

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would first like to thank you all for your commitment in entrusting your children into our care during the current Covid-19 pandemic. Attendance has been exceptional so far this autumn and we are hugely grateful to you all for ensuring your children are with us each and every day. Obviously, we have now entered a 4 week period of heightened restrictions of community activity. For our school community this means several things, firstly the Multi Use Games Area within the park has been locked—the school, can still access this during the school day but the public as with all such facilities across Islington cannot. Secondly, with our weekly review of our school Covid-19 risk assessment we will from Monday further improve our Year group Bubble security which will mean each class at lunchtime will sit separately, to minimise groups of children we have to send home if there is a child case of Covid-19. We must now insist that when you come onto site at either morning drop off or afternoon pick up only one adult enters the school site.

We continue to remind all families that children and adults must not come to school if you show any symptoms, and if you do you must self-isolate and get a test. The person who has symptoms must isolate for 10 days and for all other family members 14 days unless a negative test is received. If a sibling has been sent home to isolate due to their school bubble being closed, then any other siblings do not need to isolate unless someone in the household has or develops symptoms. If you are unsure about whether or how to isolate please visit the NHS website:

<https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19> or <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/> or call 111.

If you need support getting a test for you child, please contact us.

This week the NHS delivered season winter flu vaccines and if you missed this opportunity then please email: [haringey.islington@nhs.net](mailto:haringey.islington@nhs.net) or call 0208 017 7925 to arrange a nasal vaccination appointment.

We are also issuing guidance around TikTok and WhatsApp as recently, there have been a number of incidents related to the misuse of WhatsApp and TikTok by children in Years 5 and 6. We would like to remind you that the minimum age for these apps is 16+ and 12+ respectively. We strongly advise that primary school aged children should not have accounts on these apps or be using them on their own. However, keeping children safe remains our number one priority at Ashmount. As a result, if you decide to continue to allow your child/children to have access to WhatsApp and TikTok please read the guides later in the newsletter. We also advise that you monitor your child's mobile phone and online activities (on social media and games consoles) on a very regular basis.

You may find the following websites helpful in navigating the complexities of children using digital devices - Childnet – online resources for parents and carers:

<https://www.childnet.com/ufiles/Parents-and-carers-resource-sheet-1019.pdf>

NSPCC – online safety:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

A polite reminder, there are a few families who due to personal medical conditions, or having children with special needs who are allowed to drive onto the Crouch Hill Park site—all other vehicles are prohibited. Please stick to these rules to keep us all safe.

You may have noticed we have removed the retaining log walls at the front of the school and replaced them with a concrete retaining wall, which will be log clad. We have done this as the original logs had become diseased, We are also planning with Ashmount Together support to begin work on creating a pond at the front of the school to further improve our environmental offer.

A huge thank you to all who attended our Parent Conferences, we will be in touch with those who could not make their appointment or had technical difficulties joining us. We will look to improve this offer next term when it is highly likely that these meetings will this be socially distanced.

Lastly, I will attach with the newsletter this half term's Home Learning documents for you to help us with your child's learning

Best wishes and stay safe, Anthony Carmel (Headteacher)

### Apply now for a place in Reception for September 2021

Now is the time to apply for your Reception place for next year!



### Find out more...

Come on a socially distanced tour or arrange a virtual meeting with our Headteacher, Tony, by emailing the school office: [office@ashmount.islington.sch.uk](mailto:office@ashmount.islington.sch.uk)

Watch our virtual tour online: <https://ashmountprimaryschool.co.uk/parents/admissions/school-tours/>

If you need any support with the application or have any questions, you can contact our Early Years Lead, Louise, or our Deputy Headteacher Ellie, by calling us or emailing [office@ashmount.islington.sch.uk](mailto:office@ashmount.islington.sch.uk)

### Important Information

Even if you are already part of the brilliant Ashmount community in our Nursery, you do have to apply for a Reception place. **You must apply by 15th January 2021.** For more details, visit the Islington website: <https://www.islington.gov.uk/children-and-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-primary-school-place>. To apply online, visit: <https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/>

### A Gentle Reminder

Whenever you are on the school site, morning or afternoon, please wear a face covering. If someone else is collecting your child, do make sure they know that a face covering is required.



