



Ashton Hayes Primary School News

ASPIRE TO BE AMAZING! Summer 2021

As we approach the last few days of this academic year, I would like to wish you all a peaceful and restful summer. This year has been a challenging one for so many of us for a number of reasons. Throughout, the amazing children of Ashton Hayes Primary School have remained positive, grateful and resilient. It is a joy to see smiling faces approach, up the school drive each morning and to feel the atmosphere of classes happily learning together. Even during times of isolation or reduced numbers of children in school, we have been amazed by the way that so many children have taken events in their stride.

We say farewell to our lovely Year 6 children who move on to their high schools. We look forward to having a fun evening with them as we meet together on the school field. These children have shown maturity and flexibility and are definitely ready for the next stage in their education. We will miss them, and those families who will be leaving Ashton for the last time. We wish you all well for the future!

I would like to say a huge thank you to all of our staff who have worked tirelessly throughout the year. And finally a massive thank you to you all for the support that you have given to your children and to us as a school.

Have a wonderful Summer!



Tree Planting



Over the last few weeks, all children in school have planted a tree and have put their name on it. As they move through school they will look after their tree and see it grow with them. In the last 4 years, we have planted nearly 1000 new trees in our woodland and around the school grounds.



Ashton, Mouldworth and Manley Scarecrow Trail

We have created an entry for the second year of this event. Peregrine Class (with a little help from Emily Cuthbert) have created three amazing Flamingos. They are full of character and so lifelike. The children have also written Haiku poems about flamingos to go with them. There are over 20 scarecrows around the area to go and look at. Guides are available from the community shop and there is a people's vote so that you can choose your favourite.



Extra Curricular Clubs

We are so pleased that clubs have been able to get started again this term. There has been a really good take up from across the school. Last week, we sent out information about clubs that are on offer in the Autumn Term with information about how you can sign up. We are really pleased that Ceri, who runs a number of the clubs for S4YC will be supporting us within school during PE lessons next term too.

Not SATs week.

This May, as SATs testing for Y6 was cancelled, we decided to test our Y6 children on some other things that really matter, Mr Morris tested the children on their respect, individuality, creativity, honesty, empathy and resilience, through a series of mental and physical challenges. The children performed fantastically and had a great time.



A Thank you...

A huge 'Thank You' must go to our PTFA. It has not been possible to run most of our usual events this year, but the support shown has been fantastic. Ways of sourcing funding have had to be adapted and we are really grateful for the continued contributions. Thank you also if you have donated bottles, money and other resources to keep helping us to provide those little extras for our children. Let's hope that next year we can get together and get involved in some community events and fundraising.

Drumming Workshops

This term, Buzzard class have been learning to play Djembe drums and the ukulele. Even Sparrowhawk Class had a session which they loved!



Residential Days

Days that were not residential at all, but days doing things we would be doing on a residential visit, without the sleep over! We were so pleased to finally get out and about doing some exciting adventurous things.

Alderford Lake—Buzzards

Archery, climbing wall, kayaking, and getting very wet!



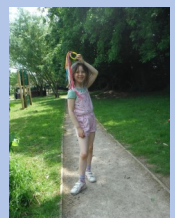
Tattenhall—Peregrines and Owls

Low ropes, zipwire, tree climb and problem solving.



Ashton Hayes – Kestrels and Sparrowhawks

Camping, bubble wand, kite flying, sand pitting and sprinkler jumping



End of year Governor update

The end of a school year often marks a time of change for children, staff and governors. Children moving into new year groups, classes or to a new school. I wish all our year 6 pupils 'good luck' in their new high schools and hope they take with them many happy memories of their time at AHPS.

Change is also taking place on the Governing Body as we say thank you and farewell to two of our long-standing and highly experienced governors: Margaret Papworth and David Wilson. The school has benefitted enormously from Margaret's educational experience as a former primary Headteacher and adviser, whilst David has kept a beady eye on the school finances and premises, and is able to leave with the budget in a better place than it has been for many years. Thank you both for the hours you have spent carrying out your various governor roles.

Governor's meetings have been very different this academic year as they have all taken place using Zoom. However, attendance has been excellent! It would probably not surprise you to hear that the ever-changing situation of Covid-19, Home Learning, the Headship recruitment process and appointment, and the well-being of our school community, have dominated many of our discussions.

Despite this, we have striven to work as 'normally' as possible, building a 'new' team. Through careful succession planning, our three newest governors have really started to make an impact. Matt Denman has been getting a grip on the school finances, as he will be taking over in the new academic year as Chair of our Finances and Premises committee. Martin Willis has already made a positive contribution to the Headteacher's Performance Management and will be stepping up to become Vice Chair of governors (along with Mary Jefferson); and Jack Mellor has become a link governor for Maths and Mastery and will be becoming Safeguarding Governor from September.

There will also be a few other changes to roles within the Governing Body from September as I will be stepping down as Chair to concentrate on my writing and editing roles. Ann Lowry will be taking over as Chair of governors and Ruth Mason will become Chair of the Curriculum, Staffing and Children's Committee, otherwise known as Sub B.

Finally, I would like to thank the staff for everything they have done; in what has at times been a very difficult year. They have shown how dedicated they are to the social and educational welfare of the children and the school as a whole. I shall warmly remember the cheer that went up when I was able to tell them that Mr Gilbert had secured the Headship – a close-knit school team who have pulled together in uncertain times.

*I wish everyone in our school community a lovely summer break.
Stay safe and take care of your families.*

Sharon (Varey)