



Ashfield Junior School

Inspiring our children to dream big, be extraordinary and change the world

13th September 2024

Headteacher's Message

If you have seen the news recently, the Government have issued new guidance to improve attendance across the country. Part of the measures will involve Hertfordshire local authority monitoring and working with schools to improve attendance. Attendance at Ashfield is taken very seriously and we have systems in place to ensure that children are coming to school each day and we follow up with parents who have not reported their child absent. We monitor absence at every half-term and we aim to keep all parents informed on their child's attendance on a termly basis. Attendance below 90% is always reported to the Local Authority Attendance Officer (LAO) and we will follow advise as necessary. Furthermore, the LAO may make direct contact with families if there are ongoing concerns on attendance. Absence requested for taking children out of school for holidays will be recorded as an unauthorised absence and may result in a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN). The Government's new guidance and attendance will be reflected in our new Attendance Policy which will be shared with you once this has been completed and ratified by the Governing Board. Mr Dourado



A very happy birthday to: Marwa (5G), Mia-Nevaeh (5D) and Grace (5D)

Attendance Matters!

Our attendance for this week is **96%** which is below the Government target of **96.1%**.

Congratulations to **5D** who led the way as our Attendance Champions with a fantastic attendance of **100%** Well done!

A big well done to **5D** who are also our Punctuality Champions.

Please help us by ensuring your child's arrival is prompt. The school gates open at 8:35am and close at 8:50am. If possible, please schedule doctors or dentists appointments after school.

Special Achievements

It is always a pleasure to hear about children's achievements outside of school.

Congratulations to **Sophie (3AC)** who wrote a letter to His Majesty King Charles and drew a splendid picture which was inspired by our natural world. He was most grateful that she took the time to contact him. Well done!

House Points

It is always lovely to see so many children be awarded individual house points for excellent work or effort, modelling the school values or going above and beyond in the classroom.

Attenborough - 116
Blackman - 124
Fiennes - 145
Storey - 124

Well done to Fiennes

Achievement Assembly

The following children were given special mention for wonderful work or behaviour by their teachers this week. Children in Year 6 are split into groups therefore will be given a certificate by either teacher.

Year 3: Grayson (3L) and Joe (3AC)

Year 4: Ava (4M) and Erik (4M)

Year 5: Harriet (5G) and Sean (5D)

Year 6: Rohan (6H) and Christopher (6K)

Writer of the Week!

This week, the following children were awarded a certificate for being the Writer of the Week! Children in Year 6 are split into groups therefore will be given a certificate by either teacher.

Year 3: Praneeet (3L) and Levison (3AC)

Year 4: Bella (4M) and Stanley (4V)

Year 5: Abhinav (5G) and Millie (5D)

Year 6: The whole class (6H) and Nathan (6K)

The Elms October Half Term Camps

The Elms will be running a holiday camp during the October half term at Ashfield Junior School. For more information and to book a place please click on the link below.

Early Bird Deadline

Book and pay by the Early Bird deadline of **Friday 18th October 2024** to qualify for the reduced Early Bird price.

Sibling Discount

1st child pays full price, subsequent siblings attending the same day(s), will receive a **20% discount** (telephone bookings only).

NHS Discount

Please call The Elms to make your booking. Proof of your NHS ID will be required, to qualify for this discount.

Booking Hotline: 0208 8954 8787

Book Online: <https://www.theelms.co.uk/>
<https://www.ashfield.herts.sch.uk/extra-curricular-activities/sports-clubs/>

Winter Fair

Save the date for our Winter Fair on **Saturday 30th November** from 11am to 2pm at Merry Hill. We look forward to working together with the Friends of Merry Hill and to seeing you all there!

4V Swimming Lessons

On **Monday 23rd September** 4V children will be going swimming and will need to bring their swimming kit including a towel in a waterproof bag to school. Children can still wear their PE Kit on a Monday as this will make changing easier at the swimming pool. They should still wear PE kit on a Friday as usual. No jewellery may be worn in the pool, so children must be able to take out their stud earrings independently.

Please login into The School Gateway to make payment and give consent.

<https://login.schoolgateway.com/0/auth/login>

Year 6 Tie Assembly

Save the date! Our traditional Year 6 Tie Assembly will be on **Thursday 19th September at 9.10am**. Year 6 parents are most welcome to the assembly. Please enter by the Year 6 double doors.

Headlice

Please be aware that there has been a case of head lice (nits) in school. We therefore urge you to check your child's hair for head lice on a regular basis. If you find evidence of lice or eggs, you can treat your child by conditioning wet hair and combing through thoroughly with a fine comb. You will need to repeat this process every few days for several weeks as the nits transform into headlice. Alternatively there are several treatments you can buy from your local pharmacy.

Further advice on the treatment of head lice can be found on the NHS website <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

Half Term

Just a reminder that we break up at **3:20pm** on **Friday 25th October** for half term.

INTRODUCING CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS

Download and opt-in with Asda Rewards
and we will donate ££s to schools.



Between 2nd September and 30th November 2024, every time you shop with Asda using your Asda Rewards app, Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to your chosen school.

It's as easy as 1, 2, 3

1. Download the Asda Rewards app, register and opt-in to Cashpot for Schools campaign (**make sure you have the latest version of the app installed**)
2. Choose Ashfield Junior School by searching the name or postcode
3. Shop instore across Asda and George, or online at Asda.com and start filling your Cashpot as you shop

Thank you for your support!

After School Choir

We are pleased to announce that our fantastic choir leader (Tansy Agnew) from Herts Music Service (HMS) will be returning to Ashfield to run the school choir as an after-school club. This club will for 11 weeks on a Wednesday afternoon from 3:25pm to 4:10pm. The school choir will start on **Wednesday 18th September** and end on **11th December 2024**.