Please keep your distance from others. At this time, you may have to wait a little longer than normal to pick up your child as we keep safety measures in place. It is a great help if you can be patient and understanding.

Only one adult should come onto the site to drop off or pick up.

#### Nursery:

We will be learning all about Diwali. We will be making our own Diya lamps and designing Rangoli patterns.

#### Reception

English: We will be innovating the story 'Toto' by changing the characters, setting, problem and solution.

Maths: We will continue to recognise, name and describe 2D shapes in our environment using mathematical language.

#### Year 1

English: We will be writing our own versions of the story 'Dogger' by changing the character and the setting.

Maths: We will be consolidating our understanding of addition and subtraction.

#### Year 2

English: We will continue re-telling 'The Tiger Skin Rug' with a focus on including different sentence types, conjunctions and expanded noun phrases.

Maths: We will be learning our 5 and 10 times tables.

#### Year 3

English: We will be planning and writing an alternative ending to 'The Green Ship'.

Maths: We will be learning how to multiply by 3, 4 and 8. Year 4

English: We will be writing from a character's perspective based on our set text, 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'.

Maths: We will be learning to measure the perimeter of shapes.

#### Year 5

English: We will be continuing to explore 'Kensuke's Kingdom' to write our own balanced arguments.

Maths: We will be exploring square and cube numbers and multiplying numbers by 10, 100 and 1,000.

#### Year 6

English: We will be continuing to learn about the text 'Floodland' and will be writing a letter from a character's perspective.

Maths: This week we will be exploring fractions including mixed numbers and improper fractions.

### Free School Meals Check: Who can get free school meals?

Children are entitled to receive free school meals if they or their parents or guardians receive any of the following:

Universal Credit providing you have net earnings of less than £7,400 a year (£616.67 a month)

Income Support

Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance

Income-related Employment and Support Allowance

Guarantee Credit element of State Pension Credit

Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

Child Tax Credit (providing you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190 as assessed by HMRC)

It is a simple process to check by going online at the following address. If you qualify you will be informed straight away and the school will be informed within 5 days. It does not matter which local authority you live in you still apply via the Islington portal at the website below: This will at a school break mean you can receive £15 per child support through a supermarket voucher which will be issued via Edenred.

<https://www.islington.gov.uk//children-and-families/benefits-and-financial-support/free-school-meals-and-uniform-grant>

Friday 6th November 2020

## Times Tables Rock Stars

Congratulations to this week's current league table leaders in each year group! In line with our Growth Mindset philosophy, this charts the biggest improvement in correct scores over the last seven days.

The leaders are...

Year 4 = Dylan, Louis M, Ben A

Year 5 = Starlah, Ruby, Katy

Year 6 = Daniel, Damien, Youcef



## Remote Learning Reminder

This is just a reminder that if your child is isolating (or not at school for another reason) you can access the learning for the days they are away in our Google Classroom. If you need a reminder of your child's log in, please contact the school office.

You can also access two weeks worth of learning from Islington online here:

<https://www.islingtoncs.org/node/16484>

If you need printed resources, pencils, pens, paper or exercise books, just let us know.

## School Diary Dates

Monday 16th November - Friday 20th November: Arts Week

### Second Half term

We re-open on Monday 2nd November at 8.45 a.m.

### Class Assemblies

(These assemblies will be remote or pre-recorded.)

Tuesday 10th November: 6 Blue

Tuesday 17th November: *cancelled*

Tuesday 24th November: *UPDATED*: 5 Blue

Tuesday 1st December: 2 Green

Dates for the Year 1 Nativity, a virtual Carol Concert and the Year 4 show will be confirmed soon.

## Ashmount Together Events

Weekly Friday Food Bank collection (see details in this newsletter and in posters around school).

Ashmount's Parents Quiz (virtual): Friday November 20th from 8pm.

