February	Fire safety workshops Y 1 & Y5
17 th February	British Values Day
20 th – 24 th February	School closed for Half Term
27 th February	School reopens
3 rd March	EYFS visit to Curve Theatre Y3/4 visit to Carsington Water
8 th March	3.30pm Beaumanor Residential parents meeting



	5.15pm Y6 SATs meeting for parents
17 th March	Red Nose Day – more details to follow
22 nd March	Class Photographs
31 st March	School breaks up for Easter