



# Newsletter

**Easter Break**

**February / March 2020**

## UPCOMING DATES

### TBC

We hope to reopen after the Easter Holiday . However the Government's response to the pace of the Coronavirus in the UK means we may have to put our Summer Term schedule on hold.

The school will keep you updated by email and the school calendar on the Parents' Portal.

<https://portal.ashtonhouse.com>

## STOP PRESS!

News just in, after an exciting Quiz Club Tournament in Westminster we have heard that one of our teams has qualified for the National Final. This is scheduled for later in the year. Congratulations to both of our teams and Ms Quigley for a marvellous effort.

## Message from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the end of Spring Term Newsletter.

In this edition you will see, as ever, news, highlights and achievements from this half term's calendar. This is an accumulation of what is tangible about our school. What cannot be seen are the quintessential elements which make up the rest of Ashton House School. The spoken and unspoken random acts of kindness, the thoughtfulness of our community, the willingness to look out for each other, the curtesy which makes AHS tick, the expectation that everyone will try to do their best ( with varying degrees of success) and that effort will be acknowledged and appreciated – in other words our ethos and values.

This week we step from the security of being together as a school to having to find our way whilst being isolated from each other. This last week of term is probably going to be a 'rehearsal' for our new reality after the Easter Holiday. We certainly have never had a test week like this one!

With both children and their families at the forefront of our approach to the challenges that face us all, we will keep in regular contact electronically until we are able to meet again in person.

On behalf of the whole staff I would like to send my warmest wishes to you all,

Kind regards,  
Angela Stewart





# Book Week

24th - 28th February

**PERFORM**—Roald Dahl themed workshops for the whole school.



Teachers chose their favourite picture books to share and read with the children.



**"Tell Me A Story"**







## Our Beautiful Book Characters



## Buddy Reading



## Book Quiz



# Book Week

24th - 28th February





# Book Week

24th - 28th February

As part of Book Week 2020, many children participated in our Writing Competition.

The entries were humorous, suspenseful and in some cases, scary!

The prompt – 'It was a dark and stormy night.' The challenge – to write the next sentence.

Here are the winning entries:

- \* Outside there was a thud and a crash, a sound of scratching and a knock on the door.

Mohsin – Pre-Prep

- \* A big and fat yeti came out of his Himalayan cave.

Shaurya – Year 1

- \* Rain lashed against the window, lightning flashed in the sky like fireworks and thunder boomed like someone was playing a drum in the clouds.

Arun – Year 2

- \* Tom was lying in his poor bed listening to the lashing rain pelting down like rocks falling from the sky, when he heard a BANG, that definitely wasn't thunder.

Leo – Year 3

- \* As lightning tore through the sky and thunder rumbled and boomed ominously, the legendary Snoopy scurried across the tenebrous, tangled maze of an eerie forest, which pressed in on him from all sides and tried to trap him in its thorny grasp, but he persevered relentlessly with his heart beating painfully fast and banging like war drums against his ribs.

Esam – Year 4

- \* Exhausted, petrified, drenched in the raging, merciless and perilous storm, traumatised by the deafening thunder and fire-bolts of incessant lightning in the sky as black as pitch, I faced the daunting and daring battle to strenuously climb the craggy hill, but the reassuring sight of refuge gave me the endurance of a soldier to reach my safe haven.

Karan – Year 5

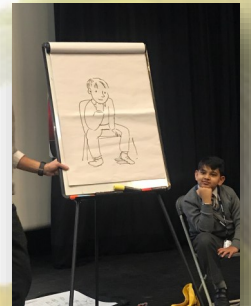
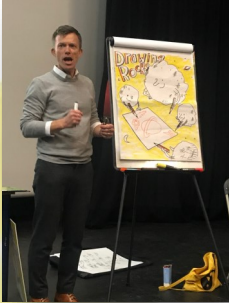
- \* Thunder rumbled ominously and then crashed and howled overhead; an immense guillotine blade of lightning streaked across the horizon and illuminated it with a stark blue-whiteness: this was the day they had been waiting for

Vinay – Year 6



## Year 2 - Illustration Celebration

3rd March



Year 2 had a fantastic time listening to illustrator Garry Parsons talk about his storybook drawings. As well as telling us all about the many, many books which he has illustrated, Garry tried to draw Kabir, with mixed results, and we then had an opportunity to try and sketch one of his dinosaur characters. It looks like we have some budding artists in the class!