### End of term

Wednesday 16th December school finishes at 2 p.m. !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

### Raising achievement by involving parents and carers in the work of our school

The leadership team at Ashmount are using the Leading Parent Partnership Award (LPPA) to help strengthen our school's partnership with parents. LPPA is a national award that will provide us with a valuable school improvement tool and also give us recognition for our commitment to working with parents.

Involving yourself in your child's education is an exciting challenge, with excellent benefits for your child, for you, for the school and for the local community. Research has identified that, at age 7, a parent's influence on a child's learning is six times that of their school and even at 11 years old, it is 29% greater. Increased involvement can raise achievement by at least 18%. No involvement could result in low or no qualifications at 16.

The LPPA will help us achieve these long-term benefits:

- contribute to improved pupil attendance, punctuality, behaviour and progress
  - increase parent participation and involvement
  - enhance parents' support in their children's learning
  - improve communication between home and school

Please look out for further communication from our Working Group.

# ASHMOUNT PRIMARY SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 6th November 2020

Weekly Attendance 02.11.20 – 06.11.20

Class	Percentage
Nursery a.m.	94.4
Nursery p.m.	99.1
Reception Blue	98.3
Reception Green	95.6
1 Blue	98.9
1 Green	100
2 Blue	99.7
2 Green	90.7
3 Blue	97.6
3 Green	98.2
4 Blue	91.9
4 Green	95.7
5 Blue	98.6
5 Green	94.7
6 Blue	95.9
6 Green	91.1

Our best attending classes for this week were:

Nursery p.m., 1 Green, 3 Green and 5 Blue

Well done children and adults. Each winning class gets an extra 5 minutes play on Monday. At Ashmount, we are aiming for at least 97% attendance in each class. Attendance for all pupil groups will be a huge focus this Autumn with the mantra being,

**"Every minute matters , Every second counts!"**

If you need support with attendance do contact Lisa, our School Home Support worker, through the office.

### Help support our local food bank by donating if you can

Without the boxes, packets, and tins of food items regularly donated across the UK, food banks simply wouldn't be able to run. And as food banks face an ever-increasing demand for their services, particularly in light of the Covid-19 pandemic, you can help! At Ashmount, we are hosting Food Bank Friday collections for the Muswell Hill Food Bank, supporting people in our local community.

Please donate these items if you can:

#### Food items

- ✦ Cereal
- ✦ Soup
- ✦ Pasta
- ✦ Rice
- ✦ Tinned tomatoes/ pasta sauce
- ✦ Lentils, beans and pulses
- ✦ Tinned meat
- ✦ Tinned vegetables
- ✦ Tea/coffee
- ✦ Tinned fruit
- ✦ Biscuits
- ✦ UHT milk
- ✦ Fruit juice

#### Non food items

- ✦ Toiletries – deodorant, toilet paper, shower gel, shaving gel, shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, tooth paste, hand wipes
- ✦ Household items – laundry liquid detergent, laundry powder, washing up liquid
- ✦ Feminine products – sanitary towels and tampons
- ✦ Baby supplies – nappies, baby wipes and baby food

### How to donate

You can drop your donations on any day Monday - Friday. Leave them in the donation box outside the school building near the front office or children can bring them into school.

Each Friday, a member of the school community will take the donations to the food bank.

If you can help, please contact your class rep or email Ashmount Together

ashmountschoolpta@gmail.com

We've set up a  
**FOOD BANK FRIDAY**  
COLLECTION POINT  
to collect food for our local  
food bank this Harvest!

Please donate an item or two  
from the list if you can.

**SHOPPING LIST  
TOP TEN ITEMS**

- Milk (UHT or powdered)
- Fruit juice (long life)
- Soup
- Pasta sauces
- Tinned sponge pudding
- Tinned tomatoes
- Tinned vegetables
- Cereals
- Tinned rice pudding
- Jam

**FOOD BANK FRIDAY**

[www.trusselltrust.org](http://www.trusselltrust.org)

trusselltrust

the trussell trust  
Stop UK Hunger

Your donations will be going to a local food bank – a registered charity or charitable organisation which is part of the Trussell Trust network. Reg. Charity in England & Wales (1110522) and Scotland (SC044246). Reg. Ltd. Co. in England & Wales (5434524).

