



Ashfield Junior School

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

29th November 2024

Headteacher's Message

Last week, we were visited by representatives of the King's Lieutenant who delivered a workshop about the monarchy and the Commonwealth Values. The Deputy Lieutenant's of Hertfordshire led a workshop for Year 6 where they explored the Commonwealth Values in more detail. It was good to see children actively taking part and discussing the importance of values including Democracy, Rule of Law, Gender Equality, Human Rights, Tolerance Respect and Understanding and Access to Health, Education and Shelter. It was good to see the children debating the importance of these values but also links with our school values of respect, kindness, resilience and cooperation. Our visitors were extremely impressed with our children's behaviour and engagement. It is a busy time of the year and there are lots of activities and events happening over next three weeks - please see details in the newsletter. Have a good weekend and I hope to see many of you at the Winter Fair at Merry Hill Infants. Mr Dourado



A very happy birthday to: Liya (3L), Amelie (3L), Nicole (3L) and Shray (6K)

Attendance Matters!

Our attendance for this week is **97.2%** which is above the Government target of **96.1%**.

Congratulations to **3AC** and **6H** who both led the way as our Attendance Champions with a fantastic attendance of **99.1%** Well done!

A big well done to **4M** 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.

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: Nikola (3AC) and Olivia W (3L)

Year 4: Freddie (4M) and Benji (4V)

Year 5: Amelia P (5D) and Gracie (5G)

Year 6: Kyle (6K) and Caitlin (6H)

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	-	111
Blackman	-	143
Fiennes	-	136
Storey	-	127

Well done to Blackman

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: Aidan (3AC) and Alanna (3L)

Year 4: Sophia (4M) and Gigi (4V)

Year 5: Maisie (5D) and Matthew (5G)

Year 6: Oscar (6H) and Kaiden (6K)

The Elms February Half Term Camps

The Elms will be running a holiday camp during the February 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 7th October 2025** to qualify for the reduced Early Bird price.

Sibling Discount Code - SIBCMP25

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/>

4M Swimming Lessons

On **Monday 6th January** 4M 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>

End of Autumn Term

Just a reminder that we break up at **1:30pm** on **Friday 20th December** and return to school on **Monday 6th January** for the Spring Term.

4M Cornet Performance

This year, Class 4M have been learning the cornet with our fantastic music teacher, Ms Oliver. They would like to show off their skills and hold a performance for parents on **Tuesday 10th December** at **9:05am**. The performance will be about 30 minutes long. If you are interested in attending, please enter the school at the lower gate from 9:00am where you will be escorted to the performance.

After School Clubs

The following clubs will finish for the Autumn Term as below:-

The Elms - Monday 9th December (Netball), Tuesday 10th December (Football), Wednesday 11th December (Tennis) and Thursday 12th December (Multisports).

Art Club - Wednesday 11th December (Year 3 & 4) and Thursday 12th December (Year 5 & 6)

Mock Transfer - Thursday 12th December

Dance Club - Friday 13th December

Jam Coding - Friday 13th December

Tesco Stronger Start – In-Store Vote

Ashfield Junior School will be taking part in the **Tesco Stronger Start** scheme running across several Tesco stores in the local area. Our project is to enhance our play and lunchtimes by improving the quality of our playtime resources for our children to use outside.

Each time you make a purchase within the store, you will receive one token that you can use to cast your vote and place for Ashfield Junior School. The voting will end mid-January 2025.

Autumn Term Dates

We would like to share with you all, a few things that are coming up this term.

Saturday 30th November - ASHA and Friends of Merry Hill (FOMH) have joined together to organise the Winter Fair which will be held at Merry Hill.

Tuesday 10th December - 4M Cornet Performance for parents at 9.05am.

Wednesday 11th December - Year 3 Christmas Production for Parents at 1.45pm

Wednesday 11th December - Secret Santa Rooms

Friday 13th December - Open classrooms. This will give you an opportunity to come into school and look through your child's books. We will have one session from 9:00am to 9:30am and from 2:30pm to 3:00pm.

Monday 16th December - Staff and pupils have been invited to St James' Church to sing a few Christmas carols (no parents).

Wednesday 18th December - Children will be invited to wear a festive jumper and enjoy a lovely Christmas lunch

Open Morning and Afternoon

We will be having an open morning and afternoon on **Friday 13th December**. This will give you an opportunity to come into your child's class and look through your child's books.

The morning session will be from 9:00am to 9:30am and the afternoon session will be from 2:30pm to 3:00pm.

As there is limited space in our Year 3 classrooms, parents will need to book a place using the School Cloud system <https://ashfield.schoolcloud.co.uk/>. Please be advised, that there are only 15 places in each class for both the morning and afternoon session. Booking a time slot will secure you a place and you will be able to attend the whole half-hour session.

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](#)



The poster features a red border decorated with holly leaves and berries. At the top left is the DSPL9 logo, a blue circle with 'DSPL9' in white. To its right is the text 'Delivering Special Provision Locally'. Below this is an illustration of two yellow teacups with smiling faces, each with a rainbow arching over it. The text 'PARENT/CARER COFFEE MORNING' is written in green, followed by 'For all parents/carers of children with SEND'. A horizontal line separates this from the date and time: 'WEDNESDAY 4TH DECEMBER 10.00AM-11.30AM'. Below that is the location: 'ASDA WATFORD COMMUNITY ROOM 4 ST ALBANS RD, WATFORD WD24 7RT'. Another horizontal line follows. The text 'Please join the DSPL9 Triage team to find out about the support available locally and to meet other parents and carers of children with SEND.' is in a smaller font. At the bottom, it says 'If you would like to attend or to find out more please email us at enquiries@dsplareg.org.uk'.

