



ASHURST CE AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL LANE, ASHURST, WEST SUSSEX
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Friday 29th November 2019

Dear Parents

We are fast approaching the end of term and I wanted to share with you some of the wonderful activities both the children and staff have been involved in so far, and also have planned for the rest of this half term.



Song for Archie Year 5/6 children took part in a locality "Song for Archie" afternoon led by Emily Barden from West Sussex Music. This was a very moving and successful event for everyone involved. Children from a variety of schools across West Sussex took part to create a beautiful composition which represents a musical gift for Archie, the son of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex. We are hopeful this will be released before Christmas.

Great Fire of London The children in Mrs Clarke's class have been busy making model houses for their "Great Fire of London scene" and they have all been enjoying learning about how to keep themselves safe in the event of a fire and what to do in an emergency. FAPs provided a variety of lovely new books to support Mrs Clarke and Miss Kelsey in helping the children with their phonics and reading. The children are extremely excited to have brand new books to read.

The Mayan Civilisation Year 3/4 have been busy studying the Maya civilisation and have created some wonderful masks and weaving, which are on display for you to see you in their classroom. They have also thoroughly enjoyed learning to play the ocarina – a highlight of the term for them!

Remembrance Assembly This year's Remembrance assembly was led by the children in Year 3/4, who did a very moving performance about evacuation from a child's perspective. This was followed by our visitors talking about their own experiences, which prompted some very insightful comments from the children.



Our school flutists also played beautifully and Mr Timms performed 'The Last Post' on the Bugle, making the event even more poignant. The children are now looking forward to performing in the 'Christmas Celebration', eagerly rehearsing the singing with Mrs Harwell.



Ancient Greeks Year 5/6 have been busy learning about the Ancient Greeks and finding out all about Homer and the Iliad. They have created some amazing paper mâché masks and I am reliably informed this was a messy but fun activity.

Year 6 Boosters The Year 6 children have started their booster sessions with Mrs Sansbury and are enjoying the opportunity to work in a small group, as well as have their own new books to work from!

Christmas Performances



All the children are looking forward to celebrating Christmas at Ashurst with a number of special events coming up. Our younger children are busy rehearsing for their performance, **'The Nativity'**, which will be performed to parents on **Thursday 12th**

December at 9:15am.

The older children are eagerly practicing their readings, dancing and singing for the **'Celebration of Christmas' on Friday 6th December.** We will be having two performances; **10:30am** - when all the children will take part, and again at **6:00pm** - when only KS2 children will be involved. If you would like seats to watch the performance, please sign up on the board at the front of school. Two seats per family can be allocated initially but if you feel you would like any extra seats, please could you let us know.

Christingle - Wednesday 4th December

We are very lucky that some members of the PCC are coming in the morning to help the children make Christingles. Father Mark is then joining us to hold a Christingle Service for the whole school.



Christmas Party – Tuesday 10th December

This will be an afternoon of games, music and dancing. Please can children bring their own party clothes into school in a named bag, ready to get changed into after lunch. As they will be having a party buffet during the afternoon, we would recommend you only give your child a light lunch on this day. There will be a party food list displayed nearer the time for parents to sign up to bring in donations - thank you for your help with this.



Christmas Bazaar and Open Afternoon – Monday 16th December from 2:15pm

When I asked some Year 6 children what they are looking forward to over the next few weeks, the Christmas Bazaar was a firm favourite. They are very excited about setting up their own stalls and selling the beautiful creations they are making with Mrs Smith and Mrs Sansbury, as well as being keen to encourage visitors to play games and watch their innovative "Scratch" programs. It is also an opportunity for parents to see the work the children have been doing over the last few weeks.

Christmas Lunch - Wednesday 18th December

If you would like a hot "Christmas Lunch", please either bring back the paper slip by Friday 6th December or order from Easylunch online by Saturday 7th December. If you have any questions or need a new paper slip, please speak to Mrs Hedley.

APS Talent show Thursday 19th December. The children are very enthusiastic about this event and I can't wait to see it. If any child or group of children want to show off their talents, they need to sign up on the notice board in school. (The "notice board monitors" will soon have a list up for you.)



Chess Tournament As well as all the activities in school, we are also taking part in a chess tournament on **Thursday 5th December** at Windlesham School. Mr Fischel, a local resident, has been a great help in running the after-school chess club and preparing the children for this competition. Good luck to all the children involved.

Finally, our last day of term is Friday 20th December and we return in the new year on Monday 6th January.

Best wishes
Becky Linford
Head Teacher



Dates for Autumn Term 2019

Wed 4 th Dec	Christingle with Father Mark
Thur 5 th Dec	2:00 – 5:30pm Chess Tournament – Windlesham
Fri 6 th Dec	10:30am 'Christmas Celebration' Performance
Fri 6 th Dec	6:00pm 'Christmas Celebration' (KS2) Performance
Tues 10 th Dec	Christmas Party
Thu 12 th Dec	9:15am Reception and Y1/2 'The Nativity' performance
Mon 16 th Dec	2:15pm Christmas Bazaar and Open Afternoon
Wed 18 th Dec	Christmas Lunch
Thur 19 th Dec	Talent Show
Fri 20 th Dec	Last Day of Autumn Term
Mon 6 th Jan	First Day of Spring Term