## MUSWELL HILL FOODBANK

### TikTok Guide

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.



TikTok is a video-sharing social media app available on iOS and Android which lets users create, share, and view user created videos much in a similar manner to Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat. It's main draw, however, is that users can record and upload bite-sized looping videos of themselves lip-syncing and dancing to popular music or soundbites, often for comedic effect, which can then be further enhanced with filters, emojis and stickers. TikTok has been designed with the young user in mind and has a very addictive appeal. At the beginning of 2019 it skyrocketed in popularity to become the iOS store's most downloaded app with over 33 million downloads. Estimates suggest that it now has anything between 500 million and over 1 billion monthly active users worldwide.



What parents need to know about

# TIKTOK



#### MATURE CONTENT

On the iOS store, TikTok is listed as 12+. On the Google Play Store it is rated as 'Parental guidance recommended'. When signing up for the app, it's possible to lie about your age without any form of verification. As children scroll through their feed, most of the videos they're likely to come across are lighthearted or funny takes on dance routines which are designed to make people laugh. However there has been a slew of videos which have been reported for featuring drug and alcohol abuse, self-harm and sexual content, including young teens dressing overtly sexually and behaving suggestively. Given the deluge of material uploaded to TikTok every day, it's impossible to moderate everything and it can be quite common to come across explicit content on the 'for you' feed when logging into the platform.

#### INAPPROPRIATE MUSIC

TikTok revolves around creating music videos through lip-syncing and dancing. Inevitably, some of the music featured by users will contain explicit or suggestive lyrics. Given the undeniably young user base, there is a risk that children may look to imitate the explicit language they hear or the suggestive actions they see when viewing others user's videos on the app.

#### TIKTOK FAME

TikTok is very image focused and there is a notable preoccupation with appearing cool and attractive. Many teenagers now attempt to go viral and become what's known in-app as 'TikTok famous'. TikTok (and its predecessor musical.ly) has spawned its own celebrities - social media stars Loren Gray and Jacob Sartorius have been catapulted to fame through their initial exposure on the app. Obviously, most budding influencers looking to become the next big thing will be disappointed, but this may have the knock-on effect of making them go to more and more drastic lengths to get noticed.

#### ONLINE PREDATORS

As a social network, TikTok makes it easy to connect with other users. This includes the ability to comment on and react to other user's videos, follow their profile and download their content. Be aware that by default, any user can comment on your child's video if their account is set to public. Most interactions are harmless enough but as an app, TikTok is prone to predators because of the abundance of younger users.

#### ADDICTIVE NATURE

Social media is designed to be addictive and TikTok is no different. It can be fun and hugely entertaining. However, it is also because of this that it can be hard to put down. In addition to the short, punchy nature of the looping video format, the app's ability to keep you guessing what will come on screen next makes it easy to turn a five-minute visit into 45-minute visit.

#### IN-APP PURCHASES

Aside from the content, there's also the option to purchase in-app extras called 'TikTok coins'. Prices range from £0.99 for 100 coins to an eye-watering £93.99 for 10,000 coins. TikTok coins are used to purchase different emojis to reward content creators that a user finds funny or entertaining. In the iOS version of the app you can disable the option to buy TikTok coins but this sadly doesn't seem to be a feature in the Android version.



## Safety Tips For Parents

#### TALK ABOUT ONLINE DANGERS

Assuming your child is above the age limit to use the app, make sure you also take the time to talk to them about what they're seeing on the app. Have a dialogue, get them to give you their opinion on what is appropriate and model the correct behaviour for them. Go over why they shouldn't give out private information or identifiable photos and be positive and understanding of them in the long run, getting them to think critically about what they're seeing goes a long way to keeping them social media savvy.