Year 6 - 2025 Manor Adventure

The remaining balance is now available to pay on the School Gateway You have until the payment deadline of **31st January 2025** to make this payment. You can make the payment in full or gradual instalments.

Where payment has not been fully made, we will refund any money already paid, minus the non-refundable deposit and cancel the place.

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



Christmas Post Box

From **Monday 2nd December** the Ashfield Post Box will be available for children who wish to send cards to their Ashfield friends. The children can post their cards at break time and lunchtime. Children should remember to put the full name and class of the child to whom they are sending the card. If they just write "Doris" on the card, the Year 6 post children will not know which class to deliver it to. The last day for posting is Monday 16th December.



Wednesday 11th December

£3.00 per gift (one per child)

Please transfer £3 by 1st December so we can make sure there is enough gifts.

Ashfield School and Home Association

Sort Code: 23 - 05 - 80

Account Number: 48865658

With your child's name and class as reference.

Winter Fair

Our Winter Fair is 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!

Christmas Jumper Donation

If you have any freshly washed, good condition Christmas Jumpers that you no longer need or the children have grown out of and are happy to donate please can you bring into the school office by **Friday 13th December**.

Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day

Our traditional meal will be on **Wednesday 18th December**. There will be music, festive hats, delicious food and laughter as staff get involved in serving the children! Children are welcome to wear their Christmas Jumper on Wednesday 18th December over their school uniform or PE kit.

St James Carol Concert

Children and staff will be walking to and from St. James' church on **Monday 16th December** for our Carol Concert (no parents). Please make sure that your child is wrapped up warm, has a coat and appropriate footwear.

If your child normally does PE on a Monday, they should still come to school in their PE kit wearing a warm coat and trainers. 4V will still attend swimming.

We require a small numbers of helpers. If you are available to help on the day please contact the school office by email admin@ashfield.herts.sch.uk

Year 3 Christmas Performance

Year 3 will be Performing for parents and carers on **Wednesday 11th December at 1:45pm**. The school gates (bottom gate) will be open from 1:35pm for you to take your seats. I am really looking forward to this performance and looking forward to seeing you all there.

Year 3 Visit to Bushey Library

Year 3 visited Bushey Library on Tuesday and during this visit, the children had an introduction to the library and the services it provides, listened to a story called 'Shark in the Park!' by Nick Sharratt and then had the chance to browse and borrow a book.



4V Science Experiment

Year 4 conducted a very messy, but engaging experiment this week to demonstrate the journey our food takes through the digestive system - in one end and ALL the way out the other.



Working Closely (or In Partnership) with Merry Hill

At Ashfield Junior School, we are proud to work closely with Merry Hill Infant and Nursery School to ensure a seamless transition for pupils and provide a strong foundation for their educational journey. Following discussions with Ms. Adams, we're delighted to share how successful their recent Welcome to Merry Hill Tours have been. These tours have given prospective Nursery and Reception families a wonderful insight into what makes Merry Hill such a special place. Due to high demand, additional dates have been added:

Wednesday, 4th December 2024 at 9:00 am

Wednesday, 8th January 2025 at 9:00 am and 2:00 pm

If you know any families with children starting Nursery or Reception in September 2025, we encourage them to book one of these tours to see everything Merry Hill has to offer. Similarly, for families with children moving to Year 3, we warmly invite them to tour Ashfield Junior School to see how we build on the excellent foundation established at Merry Hill. Both schools are committed to working together to support our community, and we look forward to welcoming new families into our partnership. Please contact the school offices to book a visit or to learn more about what makes our schools so special!

What we will be learning next week

Year 3

English: We will be re-writing the beginning of 'The Squirrels who squabbled'.

Maths: We will continue to look at strategies to subtract.

Geography: We will continue to explore the UK and develop our map skills

Year 4

English: We will finish writing and editing our explanation texts.

Maths: We will be solving word problems using all four operations.

PE: We will be creating partner sequences using rolls, jumps, shapes and inverted movements.

Year 5

English: We will be writing a character analysis of Tashi, the main character of our book 'Cloud Tea Monkeys'.

Maths: We will be reasoning about addition and subtraction, using mental and written methods to calculate.

French: We will be revising the phrases and vocabulary we learnt for our French Cafe' in Year 4. We will use the phrases and the vocabulary to write a script.

Year 6

English: Year 6 will be sitting a set of practice SATs.

Maths: Year 6 will be sitting a set of practice SATs.

DT: We will be creating an electronic greeting card.

Science: We will be continuing to explore fossils and what they can tell us about evolution.

History: We will be exploring the role of women in WW1 and the Home Front.

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	Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges	Chicken Pasta Bake with Garlic Bread	Sausage and Mash with Gravy	Chicken Tikka Masala with Rice	Fishfingers with Chips and Tomato Sauce
GREEN	Rainbow Pizza with Potato Wedges	Chinese Vegetable Curry with Rice	Vegan Sausage and Mash with Gravy	Vegetable Curry with Rice	Cheese and Tomato Quiche 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.					

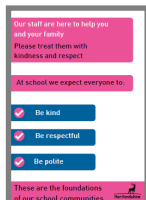
Contact Us

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School Blog:

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



Upcoming Events

Monday 2nd December	Latin and Classics (Year 5 & 6)
Wednesday 11th December	Secret Santa Room
Wednesday 11th December	Year 3 Christmas Performance (1:45pm)
Monday 16th December	St. James Carol Concert
Monday 16th December	Last 4V Swimming Lesson
Friday 13th December	Open Classroom
Friday 20th December	End of Term (1:30pm)