Miss Brown

## Year 1 - Trip to the London Zoo

5th March

Despite a rather wet and rainy day, Year 1 had the most wonderful time exploring London Zoo. The children understood, that even with every good intention, we would not be able to see all the animals, however, they embraced this and took the time to really observe the different animals we did get to visit. We were very lucky to meet Zoo Keepers Ben and Jan on our visit. Ben showed us all his favourite animals in the Reptile House, including a frog that uses its eyeballs to help digest food! We then bumped into Ben again in 'Rainforest Life' and he introduced us to the Zoo's sloth who was curled up in a tree. We also met Zookeeper Jan, who told us all about butterflies and moths. Team Yeti had a truly magical... I mean "phenomenal" day.

Miss Gillis



Team Yeti went to London Zoo. We all have a phenomenal time. The butterflies were very delicate. The gorillas were swinging from bar to bar. The penguins came to say hello. The tiger was camouflaged in the bushes and the bats were hanging upside down. Zookeeper Ben as there. He was not upside down!

Daya Y1





**Ms Brander is leaving Ashton House** at the end of the Spring Term. During her two years as Pre Prep teacher Ms Brander has guided our youngest children in the first steps of their learning journeys. We will all remember fondly her energy, passion and patience which made Nursery and Reception a great place to learn together. We wish her all the very best for the future. Keep in touch Ms Brander!



## Awards and Achievements

March



Congratulations to Tiana who has completed her Gold JASS Award. Tiana has worked extremely hard in all areas. She spent hours doing Lapidary. This is where you get pebbles: wash and clean them and after a lot of work they are ready to be made into jewellery. They look amazing. She went on an adventure in Wales and visited Caerphilly castle and a couple of waterfalls. Tiana goes to a mini gym and sometimes cycles too. She also is learning to play the piano. For the helping others section Tiana helps her mum with cooking and enjoys baking cakes and cookies. She has donated books, clothes and toys to charity.

Well done Tiana for a wonderful effort and it is a great achievement to have reached your Gold certificate and badge.

*Ms Quigley*

### Spelling bee

During Book Week Year 5 have a class spelling bee. Everyone survived the first three spelling rounds.

It ended with Salma coming 3<sup>rd</sup>, Sampreeth 2<sup>nd</sup> and Karan 1<sup>st</sup>.

Well done Year 5 for a fantastic effort and especially the three finalists.

*Ms Quigley*



### Maths challenge

Year 5 are completing a weekly maths challenge.

There are 125 timed questions.

Congratulations to Salma, Tolu and Karan who completed the challenge within time and got all answers correct.

*Ms Quigley*



# Cake Sale

5th March



The Year 5 children taking part in JASS sold cakes to the school on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March. The total raised was £85.42. The Head Girl Maya and the Deputy Head Girl Kaitlyn have chosen the Children's Cancer and Leukemia Group as the charity.

A huge thank you to everyone who brought in cakes to sell.

*Ms Quigley*

## FISH OF THE WEEK

2<sup>nd</sup> half of Spring Term

Year 3		Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Devaki	Julia	Esam	Tolu	Sanvi
David	Leo	Arjun	Kira	Daniel
Roma	Isha	Armaani	Drake	Avni
Ariana	Lily	Sebastian	Sonali	Tej
Baani	Naina	Amara	Angelica	Rima
Diya				Iman



We invite our parents and carers to show respect to our local community and be mindful of the residents when parking along Eversley Crescent. We have received complaints from both residents and parents regarding inconsiderate parking which is unfair and pupils' safety is put at risk. We welcome your support in making sure we keep all members of our school community safe.