## Head Teacher's Message

Dear Parents,

It really is the most wonderful time of the year! Christmas is a time for giving and I would like to thank you for sending in presents for under privileged children in our community. The Salvation Army appreciate your kindness and will be distributing your gifts before the special day. Kindness has been our theme this term; Anti Bullying Week was focussed on One Kind Word. As a school we have tried to demonstrate this every day and will continue to do so. Christmas is a time for celebration and the Upper and Lower Schools have produced performances in the festive spirit. Although due to concerns with Covid -19 we were unable to welcome you to school or St Mary's Church to attend these in person, the performances have been recorded for sharing online. Please go to the email with links to these. May I remind you that these are only for the family and friends of Ashton House School. As the term draws to an end we have said farewell to Ms Tuliszewska, Mrs Rezemeyer and Ms Gardner, each in their own way has made a special contribution to Ashton House School and we will miss them.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, looking forward to a happy and healthy 2022 with many new experiences for all of the children.



#### **Diary Dates**

6th January First day of term

14th—18th February Half Term

More dates for parents are available via the Parent's Portal.

https://
portal.ashtonhouse.com

Mrs Stewart

# Year 1 Trip to Gunnersbury Museum

Year 1 were very excited to visit Gunnersbury Park Museum, were they were able to explore the incredible collection of toys, some of which, were over 100 years old! There was a tin train, optical and skill toys, a very old wooden Noah's Ark and some very amusing clockwork toys; including elephants and alligators. We looked at a very old teddy bear and were interested to find out that some of the original teddies, including the inspiration for Winnie the Pooh were made in Acton, where Gunnersbury Park Museum is. We had such a wonderful time seeing history brought to life and we especially enjoyed all of the hands on fun that we could take part in.

Miss Gillis











#### Science Quiz

On November 30th, two teams from Years 5 and 6 competed in a National Science Quiz. Both teams did very well, especially Team 1 who placed 11<sup>th</sup> out of about 60 schools at one point. Their final place was 14<sup>th</sup> and we're happy to announce that they will progress through the National semi-final in February.

Mrs Frampton



## Remembrance Day

In November, Ashton House held their Remembrance Assembly led by members of the School Council. Including a performance poem from Year 5, we gave thanks as a school, for those who have been killed in war and conflict and those whose lives have been affected. It was a chance to remember individuals including great grandfathers who gave their lives in the service of their country.

Their names liveth forever more.













#### War Memorial Borough Road

The pupil leadership team of Head Boy and Girl and their deputies, along with members of Year 4 doing the JASS scheme joined members of the community, local government, the police, the Scouts, faith leaders and other schools in the Remembrance Service at Borough Road War Memorial. The Head Boy and Girl gave readings and the Ashton House School wreath was laid by the Deputy Head Boy and Girl. It was a time for solemn reflection and pride.

### **End of Term Fish Awards**

'Fish of the Week' are chosen by the swimming instructors and Ashton House staff for showing commitment, confidence and improvement in the pool. As part of their swimming lessons, some of the children completed lifeguard training. The children had to swim in their clothes and complete pencil jumps. Although they were completely "drenched", the buzz afterwards was that is was "amazing", "the best thing I ever did" and "it was a spectacular experience".

The children also learnt the HELP position and completed a challenge to see who could swim under water and do breaststroke the furthest. This was in addition to the normal swim awards for 'Fish of the Week'.











#### Salvation Army Appeal

Thank you all very much for your generous donations of toys.

The Salvation Army were delighted with them and the children who receive them, I am sure will be too. Some children completing their JASS Award helped to pack them away.

Ms. Quigley



## **Awards & Successes**



Multi-Sports Award



**Football Awards** 



Year 4 Times Table Challenge - Silver



**Rugby Award** 



Year 4 Times Table Challenge - Silver



Year 4 Times Table Challenge - Bronze





#### Well Done!

On your incredible achievements in and outside of school. We are incredibly proud of you all.



**Investiture into Scouts** 

## **Odd Socks Day**

To mark the start of Anti-Bullying Week, Ashton House took part in Odd Socks Day. Not only was this an opportunity for all members of the school community to display our stylish sock collections but it was also an occasion for us to express ourselves and celebrate our individuality. Wearing odd socks with our uniform helped us to remember that while we are all unique, we are all in it together! Our cake sale raised an incredible £112 for Kidscape. This will fund their helpline for over a month. Thank you all for your delicious baking and for supporting such a wonderful cause.



Miss Brown









## **Christmas at Ashton House**







#### Happy Holidays!

In the last week of term, the children got into the festive spirit, by wearing their best Christmas jumpers to school, enjoying a special Christmas lunch and they even enjoyed a special surprise visit to Santa's Grotto, thanks to the PTA.



