



West Ashtead Primary School

Newsletter Number 9 28th January 2019

It only seems a short while since the last newsletter but there is more to share with you.

Parking

I would like to say thank you to all the parents who work hard to drive and park considerately in Taleworth Road. It has been very encouraging to witness your patience and consideration while navigating the various obstacles. You are great role models for our children. I have also been very pleased to see the care that our older children exercise when crossing both the road and the entrance to our carpark. The only blip on the horizon is parking in Stag Leys. We have been told of inconsiderate parking on the very corner which is unhelpful for all. We have asked Pauline Daley, our community Police Officer to keep an eye out, as we wish to maintain strong relationships with all our neighbours.

Safeguarding Review

We take the utmost care of all our pupils. Last week two advisors from Surrey Safeguarding Board conducted a review at the request of both myself and the Chair of Governors. It was a very thorough process. The advisors talked to a selection of staff, the School Council as well as myself as Designated Safeguard Lead and Miss Hopkins as the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead. They had full access to all our policies and procedures. I am delighted to say that they found that all our staff have a very good understanding of how to keep your children safe. All our policies and procedures are secure and that the children are very knowledgeable about how to keep themselves safe and who they can talk to. There are a few recommendations to make our practice even more effective which we have already actioned. Your support in the following areas would be appreciated:

- **Please ensure that you collect your children from either the top gate by the A24 or the Junior playground. Please do not wait on the quiet Junior playground as staff are unable to monitor who has been collected.**
- **Please could children not wait on the blue chairs in Reception except in an emergency. Staff are unable to monitor your child's whereabouts and this area is frequently unmanned at the beginning and end of the school day. Red Bananas offers onsite wrap around care at a very reasonable price. I am sure children would be happier and more relaxed in a homely environment and a snack than all alone on a chair.**
- **There will also be some changes to dropping off and collecting for children attending Red Bananas. Red Banana staff will be sending out further information.**

Responsibilities

Each year group in the Juniors now have specific responsibilities. Year 3 are our litter pickers, Year 4 are our recyclers, Year 5 look after our PE equipment and Year 6 help serve the lunches. They are carrying out their duties diligently. Well done and thank you to all the volunteers. Ms Morgan has also appointed Digital Leaders from across the school. They will be champions across the school leading online safety and responsible use of technology (also known as Digital Citizenship). Mrs Legg is keen to get our social media profile up and running so we are considering launching a Facebook page to showcase life at our school.

Please can you kindly complete this short survey, to let us know your views.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BQB2L2C>

Curriculum

Over the last week alone I have seen some fantastic teaching and learning. Annabel in Swans showed me a superb stegosaurus she had made independently with a balloon. There was great attention to detail. Year 6 have produced some very inspiring artwork based on Hokusai. I was very impressed with the standard. Robin in 4G used some excellent vocabulary and sentence structures in a drama lesson I observed based on the book Firework Maker's Daughter. An excellent preparation for writing. Robins have visited the greengrocers and bought fruit. Abigail wrote some great clues for people to guess her fruit. Once again, great vocabulary and careful letter formation. Oscar and Miracle in 6H wrote some very evocative diary entries with some chilling details and atmosphere. Luke from 5D launched two rockets in my office! I conducted a parent tour and they were very rightly impressed with every class they saw. I was hugely proud of our school as every single child was focused, engaged, polite and happy.

We have recently subscribed to a programme called Power of Reading which embeds high quality challenging texts and activities to be used throughout our English lessons. The link between reading and writing is strong and we are looking forward to the next step in developing confident, mature readers and writers.

Extra-curricular and Enhancements

We are always seeking out more opportunities and experiences for our children. Last Friday some of our Year 3 and Year 4 played in a dodgeball competition. It was great fun and all the children participated with enthusiasm, teamwork and honesty. Thank you for upholding our core school values.

Over the past week all our Juniors have experienced a taster session of playing brass with some great noises coming from the hall!

West Ashted has been selected as a Champion School for the 2019 Surrey Libraries' Children's Book Award. Year 4 have a great selection of books and watch out for further developments in Ashted Library.

Finally a lovely surprise. We have been nominated for the Good Diabetes Care in School Award by Mrs Galbraith. This is a great accolade for both Miss White and Miss Golding as well as our other staff who always go above and beyond. Fingers crossed!

Best wishes

Ruth Hall

Acting Headteacher

Important Dates for your diary for the next 6 weeks

Date	Event
28.01.2019	Indoor Athletics Competition at Howard of Effingham 12pm-2.30pm
28.01.2019	Parent Forum 9am-10am
30.01.2019	Parent Forum 7pm-8pm
01.02.2019	Junior Choir singing at the O2
05.02.2019	PHSE Information Meeting 7pm-8pm
05.02.2019	5G Class Assembly at 9:05am
07.02.2019	Shakespeare Workshop whole school
08.02.2019	Shakespeare Workshop whole school
11.02.2019	6M and 6P Thames Explorers Trip
12.02.2019	4W Class Assembly at 9:05am
13.02.2019	6H Thames Explorers Trip
15.02.2019	FOWA Disco
18.02.2019	Half Term
25.02.2019	School returns
26.02.2019	Drama Club cancelled **club timetable change**
01.03.2019	Bags2school by 9am
07.03.2019	Bikeability
08.03.2019	Bikeability
08.03.2019	Year 4 Science Museum London 9am-4pm

Our full calendar of events is available on our website:

[Click here for school calendar](#)

[Click here for school trips information](#)

******Please note all dates are subject to change at the headteacher's discretion******