# Ashfield Junior School

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

## 6th November 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

It has been a calm and settled return to Ashfield Junior School, and it is wonderful to see our pupils refreshed and ready to learn. The classrooms have a real sense of purpose, and I am delighted by the positive start everyone has made. There is so much to look forward to and celebrate in the coming weeks. On Monday 9th November, our Year 6 pupils will visit Whipsnade Zoo, and on Wednesday 11th November, our Year 3 pupils will travel to Hazard Alley. These trips are a valuable opportunity for children to learn beyond the classroom and create memories together. We are also looking forward to a visit from the Lieutenancy of Hertfordshire, who will be spending time with our Year 6 pupils. This is a special occasion, teaching children about British Values and Citizenship and we are proud to welcome them to our school. As a whole school, we will come together for our Remembrance assembly on Wednesday 11th November, where we will pause to reflect and take part in a wreath laying. It is a moment of respect that matters deeply to us all, especially because so many of our families dedicate their lives to the Armed Forces. If you are able to donate to our Poppy Appeal this year, please do. We will also celebrate Diwali and Bonfire Night. These festivals bring our community together, and I encourage everyone to share in the traditions and joy that they bring. Learning about the customs that different families celebrate enriches all of our lives. Have a fantastic weekend celebrating. As we enjoy these celebrations, please remember to be safe. Whether you are at home or attending a display, a little care goes a long way. Thank you for your continued support. It makes a real difference to our pupils and to our school community. Warm wishes, Tamsin Giannone



**A very happy birthday to:** Sophia (6H), Mila (6C) and Eva (3F)

## Attendance Matters!

Our attendance for this week is **94.9%** which is below the Government target of **96.1%**.

Congratulations to **3M** who led the way as our Attendance Champions with a fantastic attendance of **99.5%** Well done!

A big well done to **6H** 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 **Arthur (4V)** who won first place at the national England Jujitsu competition. Well done!

Congratulations to **Jessica (4S)** who won player of the week at Harrow RFC Under 9's. Well done!

Congratulations to **Reuben (4S)** who won player of the week during their fixture between Watford Rugby Club and Finchley Rugby club after showing great sportsmanship, determination, scoring multiple tries and even putting in some try saving tackles to secure winning the match. 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 | - | 111 | **Blackman** | - | **152** |
| Fiennes | - | 123 | Storey | - | 121 |

**Well done to Blackman**

## Writer of the Week!

This week, the following children were awarded a certificate for being the Writer of the Week!

**Year 3:** Fionn (3M) and Isla (3F)

**Year 4:** Sebastian (4S) and Haasini (4V)

**Year 5** Vedika (5D) and Penny (5C)

**Year 6:** Sara (6H) and Zayn (6K)

## Achievement Assembly

The following children were given special mention for wonderful work or behaviour by their teachers this week.

**Year 3:** Ana (3F) and Jude (3M)

**Year 4:** Emily (4S) and Clark (4V)

**Year 5:** Leo (5D) and Aidan (5C)

**Year 6:** Edi (6H) and Rhiannon (6K)

## Individual Photographs

Vancols Photographers are pleased to confirm that the School Photographs are ready to view using the QR code on your proof card. If you have already scanned the QR code on the Proof and registered you will receive an auto email notification. If you have not done it yet, you can still view by scanning the QR code on your Proof and following the instructions.

If by chance you have lost your Proof you can call Vancols Parent Line on 01206 273711.

For individual photographs you will need the pupil's admission number from the school database.

The website for these codes is www.getphotos.co.uk

The online cut-off date for orders to be placed for free postage back to the school is **Thursday 12th November 2026.**

## 4C Water Survival

Swimming and water safety is a statutory requirement of the National Curriculum at Key Stage 2 and is an important part of the children's Physical Education.

