

Ashby Hill Top Primary School Newsletter

Belong Thrive Succeed



Tuesday 7th November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

The colder weather has certainly arrived; it's been a very wet and windy week! As you know the British weather can be very changeable so even if the forecast looks milder for the day, we can sometimes have had four seasons by home time! Please make sure that your children **bring a coat to school every day** so that we can take the learning outside- whatever the weather!



Volunteers in school

We are always looking for volunteers to support the children in school, particularly with their reading. If you have an hour or two each week to spare, please contact slt@ashbyhilltop.leics.sch.uk and we would love to welcome you. All volunteers are asked to complete a satisfactory DBS check before they are able to help. Thank you to all of our wonderful parents currently volunteering in school!

Latest COVID-19 guidance from the Department for Education

- Adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature
- Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend
- Adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be 3 days.

Anti-Bullying Week (Week beginning 13th November)

We are always talking to the children in school about the important of following the Hill Top Way and using our character muscles to ensure that we become the best version of ourselves. Week beginning 13th November is Anti-bullying week; a time when we spotlight the subject and talk to the children about the kind of positive behaviour that we always encourage at Hill Top. We always try to reframe the week into something really positive, but it is really important that children know what bullying is and who can help them if they are worried about it. We will be increasing the children's awareness of banter/teasing and how, although it can look harmless from the outside, it can be very hurtful and become a disguised form of bullying. We will be using age appropriate story books as a starting point for further work and discussion.



Odd Sock Day

This year we will be taking part in odd sock day! Odd Sock Day marks the start of Anti-Bullying Week. **On Monday 13th November**, to celebrate what makes us all unique, we would like all of the children to wear Odd Socks with their school uniforms. You do not need to bring in any money!

Children in Need- Friday 17th November

To help raise money for this fantastic cause, on **Friday 17th November** we will be joining in with the Great SPOTacular Appeal. We would like all children to come to school feeling spotty, this could be spots painted on their face, spots drawn on a t-shirt or wearing your best spotty outfit. Please bring a cash donation of whatever you can spare. Thank you for your continued support. The School councillors will be collecting your donations on the gates on Friday morning!



Pupil Premium Funding

If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this, we'll receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school.

What is pupil premium funding?

Pupil premium funding from the government is given to schools to help pupils achieve their best regardless of their background or financial situation. It's provided for pupils who:

- Are registered for free school meals
- Have been registered for free school meals at any point in the past 6 years
- Are, or have been, in care
- Have parents in the armed forces

At Ashby Hill Top Primary School, we get an extra £1,345 funding from the government for every eligible pupil who is registered for free school meals. This extra money makes a real difference to the quality of education we offer.

For example, we've previously used pupil premium funding for:

- Educational provision/resources
- Academic interventions
- Wellbeing and self-esteem building interventions
- Support towards costs of trips and residential
- Support towards costs of school uniform

Is my child eligible for free school meals?

Your child might be eligible if you access:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on
- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)

Please pop into the school office if you think you might be eligible to find out more about how to apply. If you need any other assistance, please see me, Miss Middleton or Mrs McAuliffe and we will be able to signpost you to other services and support.

Operation Encompass

We are an Operation Encompass School. This is an initiative developed with Leicestershire Police to ensure that school will be informed when a child or young person has been involved or exposed to a domestic abuse incident the previous evening.



The aim of this is to enable the school to sensitively and appropriately support a child to ensure they feel safe and secure after an incident of domestic abuse. Operation Encompass work with the Police Force sharing with us incidents that they have attended where they feel there has been an impact upon a child's physical, emotional or mental well-being. This information is shared in confidence and will help us to support and care for the children at our school even more effectively. More information about Operation Encompass including their statement can be found on their website www.operationencompass.org

Primary School Places

The deadline for applying for a Primary School place is **15th January 2024**. Parents still have plenty of time to choose your child's school place for September 2024! We welcome visits to our amazing school where you can meet the team and our wonderful children! We look forward to welcoming you! For applications, the simplest way is online at: <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools-colleges-and-academies/school-admissions>

If you have any questions, please phone school or email office@ashbyhilltop.leics.sch.uk

Regards,

Sylvie Newman
Executive Headteacher

Dates for the Autumn Term 2023

Date	Event	Time
9 November	F of HT cake sale	After school
10 November	Yellow team disco – letter coming home tonight	pm
13 November	Odd Sock Day – start of anti-bullying week	All day
17 November	Children in Need day	All day
30 November	Parents reading information evening – more information to follow	TBC
2 December	New parents open morning – more information to follow	TBC
7 December	F of HT Christmas Fair	After school
13 December	KS2 Christmas Concert	evening
14 December	Pantomime – more information to follow	pm
15 December	EYFS Christmas Celebration	am
WB 18 Dec	KS1 nativity week	To be confirmed
22 December	Last day of term	
Christmas Holiday		
8 January	Children return to school	
12 January	Young Voices Concert	After school