



Ashfield Junior School

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

25th September 2026

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

We've enjoyed a sunny and happy week here at Ashfield. Children have made the most of the beautiful weather at lunchtime, building mini camps, digging for fossils and playing tennis on the field. Year 3 have welcomed back Mr Waldron who had previously worked as a teaching assistant here at Ashfield and is now completing his PGCE with us. This week our staff team have explored how our children's interests, hobbies and knowledge are represented here at school. I was thrilled to hear from some Year 6 children that they would like to research, plan and prepare a variety of assemblies that they will lead over the coming months. All children have been invited to apply for the role of School Council Representatives, if they wish to do so. Each class are sharing the job description together and are choosing how to vote for the representatives. School Council will play a very important role in shaping Ashfield's future. I am very much looking forward to our first meeting in two weeks time. There will be lots of other opportunities for different leadership roles over the coming months, including Class Ambassadors and Eco Council. Please keep your eyes peeled for information on SEND meetings and Parent consultations which will be communicated to you this coming week.

Have a happy and relaxing weekend. Tamsin Giannone



A very happy birthday to: Reuben (4S), Sophia (3M), Gigi (6H), Henry (6H), Julianna (6K), Lochie (3F) and Abel (3M)

Attendance Matters!

Our attendance for this week is **94.4%** which is below the Government target of **96.1%**.

Congratulations to **5C** who led the way as our Attendance Champions with a fantastic attendance of **98.3%** Well done!

A big well done to **4V** who are 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 **Praneet (5D)** who played in the Rodwell Cup Tournament with Bushey Cricket Club and achieved first place. Well done!

Congratulations to **Kian (3F)** who successfully passed his Taekwondo grading and earned his yellow tag on his white belt. 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	-	127
Blackman	-	116
Fiennes	-	118
Storey	-	124

Well done to Attenborough

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: Evelyn (3F) and Thea and Sol (3M)

Year 4: Rory (4S) and Mazin (4V)

Year 5: Alice (5D) and Hamish (5C)

Year 6: Julianna (6K) and Henry (6H)

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: Hailee (3F) and Danylo (3M)

Year 4: Eliska (4S) and Logan (4V)

Year 5: Jack H (5D) and Liya (5C)

Year 6: All of 6H and Matilda (6K)

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.

[Newsletter](#)

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

National Poetry Day

To celebrate National Poetry Day on Thursday 1st October, we will be joining a county-wide online poetry workshop run by Simon Mole. He will be joined by Alim Kamara of Storie Storie, the award-winning rapper and storyteller

The theme this year is '**Wonder**' and Simon will be reading and writing poetry in a fun and creative way with the children along with a special 10 minute storytelling and performance slot from Alim Kamara.

The Year 3 workshop will run from 9.15 - 10.15am and the Year 4, 5 and 6 workshop will run from 10.45 –11.45am.

Dietary and Allergies

This is just a quick reminder to please inform the school office if there have been any recent changes to your child's dietary requirements or allergies.

Football Boots

Have you got any old, good quality football boots that your children have outgrown that you no longer need and are happy to donate. We can give them a second life and help other pupils who may not otherwise have the opportunity to play.

We welcome football boots of all sizes, but we are particularly looking for smaller sized boots suitable for our younger children.

Thank you for your support!

Secondary Transfer Application 2027

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.

Football Boot Storage

We are so grateful to the parents who have donated football boots. We now need some storage for them, so if anyone has a shoe rack they no longer need and would be willing to donate, we would really appreciate it.

School Nursing Newsletter

The [Newsletter](#) contains health and wellbeing information, practical advice, and details of local support services available to children, young people, and their families.

Harvest Festival

Year 5 will be performing a Harvest Festival for their parents and carers on **Wednesday 30th September at 9.05am**. This year, we will be collecting food for the Red Trust Bushey and you can bring donations into school from **Wednesday 23rd to 30th September**. A list of the food items we are collecting are below but any long life items are welcome. Thank you for your support.

Tinned tomatoes, tinned veg (e.g. sweetcorn), tinned fish, tinned meat, tinned fruit, pasta, UHT milk, long life fruit juices, toilet paper, laundry pods/tablets, deodorant.

Red Trust Bushey Foodbank Shopping List

Buying & donating items from this shopping list really helps local people who use the Red Trust Foodbank.

Red Trust Foodbank is open twice a week on:

Tuesday evening: 5pm - 6:30pm & Friday morning: 10am - 12noon

Located at The Phoenix Centre, 4 Farrington Avenue, Bushey, WD23 3DG

Designed to help local people through the provision of essential food and community support.

All donations can be dropped off at the Phoenix Centre throughout the week or at local points on Bushey High Street.

If you have any questions, please contact Vikki on 07483 260440



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 - 10% Discount

Book and pay by the Early Bird deadline of **Friday 16th October 2026** to qualify for the reduced Early Bird price. **Discount code: EBOCT26**

Sibling Discount Code - SIBCMP26

All siblings receive at 20% discount if attending the same day/s.