#### USE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Undoubtedly, the easiest way to safeguard your child on TikTok is to make sure their account is set to private. This means only those users your child approves can view, like, and follow their content. Setting the account to private may clash with your child's goal of social media superstardom, but it will keep their account secure from strangers. This setting can be enabled under the privacy and safety menu by pressing the ellipsis in the 'me' tab of the app. To be extra safe, there are additional controls available to toggle such as who can send comments and messages, among other options.

#### ENABLE RESTRICTED MODE

In the digital wellbeing section there's the ability to turn on restricted mode using a PIN. Restricted mode filters out content that is not age appropriate although it should be noted that this isn't always 100% fool proof. When enabling restricted mode, parents should still be vigilant to what their child is watching and take note that the algorithm moderating content is not infallible.

#### EXPLORE AND LEARN YOURSELF

Understanding and learning the app yourself is a great way to get to grips with TikTok. You could then even use the app with your child and watch some videos with them. If you are the parent of a teen, even if it does not make you popular, keep a close eye on what they're viewing and sharing. That said, it's a brilliant chance to turn it into a bonding opportunity with your child also. You could even unleash your inner performer and make videos with them while (more importantly) keeping them safe online.

#### LEARN HOW TO REPORT AND BLOCK INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

With the proper privacy settings in place, TikTok can be a safe space for your child to express themselves. However, just in case something does manage to slip through, make sure your child knows how to recognise and report that content and get them to come to you about what they have seen. TikTok allows users to report offenders and comments within the app. You can also block individual users by going on their profile.

#### MODERATE SCREEN TIME

As entertaining as TikTok is, you can help your child moderate their time on the app by making use of the digital wellbeing section. Under the screen time management option, you can limit the daily allotted time allowed on the app in increments ranging from 40 to 120 minutes. You can also lock this preference behind a PIN number which has to be inputted in order to then exceed the daily time limit. This way your child can get their daily dose of memes without wasting away the day.

#### Meet our expert

Pete Badh is a writer with over 10+ years in research and analysis. Working within a specialist area for West Yorkshire Police, Pete has contributed work which has been pivotal in successfully winning high profile cases in court as well as writing as a subject matter expert for industry handbooks.



#### \*NEW FOR 2020\* FAMILY SAFETY MODE

TikTok Family Safety Mode allows parents to link their own TikTok account to their child's. It's a great way to oversee your child's digital wellbeing by giving you direct control over their safety settings and being able to remotely turn features on and off. This includes managing screen time, the ability to send and receive direct messages (and with whom) and the ability to restrict the appearance of content that might not be age appropriate.

SOURCES: [www.tiktok.com](http://www.tiktok.com)

[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram - @NationalOnlineSafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 20.02.2020

### WhatsApp Guide



WhatsApp is one of the most popular messaging apps in the world, with more than 1.5 billion people in more than 180 countries using it to send and receive text, photos, videos and documents, as well as make voice and video calls through an Internet or Wi-Fi connection. The free app offers end-to-end encryption, which means that messages can only be read by the sender and the recipient in one-to-one chats, or all members if it is a group chat. Not even WhatsApp can read them.

**AGE RESTRICTION**  
**16+**



# What parents need to know about WhatsApp

**AGE LIMIT CHANGE**  
Since May 2018, the minimum age for using WhatsApp is 16 years old if you live in the European Union, including the UK. Prior to this, the minimum age was 13, which still applies for the rest of the world. WhatsApp has not yet stated whether it will take action against anyone aged between 13 and 16 who already hold accounts under the old terms and conditions, such as closing their account or seeking parental permission.

**SCAM MESSAGES**  
Occasionally on WhatsApp, people receive spam messages from unauthorised third parties or from fraudsters pretending to offer prizes to 'lucky people', encouraging recipients to click on a link to win a prize. A common scam involves messages warning recipients that their WhatsApp subscription has run out with the hope that people are duped into providing their payment details. Other scam messages include instructions to forward the message in return for a reward or gift from WhatsApp or another person.

**FAKE NEWS AND HOAXES**  
WhatsApp has been linked to enabling the spread of dangerous viral rumours. In India, for example, a number of attacks appear to have been sparked by false rumours shared on WhatsApp.

