



ASHCROFT INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL

Mildenhall, Tamworth, B79 8RU

'Providing the best start in life for all children'

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Newsletter

4th September 2020

Welcome back!

It gives me such great pleasure to say welcome back to a new school year. The last six months have been so difficult for everyone in so many different ways so it absolutely wonderful to see you all again and to see our school full of happy children once more. A huge Ashcroft welcome to our new families and children – we look forward to getting to know you all over the coming weeks.

I hope that you have all had a good summer and were able to do some of the things that you wanted to do. It has been a wonderful first few days back and I am so proud of how the children have settled in after such a long time away for so many of them.

As always I am always here if you need to speak to me about anything – I will be around most mornings and afternoons or you can give me a call if that is easier.

Thank you all for your patience and cooperation getting the children in and out of school. Unfortunately our normal routines will not be returning for some time as we comply with government guidance. We will try our best to minimise any inconvenience to parents but there is no easy answer at the moment. Please work with us by adhering to social distancing, pick up and drop off times and making sure children are ready to go when they get to their gate.

I look forward to working with you all over the coming year.

Mrs Fellows

Dates for the Year

Along with this newsletter we will be sending out a list of dates for the year. Unfortunately, we are unable to plan for any assemblies or celebrations for the autumn term and will continue to review this throughout the year. We will let you know in advance if there are to be any assemblies or celebrations that we can invite you to. Face to face parent consultations will not take place in the autumn term, staff will contact you via telephone closer to the half term holiday. We will let you know details closer to the time.

Communication

Please make sure you are signed up to class dojo so that you can communicate with teachers as face to face contact will be limited. Please remember that communication with your child's teacher should be about educational issues and their wellbeing, if you have a question or comment about anything else please contact the school office – this includes anything about paperwork, lunchtimes, dietary requirements, medical information, payments, appointments, absences or any whole school queries. Please remember that teachers will not always be able to reply to your message during the day as they are busy teaching so if it is urgent, again please contact the school office. Also please be mindful of messaging during the evenings and weekends to allow staff a good work life balance.

HEADTEACHER: Mrs Jayne Fellows

DEPUTY HEADTEACHER: Mrs Eluned Lane

Bikes and Scooters

Children are allowed to come to school on bikes and scooters and you are free to use the bike shelter. Please be mindful of social distancing when parking and collecting.

Staffing

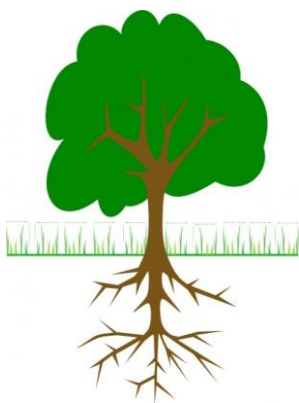
We are so happy to welcome Mrs Hickman back to Ashcroft after a year away. We also welcome Mrs McAuley as our new lunchtime supervisor and Mrs Pearce as our new Breakfast Club assistant.

Home Learning

This year we will continue to focus on reading for our home learning. We will send home reading books on a regular basis and we would really encourage you to spend just a few minutes each evening sharing your child's books with them. This will support our reading sessions in school, which your child will receive regularly. We will also continue to send out words to support reading further. The children will be encouraged to change their home reading books when they come into school each morning, so please remind them when you drop them off to change their book if needed.

At certain times of the year, such as the Year 1 Phonics screening test in June or Year 2 SATs in May, we may need to send some subject specific work home to support your child's learning.

Ashcroft Values



Ambitious

Spiritual

Hardworking

Creative

Resilient

Opportunities

Friendly

Togetherness

Behaviour

Rewards

Children will be awarded **stickers** and **raffle tickets** for their individual good behaviour and work. The raffle ticket will be put into their class tin (with their name on it) and one ticket from each class will be picked out on Friday and the winner of the raffle will get a dip in the prize box. There is no limit to how many raffle tickets can be awarded, so the more raffle tickets the children get, the better chance they have of 'winning'. The class with the most raffle tickets in their tin will also win the **Class of the Week** Trophy and will have an extended playtime on Friday.

As mentioned previously, two children from each class will be awarded **Star of the Week**. This can be awarded for many reasons including good work in any subject, having a good attitude to learning, being a kind friend, having good manners and so on.

Unfortunately we are unable to do our weekly celebration assemblies so all rewards will be given in classes.

HEADTEACHER: Mrs Jayne Fellows

DEPUTY HEADTEACHER: Mrs Eluned Lane

Sanctions

We have a visual system in all classrooms to encourage children to follow the school rules. Each classroom has a sunshine, a cloudy sun and a black cloud. All children will start the day on the sunshine, and if following a reminder, they do not follow the rules, they will be moved to the cloudy sun as a warning. If they continue to not follow the rules then they will move to the black cloud and will have a few minutes 'thinking time'. Children are able to earn their way back to the sunshine at any time from both the cloudy sun and the black cloud, and they will be encouraged to try to end their day on the sunshine. If children continue not to follow the rules once they are on the black cloud then they may be asked to spend some thinking time in another classroom, or spend time with Mrs Lane or Mrs Fellows. Any violent or aggressive behaviour will be an instant black cloud offence and children will be taken directly to Mrs Lane or Mrs Fellows.

Jeans for Genes Day

At Ashcroft we are very proud of how generous our children and families are at supporting a variety of charities. On Friday September 18th we are again giving our support to 'Jeans for Genes Day' raising money for The Genetics Disorders UK Charity which helps many families and children with genetic disorders.

It is really easy to get involved, just wear your jeans to school on that Friday instead of your school uniform and donate £1 to help others.



So let's **WEAR JEANS AND CHANGE LIVES.**

HEADTEACHER: Mrs Jayne Fellows

DEPUTY HEADTEACHER: Mrs Eluned Lane