NHS Discount

Please call The Elms to verify your NHS status. Please note, proof of your NHS ID will be required, to qualify for this 25% discount.

Booking Hotline: 0208 954 8787

Book Online: <https://www.theelms.co.uk/>

Changes to Free School Meal Eligibility England

New rules mean more families could now be eligible for free school meals.



From the start of academic year **2026 to 2027**, your child will qualify for free school meals if your household receives **Universal Credit**, regardless of household earnings.

Eligibility for expanded FSM will be checked annually.

Who can now qualify?

Your child may be eligible for free school meals if your household receives:

- Universal Credit**
All household earnings qualify for expanded FSM.
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999**
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)**
- Guarantee element of Pension Credit**
- Certain families with no recourse to public funds (NRPF), subject to the relevant rules.**

Targeted FSM remains linked to the £7,400 annual household earnings threshold and can qualify families for additional support such as Pupil Premium and HAF.

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils also receive universal infant free school meals.

How to apply

You can check if you're eligible and apply online at:

www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals

- Your local authority or school will check your eligibility.
- Eligibility is checked annually.
- You may need to provide information to verify your claim.
- Eligible children can receive free school meals; targeted FSM may also unlock other support.

These changes apply to England.



If you think you might be eligible, please visit **www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals**. It only takes a few minutes to check what support may be available.



“Write a story you would love to read”

BBC's **500 Words**, the UK's largest children's writing competition for children aged 5-11, is open for entries from Tuesday 29th September.

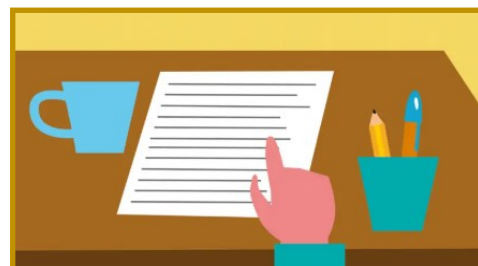
This is a great enrichment opportunity for children and would be a lovely way to encourage creativity, to inspire reluctant writers or to give your child's writing a purpose.

It would also be a fun way to engage with your child's learning journey.

For further information use the link:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words>

Submit before the competition closes at 9pm on **Friday 6th November 2026**.



What we will be learning next week

Year 3

English: We will be writing about Mini Rabbit's journey and dangers, using the past progressive and simple past tense.

Maths: We will finish our unit about counting on and back in hundreds, tens and ones. We will start our new unit which is about comparing and ordering 3 digit numbers.

PE - We will be developing point and patch balances on apparatus

Year 4

English: We will be completing our graphic novels and starting to look at our next unit, The King Who Banned the Dark, where we will be learning persuasive techniques in writing.

Maths: We will continue looking at magnitude and rounding numbers with 4 digits.

Art: We will be creating sketches that help to tell the story of the 'Menagerie of Animals' poem

Year 5

English: We will be focusing on using expanded noun phrases and adverbials to improve our descriptive sentence writing this week

Maths: We will be completing our unit about negative numbers and begin to work on decimal place value in Maths this week.

Art: We will be learning about how typography can be used to create pop art.

Science: We will be testing the viscosity of a range of liquids as we learn about the properties of materials.

Year 6

English: We will work on the various comma uses in our writing as we write to compare 2 planets as part of a non chronological report.

Maths: We will continue to explore how to measure and draw angles using a protractor.

RE: We will explore the Eight Fold Path as a guide for life for some Buddhists.

PD: We will explore Ashfield's value of respect and use this as a basis of our Year 6 buddy training.

Geography: We will be creating our presentations about one of the world's biomes.

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 £3.41 each day and dinner money is payable in advance.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
RED	Macaroni Cheese	Phat Past Pork Sausage Roll with Potato Wedges	Roast Chicken, Stuffing, Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Spaghetti Bolognese	FishFingers with Chips and Tomato Sauce
GREEN	Chickpea Curry with Rice	Mild Mexican Chilli with Rice	Roasted Quorn, Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Smokey Bean Burger with Potato Wedges and Tomato Sauce	Cheese and Bean Pasty with Chips and Tomato Sauce
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.					

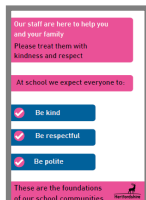
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[School Blog](#)

[Amazon Wishlist](#)



Upcoming Events

Monday 28th September	4V Swimming
Monday 28th September	Forces Club
Wednesday 30th September	Year 5 Harvest Assembly (9:05am)
Tuesday 6th October	Year 6 Height and Weight
Monday 19th October	Flu Vaccinations
Wednesday 21st October	Individual Photographs
Thursday 22nd October	Year 4 Trip to Bhaktivedanta Manor
Monday 26th—Friday 30th October	Half Term