



15.7.24

Dear Parents and Carers,



It's hard to believe, but we're now drawing to the end of the school year with our final two weeks of term before we finish for the summer holidays. Looking back over the year, it has definitely had many highs and some sad lows for the community. With the building project running in the background, it has felt quite a strange transitional year as we look to working in a new set up next year. It will be wonderful to run in a normal way for the first time in almost 5 years – I'm particularly looking forward to having our full suite of AFA Fayres running again once more. I have been so proud to see the children grow and flourish over the last year. We'll be saying goodbye to

our year 6s in the next weeks but before that time, I'm really looking forward to seeing the children perform their end of year production. It has been a great pleasure to return to Ashcombe as Headteacher this year and I'm excited to start the New Year in September when we all return.

## Wraparound care Update

I wrote to parents and carers about upcoming changes to our bookings for wrap around care for the next year.



### Key information:

Our new system for booking places for breakfast club and RASKOOLZ will be through **Parentpay**.

- If parents need a reminder of their Parentpay login details, please request from the office no later than Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July
- Your account must be in credit to be able to book (Families who make use of child care vouchers will be able to book and our admin team will oversee this)
- Bookings can be made in advance termly (Term 1 - 2, Term 3 - 4, Term 5 -6)
- Any outstanding debts **MUST** be cleared in order to use the new system
- RASKOOLZ users – parents need to complete the registration form before Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July and hand to the office. If they have already registered to ensure that they have paid the £10 registration fee. Forms are available from the office and from our school website here: <https://www.ashcombepprimary.com/raskoolz-after-school/>
- ABC (Breakfast Club) must be booked and paid for in advance.
- All monies currently on Parentpay will be transferred across to the new system by Bursars
- We are aiming to go live for bookings on the 1<sup>st</sup> of August.

## Building Update

Unfortunately, there have been some further delays to the building project and practical completion has now moved into the summer holidays. I'm really sorry to have to share this as I had hoped that our year 6s would be able to see inside the building and visit the new classrooms. The building team are now putting some final finishes to the interior and exterior and laying new tarmac at the front entrance.

Key updates:

- The temporary classrooms will be being removed by crane in the week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> of August – this may lead to some disruption around the Earlham Grove entrance during that week.
- Shortly afterwards, our main gates will be reinstated and the Hillview Rd temporary carpark will revert to grass and the entrance for staff there will be closed.
- From the Autumn Term 2024-25 parents and carers should arrive to school through the Earlham Grove Entrance rather than the Children Centre – this was a temporary measure while the building work was in place but gates to school from this entrance will now be locked.

## School Games – Gold Award

We are delighted to announce that we have achieved the School Games Gold Mark Award for the 2023/24 academic year! The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success. Thanks so much to our amazing PE Co-ordinator, Mrs Hayward and to all the children for their efforts in sport and activity over the last year.



## Day of Sport and Kindness – Fundraising for the Liam Shepherd Foundation



A reminder that the on last Monday of the school year – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July - the children will be taking part in a day of sport and kindness activities to raise money for the Liam Shepherd Foundation. We have had kind offers from Weston Hornets and Future Stars Coaching to run some sporting activities for the children on this day. **Children can come into school in sports clothes this day.** The suggested donation is £1 per pupil and this can be made in cash on the day.

## Summer Reading Challenge

North Somerset Libraries have unveiled their summer reading challenge which is a great way to encourage 4 to 11-year-olds to keep reading books over the summer and help them boost their reading skills, ready for a return to school.

This year's theme is "Marvellous Makers" a challenge that has been co-designed by CREATE to help encourage children to be creative over the summer holiday.



# Ashcombe Primary School

Headteacher: Chris Penny

Deputy Headteacher: Kerry Evans

Assistant Headteacher: Steve Burditt

Know yourself and your world. Be part of the world. Change the world.

We Are Ashcombe



How it works:

- It's totally FREE to take part
- Children can sign up in North Somerset Libraries, including the Mobile Library, from Saturday 6th July
- If they read any 6 library books of their choice, they will collect a smelly sticker per book
- If they complete the challenge by Saturday 14th September, they will receive a certificate and medal whilst stocks last

If you would like more information, please contact me using the details below, or get in contact with your local public library: <https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/libraries>

## Staffing Update

As we draw to the end of the year, we will be saying goodbye to a number of members of the Ashcombe team as well as welcoming back some team members who have been away and introducing some new staff for next year. Miss Barnes who has been based with us over the last year in year 1 has come to the end of her maternity contract and will be leaving us when Mrs Northover returns to school next year. I'd like to thank Miss Barnes for her efforts and hard work in the last year for her class. We're also saying farewell to Mrs Heathcote, who has ran our Forrest School opportunities for our year 1 and 4s for many years now. This has been a wonderful opportunity for our pupils which



Mrs Heathcote has maintained with passion while at Ashcombe – she has given so many pupils the chance to get in nature who might not have otherwise. She'll be very much missed. We also have to say a goodbye to Mrs Hennecke who has the exciting opportunity to begin a new life in Italy – I'm very jealous but in equal measure sad to see Mrs Hennecke go – she is passionate about reading and has made a real difference to pupils across Ashcombe during her time here. We're all very excited for the change she is moving to and wish her well. We'll be saying goodbye to Mrs White who has shared a class with Mrs Bond for the last three years to support Mrs Bond's leadership of the EIS project. Mrs White has been a dedicated and caring member of the team and she'll be very much missed – I hope that we'll see her at Ashcombe again someday. Finally, we'll be saying goodbye to Mr Penn who has grasped the opportunity to work in secondary education as a maths teacher. In his time at Ashcombe, Mr Penn has worked with a mixture of year groups and his caring, calm and kind nature will be very much missed. I'd like to thank all the staff we're saying goodbye to – they will always be part of the Ashcombe family. In September, we'll be welcoming Mrs Penn and Mr Barret as new permanent staff members along with Miss Morcom, who will be a temporary staff member to support Mrs Northover's class until Christmas.



**Upcoming Dates:**

**Term 6**

End of Year Reports Sent home - 15<sup>th</sup> July

Y6 Leavers Show and Service -Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> July

Day of Sport and Kindness for Liam Shepherd Foundation - Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July

End of Term 6 - Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July

Forever proud to serve you.

We Are Ashcombe.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Penny

Headteacher