On **Tuesday 24th November** the children will be taking part in a water survival activity at swimming. Please send an old pair of pyjamas (long trousers) or an old t-shirt plus elasticated waist shorts and a plastic bag to put them in afterwards **along with their usual swimming kit.**

## Inset Day

There will be no school for children on **Friday 27th November.**

## Parent Questionnaire

Please take a few moments to complete our parent questionnaire using a link to follow next week.

Your feedback is really important to us. We appreciate your time and support.

## 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 £3.41 each day and dinner money is payable in advance. Please contact the school office if your require your login details.

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

## Eco Council

We are very pleased to have our Eco Council. Two member from each class have been chosen.

Hailee and Leonardo (3F) and Willow and Jude (3M)

Kiaana and Husayn (4S) and Scarlett and Archie (4V)

Amelie and Joe (5C) and ruby and Jack P (5D)

Khushi and Ethan (6H) and Matilda, Rhiannon and Tristan (6K)

## Year 3 Trip to Hazard Alley

As part of our Personal Development curriculum where we learn how to keep ourselves safe, Year 3 will be visiting The Safety Centre (Hazard Alley) in Milton Keynes on **Wednesday 11th November**. The children will experience different scenarios first-hand, such as fire, water and rail safety situations, where they will identify the risks whilst receiving expert guidance and tuition from the staff there.

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

## Year 6 Trip to Whipsnade Zoo

Year 6 are studying evolution and inheritance in Science this term and we are also looking at biomes in Geography. We have arranged a visit to Whipsnade Zoo on **Monday 9th November** to support our learning in these areas.

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

## 4S Cornet Performance

This year, Class 4C 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 8th December** at **9:10am**. 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.

## Year 6 - 2027 Manor Adventure

The remaining balance is now available to pay on the School Gateway You have until the payment deadline of **31st January 2027** to make this payment. You can make the payment in full or gradual instalments.

If you have any queries, please contact the school office.

The School Gateway

## Open Classroom - Save the date!

Parents will be invited into the classroom to see their child's work on **Friday 11th December.** Our morning invite is open from 8:50am to 9:20am and our afternoon is open from 2:30pm to 3:00pm. Further information will be shared with you soon.

## Achievements

If your child has any achievements out of school that they would like to share with us in our Friday special assembly, please email it into the office admin@ashfield.herts.sch.uk

## Year 3 and Year 6 Basketball Tournament



The last Friday before half-term saw Year 3 and Year 6 compete in their basketball tournaments. Unfortunately, the weather was not cooperative and we had to play inside with slightly altered rules and the netball hoops, but every child just got on with the changes without any complaints and truly represented the school's value of resilience. A huge congratulation to all who participated. It was pleasing to see so much fair play, cooperation, kindness and respect being shown across all of the matches and as is traditional, after the final we awarded our Fair Play Winners and School Value Winners. A list of these children can be found below. I would like to thank Mr Jones and the Elms coaches who worked so hard to run each event. I am now looking forward to the Year 4 and Year 5 basketball tournaments that will take place later this term.

Mr Hardy.

**Year 3** — The Year 3 tournament was won by Team A by a score of 2-1 against Team F. The group stage was incredibly tight with Team A winning theirs by just 1 point and Team F winning theirs on points difference! The final was extremely close with Team A securing a late win and holding on with some strong defence to the end to secure victory.

**Winners – Team A:** Ronnie, Zoe, Freya, Thomas and Lochie

**Runners Up – Team F:** Kofi, Samy, Sophia, Henry and Kayran

**Fair Play Winners:** Ronnie, Abel, Fionn, Maria, Joseph, Kayran, Eleanor, Isla, Theo and Evelyn

**Respect:** Danylo, **Cooperation:** Ana, **Kindness:** Zoe and **Resilience:** Maxwell





**Year 6** — The Year 6 tournament was won by Team A by a score of 5-4 after extra time against Team I. Team A won their very tight group by a single point from two teams who had just one point less. Team I showed great teamwork and cooperation to win all of their group matches. The final was incredibly close. The scoring went back and forth and when the final whistle sounded the score was locked at 4-4 with some incredible shooting on display. We therefore headed to sudden death extra time and Team A prevailed to win the trophy.