**THE 'ONLY ADMIN' FEATURE AND CYBERBULLYING**  
Cyberbullying is the act of sending threatening or taunting text messages, voice messages, pictures and videos, with the aim to hurt and humiliate the receiver. The group chat and group video call features are great for multiple people to chat simultaneously, but there is the potential for people to hurt others with their comments or jokes. The 'only admin' feature gives the admin of a group chat greater control over who can send messages. Whilst this can be good for one-way announcements, the group admin has the power to block somebody from responding to an offensive message in a chat, which could result in a child being upset and unable to reply.

**CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS**  
To start a chat in WhatsApp, you need to know the mobile number of the contact you want to speak to and they also need to have the app downloaded. WhatsApp can find contacts by accessing the address book of a device and recognising which of those contacts are using WhatsApp. If your child has shared their mobile number with some-body they don't know, they can use it to get in touch via WhatsApp.

**LIVE LOCATION SHARING**  
WhatsApp's 'Live Location' feature enables users to share their current location in real time to their contacts in a chat, allowing friends to show their movements. The feature, which can be found by pressing the 'attach' button, is described by WhatsApp as a "simple and secure way to let people know where you are." Location-sharing is already a common feature on other social apps, including Snapchat's Snap Map and Facebook Messenger and can be a useful way for a child to let loved ones know they are safe. However, if your child is in a group chat with people they do not know, they will be exposing their location.



## Top Tips for Parents

**CREATE A SAFE PROFILE**  
Even though somebody would need your child's phone number to add them as a contact, as an extra security measure we suggest altering their profile settings to control who can see their profile photo and status. The options to choose from are 'Everyone', 'My Contacts' and 'Nobody'. We suggest selecting 'My Contacts' or 'Nobody' to ensure their profile is private.

**EXPLAIN HOW TO BLOCK PEOPLE**  
If your child has received spam or offensive messages, calls or attachments from a contact, they should block them. Messages and status updates sent by a blocked contact will not show up on the phone and will stay undelivered. Blocking someone will not remove this contact from the contact list - they will need to be removed from the phone's address book. To block a contact, your child needs to open the person's chat stream and tap on the settings.

**REPORT SCAM MESSAGES**  
Advise your child not to tap, share or forward any message that looks suspicious or sounds too good to be true. When your child receives a message from an unknown number for the first time, they will be given the option to report the number as spam directly inside the chat. They can also report a contact or a group as spam using the following steps: 1) Open the chat. 2) Tap on the contact or group name to open their profile information. 3) Scroll to the bottom and tap 'Report Spam.'

**LEAVE A GROUP**  
If your child is part of a group chat that makes them feel uncomfortable or has been added to a group they don't want to be part of, use the group's settings to show them how to leave. If someone exits a group, the admin can add them back in once, if they leave again, they cannot be added again.

**USING LIVE LOCATION SAFELY**  
If your child needs to use the 'Live Location' feature to share with you or a friend, advise them to only share it for the amount of time they need to. WhatsApp gives the options of either 15 minutes, one hour or eight hours. However, your child can choose to stop sharing at any time.

**DELETE ACCIDENTAL MESSAGES**  
If your child has sent a message to the wrong chat or if a message they sent has contained a mistake, they can delete it. To do this, simply tap and hold on the message, choose 'Delete' and then 'Delete for everyone'. The app allows seven minutes to delete the message after it has been sent, but it is important to remember that recipients may have seen and screenshot a message before it was deleted.

**SET TIME LIMITS**  
A 2017 study found that by the age of 14 the average child will have sent more than 35,000 texts, 30,000 WhatsApp messages and racked up more than three solid weeks of video chat. Although it is inevitable that your child will use technology, you can still set boundaries. This is not easy, especially since teens use their devices for both schoolwork and free time, often simultaneously.

SOURCES: <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2018/apr/26/whatsapp-plans-to-ban-under-16s-the-mystery-is-how>, <https://whatsappbrand.com/>, <https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/gadgets-and-tech/news/whatsapp-update-latest-india-hoaxes-forward-messages-app-download-a8456011.html>