

Message from the Chair of Governors...

As we come to the end of our 200th year it is so pleasing to report what we have seen through carrying out learning walks at the school. Governors have seen first-hand outstanding attitudes and behaviour for learning from pupils throughout the school and this reflects in our high attendance figures for the first term. I am also really pleased to see that our children have settled in well this term, especially our new Reception children who seem to be really enjoying school life.

As we enter the festive period with its busyness and sometimes stressful situations, it's important we take time to reflect how lucky we are, and sometimes what we deem to be a crisis, is in fact a 'first world problem'. This Christmas, as we look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus and spending time with family and friends please take time to think of those less fortunate than ourselves.

2018 will bring our own 'first world' challenges to the school, including an ever-tightening budget. The Governing Body will continue to work closely with the leadership team to ensure we strive towards being an "Outstanding school". Your support as parents and carers is, as ever, very much valued and I would like to wish all our school community a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

Phil Wells, Chair of Governors

Photos

Over the next few weeks many of you will be eager to share your child's part in our school Christmas celebrations with family and friends around the world by posting photos of them on social media. Please remember to only share photos of your own child as per our school policy on the use of photography and video equipment by parents/carers. This respects the wishes of those who do not want photos of them or their children published and also helps us to safeguard anyone who's safety could be compromised by such images.

The full policy can be found on our website www.ashford-primary.surrey.sch.uk/about/school-policies.php Thank you for your support in this important issue.

Thank you to everyone who completed our questionnaire about the Building and Maintenance Fund at parents evening last month. Your feedback will help us to address some misconceptions about the fund and explain more clearly how the money is spent and how you can contribute.

Ways to pay:

- Standing Order - set up regular payments, annually, termly or monthly
- Tucasi - pay online using the payment system
- Cash or cheque in the school office

Attendance

Our attendance so far this term is 96.3% Thank you to all the parents who have made sure their children are in school, ready to learn, on time each day. Regular attendance throughout their school years is important for your child's education. When making plans for family holidays please remember that the school cannot grant any leave of absence during term time. Term dates for 2018-19 will be published shortly.

365 DAYS IN EACH YEAR	175 NON SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR		→	175 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, shopping, household jobs and other appointments		
	190 SCHOOL DAYS IN EACH YEAR 190 days for your child's education	10 days absence	180 DAYS OF SCHOOL	20 days absence	29 days absence = Half a term missed	38 days absence
100%	95%	170 DAYS OF SCHOOL	161 DAYS OF SCHOOL	152 DAYS OF SCHOOL	143 DAYS OF SCHOOL	
		90%	85%	80%	75%	
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