



# Al-Ashraf Primary School

Newsletter Term 1 – October 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our Term 1 edition of the school newsletter. AH, we have had a very productive and exciting first term with lots of new initiative started in the school. These include extensive training of all school staff in various areas of education led by Mr Aziz, our new Executive Headteacher and Mrs Aziz, the Senior Educational Adviser to the school. Parents have direct access to staff and senior leaders at the beginning and end of the day.

Other initiatives include such as Tarbiyyah programme for school staff, parents and pupils, the 4 'O's' covering Outstanding Muslims, Outstanding British Citizens, Outstanding Results, Outstanding Language, progress review for Year 6 pupils to monitor their progress in their final year of the school led by Mr Aziz. Year 6 pupils helping the admin at lunch time so they have experience of taking responsibility. There is a programme for additional support for those pupils who require extra help led by Miss Watson, our SENCO. In this newsletter, I will be updating you on a few other school matters IA.

As always, please feel free to speak to us in school if you have any suggestions on how we can improve further.

Many thanks  
Zainab Patel, Deputy Headteacher

## Safeguarding

We take Safeguarding extremely seriously in school. For this reason, the welfare and wellbeing of our children remains our top priority.

The school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Mrs Zainab Patel and the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) is Mrs Khatija Panchbhaya.



## NSPCC Visit

This term we welcomed staff from the charity NSPCC who led workshops for the year 5 & 6 children on the theme of 'Speak out, Stay Safe.' Children were encouraged to think about the worries that some of them may have, how they can get help to deal with any problems they may have by communicating their issues to a trusted adult, or if they don't feel safe. They were reminded about Childline, which they can phone free of charge at any time.

## Library Visits

The school has introduced regular visits to the local library for KS2 children. They have thoroughly enjoyed visiting the library this term, and we can see their passion for reading grow, AH! IA we will carry on with this initiative after the half term holiday.

We request that parents also keep a tab on any books that need to be returned to avoid any fines accumulating on the children's cards. Those children who do not have a library card, please use the opportunity during the holiday to obtain one.

## Cold Weather

As the cold weather is setting in, we urge all parents to ensure that children come in to school with the correct outdoor clothing. Please ensure hats and gloves are also provided so that they can keep warm during and break and lunch time.

## Children's Appointments

Please ensure that children's medical/ dental appointments are kept out of school hours. If this is unavoidable, please ensure that the School Office is informed in advance with an appointment letter or card which will be checked by the Administration Team.



## Healthy lifestyle

MA, our children have adapted well to our Healthy eating Policy. Our staff have been acting as role models by joining children at lunchtime to promote healthy eating. Children question their peers if not eating healthy food indicating a very positive step towards a healthy lifestyle, MA.

## Science Club at Al-Ashraf Primary School

This term, I have arranged an initiative in school whereby classes get nominated to attend the science club.

Some of the experiments we have carried out so far are:

- Raining blood
- Volcano in a bottle
- Making slime!

The aim of this club is to further enhance the children's scientific enquiry and investigative skills.

We will be arranging more clubs after the half term IA so watch this space!

## School Uniform

Presentation in clothing plays a vital part in our school procedures. I would like to remind parents that children need to wear the correct clean uniform and appropriate shoes to school. Trainers are not part of the school's uniform or PE uniform. Please also remember to write your child's name on all clothing so that items can easily be located if lost. The uniform list is available on our website for parents to view.





## Anti-Bullying Week

At Al-Ashraf Primary School, we take bullying very seriously and strict procedures are followed if bullying is identified. The week beginning **12<sup>th</sup> November** is Anti-Bullying week. During this week your child will be taking part in activities to support their understanding of the different types of bullying, their rights to be happy and safe, and their responsibilities towards bullying. They will be taking part in assemblies, role play, drama, discussions and creating posters to develop their understanding.

I am pleased to inform you that the school has now appointed an Anti-Bullying Officer. **Mrs Rubyna Nanabawa** works closely with children in school providing pastoral care where needed. Working alongside her, **MI Abdullah Patel** also provides pastoral care to children.

Bullying can be a confusing issue to understand and young children often confuse falling out with a friend, with being bullied. If you have any concerns about anything your child may tell you, please speak with their Class teacher in the first instance.

## Parent Halaqa Sessions

Parent Halaqa sessions take place in school every Thursday at 3pm. The topics that have been discussed this term include:

- Intention
- Greetings- The importance of Salaam
- Importance of using outstanding language
- Black history month
- Social media
- Importance of cleanliness
- Etiquettes of manners

Please make every effort to attend so that we can all work together to deliver the best Tarbiyyah education to our children IA.



## Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue Service

On Thursday 18/10 the school were visited by the Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue Service. The children were given the opportunity to take a look inside the fire engine, and learn all about the role of firefighters through a very informative assembly given by them. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and had lots of fun taking turns to use the fire hose.



## Parents Evening

Parents' Evening will be held on **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2018** from 1.30pm onwards. Class teachers will arrange appointments, and time slots will be sent out to parents in advance. Children will need to be picked up at **1pm** on this day. Further details will be provided nearer to the time.



## Upcoming Events

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October:** School closes at 3.30 pm for half-term holidays

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October:** School Re-opens for Term 2

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October -  
Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November:** Charity Week

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November:** Bake Sale

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November:** Remembrance Day

**Monday Nov 13<sup>th</sup> -  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November:** Anti-Bullying Week

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November:** Parents' Evening





## Charity Week

On the week beginning **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2018**, Al Ashraf Primary School will be taking part in **Charity Week**. Charity Week is a project of Islamic Relief. It is an international Muslim youth project which takes place every year in the UK, Germany, USA, America, Australia and Canada. Its main objective is to unite Muslims across the world to raise donations for the orphans and needy children. During this week we will be appealing to parents for direct donations and children will actively participate in collecting money. We will also be holding a bake sale on **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November** to serve this purpose.



## Poppy Appeal

The British Legion helps war veterans, their families and dependents all year-round. Each year the nation expresses its unequivocal support for The Royal British Legion's work through the Poppy Appeal, coinciding with remembrance events during the second week in November.

As in previous years, the school will again be supporting the British Legion's annual **Poppy Appeal** in aid of the war veterans and their families.

Poppies will be available to purchase from the school office from Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

The poppies are priced at 50p each. We also have other items available:

- Wristbands – 50p





## E-Safety #1

### Parental Controls

Parents often ask about practical advice that they can employ to protect themselves and their loved ones online.

Parental controls can be used to block upsetting or harmful content, control in-app purchases or manage how long your child spends online. And the good news is parental controls are easy to set up.

Innocent searches sometimes reveal not so innocent results. So, if you're worried about what your child is searching for online, who they're talking to or what they're seeing, we can help.

It's simple to get started. And, along with talking to your child regularly, using parental controls is one of the best ways to help keep children safe online.

### What are parental controls?

Parental controls are software and tools which you can install on phones or tablets, games consoles or laptops and even your home broadband. You can also use them to help you block or filter the content your child sees when searching online.

Parental controls are also available to help you to:

1. Plan what time of day your child can go online and how long for
2. Stop them from downloading apps they're too young for
3. Manage the content different members of the family can see.

So, whatever your child is doing online, there's a way that you can help keep them safe.

## Parent Support Group

PTA have decided to open their meetings to all parents now i.e. mums and dads. There will no longer be just PTA reps attending. Date and time of next parent meeting waiting to be confirmed.

