



Ashton Hayes Primary School weekly newsletter

Welcome:

Welcome to the first of what will become our school weekly newsletter. Each week we will bring you news of what has happened across the school, reminders of what is happening the following week and other bits of news that you will hopefully find helpful and interesting. I am sure the contents will develop over the coming weeks and months, so please feel free to suggest any content you would like to see.

Thank you:

I would personally like to extend a huge thank you to everyone in the Ashton Hayes School community for my wonderful and warm welcome. It has been a fantastic first week as your new headteacher and I have especially enjoyed meeting all of the fabulous children, as well as many of our parents. I am on the school gate every morning and afternoon, so please do stop to say hello and have a chat when you see me.

I am incredibly proud of the relationships I have had with parents at all of the schools I have led of the years – I very much see my role as being in partnership with you, to make sure that together we can ensure the very best for all of the children at Ashton Hayes. As such, if you have any worries or questions, please do not hesitate to speak to me at the earliest opportunity.

Uniform:

As the Summer term is now with us, as many of you have already done, please feel free to send your children into school in their summer school uniform (summer dresses etc.).

Forest School Kit:

Just a gentle reminder that even though the weather is getting warmer, children need to dress appropriately for forest school. At the moment, it is much cooler in the woodlands and is also full of nettles. If you don't have waterproofs, then jeans and wellies are definitely needed. Please also remember that coats are also required as weather is always changeable.

This week:

Although a short week, there has still been plenty happening in school. As a new member of the school community, it has been delightful to see the children so happy and enjoying their learning. I have been visiting as many classes as I can each day and have been impressed with the children and their thirst for learning. A particular highlight of my week was visiting



Ashton Hayes Primary School weekly newsletter

Kestrel Class in our beautiful woodlands and then joining them as they visited our newly cleared out pond!

Owls:



After a refreshing break, the class has returned full of energy and enthusiasm! We've jumped straight into planning our final writing piece, inspired by the powerful story *My Name is Not Refugee*. We've started our journey to become botanists and gardeners. From learning about the anatomy of flowers to understanding their crucial role in our ecosystem. We're also diving into geography—exploring Ashton Hayes and its surroundings. The children are beginning to map out local features and understand how our community fits into the wider world.

Sparrowhawks:

Sparrowhawks have made a great start and have got straight back into their learning! In History we have been exploring medieval pastimes - this afternoon has been all about jousting, jugglers and jesters! We have been learning about poetry and are making excellent progress with learning our monster poem- make sure you ask for a sneak preview at home!



Ashton Hayes Primary School weekly newsletter



Kestrels:



Kestrels have settled back into school beautifully. After missing each other lots, we have been hearing all about the holidays, remembering our class promise, dead heading all of our flowers, and generally having a lovely time together. Inspired by the book 'Ish', we have been getting creative without the need for it to be perfect, reminding ourselves that the most important thing is to give things a go and have a wonderful time doing so. It's so lovely to have you back Kestrels!

Buzzards:

Buzzard class have made a brilliant start to the new term! We've enjoyed catching up as a team and hearing about everyone's holidays before getting stuck back into our learning. In English, we have become editors and publishers; we have been working on re-drafting and publishing our information texts about the Galapagos islands that were written before the Easter break. We have also enjoyed getting back up into the forest (especially with this



Ashton Hayes Primary School weekly newsletter

much improved weather!) and were very excited to start sewing our eco-friendly tote-bags in DT!



Peregrines:

Peregrine class have come back after the holidays excited about what the summer term is going to bring with trips and a residential happening soon. We have started exploring our new text in English called *Where the Forest Meets the Sea* by developing exciting vocabulary to describe settings. We also started our new PE topic of Athletics which will help the children improve their techniques in running, jumping and throwing in preparation for Sports Day. Finally, our Year 4's took part in a Fire Safety talk on Thursday where they learnt all about how to keep safe during a fire.



School Attendance:



Ashton Hayes Primary School weekly newsletter

Each week, for your information, I will include a summary of our school attendance over the week and cumulatively for the school year. As you will be aware attending school every day is incredibly important and strong school attendance is closely linked with achievement in school. Hopefully the shared information will help you see where our school is in comparison to others locally and nationally. Our school attendance target is 96% across the school, which I am delighted to say we are currently reaching!

Class	This week's attendance	Cumulative attendance for the year
Kestrel	89%	94.1%
Sparrowhawk	95.6%	96.6%
Owl	96.5%	95.9%
Peregrine	100%	96.7%
Buzzard	94%	96.2%

Awards:

Each week we will share the first names of the children who have received an award at our celebration assembly in this section. However, as we have only been in school for three days there isn't a celebration assembly this week – I also plan to introduce another award each week, that I will reveal to the children next week during Monday assembly, so please keep your eyes on our next newsletter for further information and celebration!

Next week:

	Forest School	PE	Other
Monday	Owl	Buzzard and Kestrel	
Tuesday	Peregrine	Owl	Sparrowhawk Beeston Castle Trip
Wednesday	Buzzard	Peregrine	
Thursday	Kestrel		
Friday	Sparrowhawk		Peregrine class Roman Trip

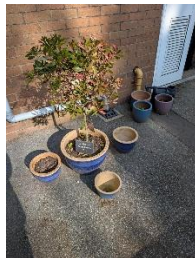
As you will probably have seen, the weather next week is set to be very hot. Please ensure that your children have appropriate uniform for the weather, as well as hats and sunscreen to protect them from the sun.



Ashton Hayes Primary School weekly newsletter

Finally....

As you will know we have a number of planters across the school, including several at the front of the school (as pictured below). I would love to brighten the outdoor environment up, with a splash of colour from some lovely flowers. If anyone has any spare plants that they would like to donate, that would be suitable for our pots and planters please let me know or drop them off at the school. Any help would be hugely appreciated.



Have a lovely weekend

Mr Bell

Headteacher