



Ash Lea
working together to be our best

Summer Newsletter 2022

The Summer Holiday is Here!

It's been a brilliant term of everyone coming together and we hope that you have enjoyed getting back to a little bit of normality this year with residential to Lea Green, Hagg Farm and Mablethorpe. Our sports day and family BBQ were our busiest ever. Such wonderful participation makes them the successes that they have been.

With Covid reducing in its impact, we didn't think that we would be using the term 'unprecedented' quite so soon. But the recent extreme weather conditions were exactly that. Our school team pulled together and improvised brilliantly to make the two days as comfortable and enjoyable for the pupils. We were also so very proud of how well our pupils coped with the changes, in particular having to stay inside! Thank you for those of you who took time to email your thanks to the staff team. I have shared your messages with staff which were hugely appreciated.

It's a time of year when we have to say goodbye to many. We wish our eight leavers, Felix, Cameron, Rebecca, Katie, Anna, Sophie, Oliver and Charlotte and wish them well for the next stage in their lives and learning. We're also saying goodbye to staff members. Heather Keating is relocating to Lincolnshire and Michelle Martin will start her very well earned retirement after 19 years at the school. We wish them both very well and would like to thank them for their very hard work in supporting pupils and their families. They all will remain very much part of the 'Ash Lea Family'.

Next year will be Ash Lea's 50th year as an educational provision. We are planning a series of events that will celebrate the school's history and children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities being entitled to education and learning.

Have a wonderful summer break. Thank you, as ever, for your continued support and working together with us to ensure that each pupil can be their best!



The school leavers prom 2022 took place at the Cotgrave Welfare

School Development

This term we have almost completed our work up at Hayes Wood where we have built a Forest Schools area ready to deliver full days of outdoor learning. The final part of the work is to build a compostable toilet to ensure that pupils and staff have some home comforts while enjoying the peace of the woods. Our school based forest school space on the Lea is developing well too. We now have three forest school leaders in school and will soon be adding a fourth to this group.

In September we welcome three new teachers to school. Hannah Goode will be teaching in Rowan class, Hannah Griffiths will be teaching in Birch class, Jane Williamson will be teaching in Maple class, while Dave Harrison will be taking over in Holly class. All the new teachers have spent some time in school this term and we look forward to welcoming them into the Ash Lea family!

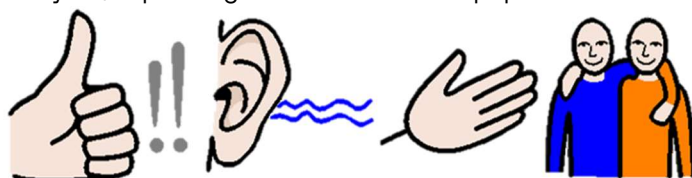
This term we have been working with 'Early Excellence' to review and update our school curriculum. We are further developing the curriculum to ensure the content, assessment, and delivery of the teaching meets the changing needs of all our learners.

We continue to plan for building work that will hopefully begin in October half term. This will be a revamp of the reception and Cherry class area, improving the learning space for those pupils.

We have progressed well with our transition and work experience offer and Phil Lovett, our transitions co-ordinator, will be looking to build on this work next year to make this offer meaningful for those with aspirations to enter the workplace.

Our work towards Artsmark accreditation work has continued this year with significant staff training and investment in arts weeks activities. We will be working towards gold accreditation next year, expanding our arts offer for all pupils.

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Listen carefully to what others have to say
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Jubilee Picnic

We celebrated the Jubilee this year with a whole school picnic on the lea. Pupils prepared an impressive array of picnic tables and cakes in preparation for the event. We were visited by one of our governors, Jane Wood, and friend of the school Maureen (who loves cake!) who judged the best dressed table and best cakes of the day. We also had a visit from the ice cream van so those who wanted could enjoy a nice cold treat!

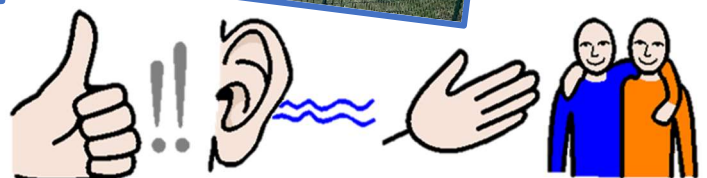


Sports Day

School sports day this year was an exciting, full day event including games in the morning and events in the afternoon when we were joined by parents. All the pupils participated and the day finished with a nail-biting parent's race! Thank you to everyone who came to join us, it was lovely to see everyone in school enjoying the day together.



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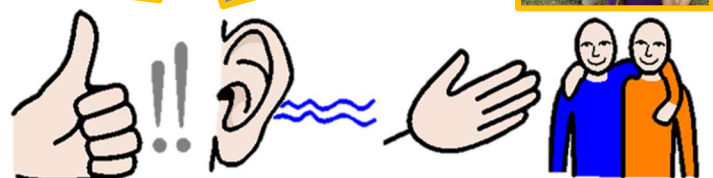
Arts Week



We finished the week with another Arts Week based on the theme of Archaeology. Pupils were treated to sessions with the Handmade Theatre Company, music from the Schools Music Company and dance supplied by The Dance Company.



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Governor Update



Dear pupils, parents, carers and staff,

It's the end of another busy school year, where has the time gone? There have been lots of activities this term; fundraising events, residentials, sports day, Artsweek and of course the amazing performance of Aladdin – well done to the Post 16 team, especially Miss Keating, for their hard work at making the performance such a success and allowing us to see the amazing talents and confidence of our children and young people. Huge thanks also to the Lumos fundraising team, the Sports team and the Artsmark team for all of their hard work at making all the events this term such a success and for bringing the whole school community together after such a long time.

Talking about community – would any parent or carer like to make a difference and take a more active role in the school? If you are passionate about your child's education and care that happens during the school day and that of the other children and young people, then please consider that as a Parent Governor you can make a difference. My term as a Parent Governor will be coming to an end in the Autumn term and school will soon be canvassing for a new recruit. No prior governance knowledge is required as training is given and the existing governors will offer as much support as you require. If you could all give this very rewarding role some thought over the Summer break and please feel free to contact myself or one of the other Parent Governors if you require any further information (please send a message via the school office).

Hope you all have a relaxing Summer break,

Mags Bailey
Chair of Governors

Important Dates

Please see our **live** online diary for all important dates [Online Calendar - Ash Lea School](#)

Wednesday 31st August – **Inset Day**
Thursday 1st September – **Inset Day**
Friday 2nd September – **Inset Day**
Monday 5th September – **Pupils return to school**
Tuesday 6th September – **Topic Launch (Weather)**
Friday 30th September – **TCS Mini-London Marathon**
Wednesday 12th October – **Parents Evening**
Friday 14th October – **Last Day of half term**

Monday 31st October – **Return to school**
Friday 16th December – **Ash Lea Christmas Singalong**
Tuesday 20th December – **Last day of term**
Wednesday 21st December – **Inset Day**
Wednesday 4th January – **Inset Day**
Thursday 5th January – **Return to school**
[Further information about activities will be emailed nearer the time](#)



≡ New Uniform ≡



We have a new school uniform available with our new school logo. The Post 16 offer is distinctly different to that of the main school's. We do not expect old uniform to be replaced and the branded uniform is optional. The offer now includes waterproof trousers and jackets for outdoor play, forest school and outdoor learning, aprons for activities such as cooking and a specialist PE top. These are not compulsory, however they are incredibly reasonably priced and offer good quality protective clothing for all learning.

[KIT OUT CLOTHING](http://kitoutclothing.co.uk) (kitoutclothing.co.uk)

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