**Winners – Team A:** Zach, Khushi, Adam, Bella, Emma and Henry

**Runners Up – Team I**: Tristan, Ella, Isaac, Leah and Sara

**Fair Play Winners:** Emma, Arlyn, Isaiah, Penny, Rose, Charlotte, Sonny, Carter, Leah and Edi

**Respect:** Zach, **Cooperation:** Isaac, **Kindness:** Dillon and **Resilience:** Ella







## Christmas Post Box

From **Tuesday 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 14th December**.

## St James Carol Concert

Children and staff will be walking to and from St. James' church on **Monday 14th 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.**

## Year 3 Christmas Performance

Year 3 will be Performing for parents and carers on **Tuesday 8th 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.

## Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day



Our traditional meal will be on **Wednesday 16th 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 16th December** over their school uniform or PE kit.

## 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 11th December**.




**All children are welcome to have Christmas dinner. Please tick on the form that will be sent home on Monday 9th November with your child's choice and return to the school office by Wednesday 25th November 2026**

## What we will be learning after half term

**Year 3**

**English:** We will be planning our poems based on 'The Magic Box' with a focus on descriptive language.
**Maths:** We will be learning the formal written method for addition.
**Trip:** We will be going on our trip to Hazard Alley to learn about safety.

**Year 4**

**English:** We will be publishing and presenting our poems to the class.
**Maths:** We will be exploring formal methods for subtraction and addition, and regrouping.
**RE:** We will be looking at how different Hindu's celebrate the festival of Diwali.

**Year 5**

**English:** We will be reading our new book, 'Where the Poppies Now Grow' and using descriptive language to write cinquain poetry.
**Maths:** We will be solving problems and applying what we have learnt about multiplying and dividing whole and decimal numbers by 10, 100 and 1000.
**Geography:** We will be completing our North America unit by looking at different climate regions across the continent.
**Computing:** We will be starting our first computing unit where we will be learning about systems and networks. We will describe the input, process, and output of a digital system and explain how computer systems communicate with other devices.

**Year 6**

**English:** Year 6 will be planning and drafting our persuasive speeches.
**Maths:** Year 6 will continue to explore the place value of decimals and of negative numbers.
**History:** We will be exploring primary and secondary resources and what they can tell us about the Mayans.
**Science:** We will be following on from our trip to Whipsnade and exploring how organisms are adapted to their environment
**Music:** We will continue to practice singing our Christmas Carols for St. James Church service.

## School Meals

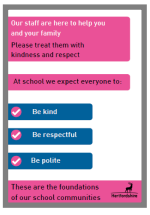
Please see below the dinner menu for after half term. Please ensure that you keep your Caterlink account in credit. As a reminder; meals cost £3.41 each day and dinner money is payable in advance.

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| RED | Classic Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Wedges | Spaghetti Bolognaise | BBQ Chicken, Seasoned Potatoes and Sweetcorn Salsa | Chicken & Sweetcorn Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Rice | Breaded Fish with Chips and Tomato Sauce |
| GREEN | Five Bean Chilli with Rice | Vegan Bolognaise with Spaghetti | Lemon & Herb Quorn, Seasoned Potatoes and Sweetcorn Salsa | Creamy Chickpea and Coconut Curry with Rice | Cheese Whirl 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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www.ashfield.herts.sch.uk




[School Blog]

[Amazon Wishlist]

## Upcoming Events

| | |
|---|---|
| **Monday 9th November** | **Year 6 Trip to Whipsnade Zoo** |
| **Tuesday 10th November** | **4V Swimming** |
| **Wednesday 11th November** | **Year 3 Trip to Hazard Alley** |
| **Monday 23rd November** | **Forces Club** |
| **Wednesday 25th November** | **Flu Immunisations** |
| **Friday 27th November** | **Inset Day** |
| | |
| | |