Tansy is a very talented musician and choir leader and it is a pleasure to welcome her back to Ashfield. Tansy makes the sessions fun, shares her passion for music and teaches the children a range of different songs to perform. There will be a maximum of **25** children allowed to join the choir and it will be a first-come, first served basis. The cost of the choir for all 11 weeks is £30.

Like all our other after-school clubs, you will need to collect your child from the bottom gate on School Lane at **4:10pm**.

If your child wants to join the choir, please email the school office on admin@ashfield.herts.sch.uk.

Inset Day

There will be no school for children on **Friday 11th October**.

Safeguarding

Please speak to your child and let them know that if you are not at the agreed meeting place to collect them after school, then they should return to school where a member of staff can call a parent or carer to come and collect them. This will ensure that your child is safe.

Parking

Please help keep our children safe and healthy by keeping School Lane and surrounding roads an idle free zone. Please reduce your emissions and turn off your ignitions! We also ask that you are considerate to our residents and park safely and not over driveways and on the dropped kerbs.

Caterlink School Meal Accounts

Accounts should always be kept in credit and payments should be made directly to your child's Caterlink. As a reminder, meals cost £3.00 each day and dinner money is payable in advance. Please contact the school office if you require your login details.

https://meals.caterlinkltd.co.uk/meals/sign_in

DSPL9 Parent & Carer Newsletter

NEW

Welcome to the DSPL9 newsletter. This provides families with all recent and current local SEND information. The newsletter will be published fortnightly. Please click on the link below to be re-directed to the newsletter.

<https://www.dspl9.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=60&type=pdf>

This can also be found on our [website](#)

Administering medication in school

Children should not bring any medicines into school. They may not have cough or throat sweets in school. If your child needs to take **prescribed** medicine (e.g. antibiotics), it should usually be administered outside school hours. If this is not possible it should be brought to the school office by a parent or nominated adult where you will need to complete the appropriate form. All medicines must be labelled clearly with your child's name. Only prescribed medicines will be administered. They will be given by the staff in the school office. Parents are requested not to approach another member of staff to administer medicines.

Absence Reporting

In order to maintain accurate attendance records please can we remind parents and carers that for Safeguarding reasons, absences from school should be reported **daily** to the school office with a reason for absence, we unable to accept unwell as an acceptable reason.

This can be done by ringing the school number 02089502350, choosing option 2 or alternatively, please send an email to the school office admin@ashfield.herts.sch.uk by 9.10am **everyday of your child is absent.**

Staff Car Park

This is a polite reminder that the carpark is for staff and visitors only. Parents and carers should not use it to collect children from school or after-school clubs.

Collection of Children

Just a polite reminder that school closes at 3:20pm. Teachers will wait with children at the top gate until 3:30pm, before taking children to wait in the office area. Children being picked up after this time makes it difficult for staff to carry out their other roles and responsibilities.

Safeguarding – Before school gates are opened at 8.35am

When dropping your children at the gates in the morning, please be aware that **NO** staff are at the gates until they open them at 8.35am. We recommend that you wait with your child until the gates are open, the road can be busy with traffic and also the paths are quite narrow. In general the children are very well behaved at the gates. Please remind your children that if they are at the gates for a short while before they open to be aware of the possible dangers on the road.

Secondary Transfer Application 2024

FAO: ALL YEAR 6 PARENTS

Reminder for Parents of children in Year 6 that the deadline for online applications for secondary school is 31st October. You should apply at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions.

Any application received after that date will be treated as late and your child may not be allocated a place in one of your preferred schools.

What we will be learning next week

Year 3

English: We are going to continue to write our own stories of Mini Rabbit.

Maths: We are going to regroup 3 digit numbers in different ways.

Art: We are going to explore the medium charcoal and experiment with different tones.

Year 4

English: We are going to write our own versions of Arthur's journey based on the book Arthur and the Golden Rope.

Maths: We are estimating number magnitude and rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000.

Science: We will continue exploring sounds and how they are created.

Year 5

English: We will be using subordinate clauses to write descriptive sentences about dragons.

Maths: We will be rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100, 1000 and 10,000.

Geography: We will be learning about the United States of America. We will identify states and some of the main physical features of the country.

Year 6

English: We will be writing a diary entry based upon the book Kensuke's Kingdom.

Maths: We will be exploring mental strategies for the 4 operations.

Science: We will be continuing to explore classification.

Geography: We will be exploring what affects an ecosystem.

School Meals

Please see below the dinner menu for the week ahead. Please ensure that you keep your Caterlink account in credit. As a reminder; meals cost £3.00 each day and dinner money is payable in advance.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
RED	All Day Vegetarian Breakfast	Chicken Paella with Patatas Bravas	Roast Gammon, New Potatoes and Gravy	Chicken Fajitas with Rice	Fishfingers with Chips and Tomato Sauce
GREEN	Vegan Chilli with Rice	Veggie Meatballs with Patatas Bravas	Parsnip and Sweet Potato Loaf with New Potatoes	Macaroni Cheese	Cheese and Bean Pasty with Chips
BLUE	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling	Jacket Potato with a choice of filling
All served with a selection of fresh vegetables, salad selection and desserts available daily.					

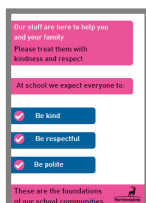
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School Blog:

<https://ashfield.herts.sch.uk/news-dates/school-blog/>



Upcoming Events

Thursday 19th September	Year 6 Tie Assembly
Monday 23rd September	4V Swimming Starts
Friday 11th October	Inset Day
Friday 25th October	End of Term
Monday 28th to Friday 1st November	Half Term