

October Parent Post



It's hard to believe that we are already nearly halfway through the Autumn Term! The children have been working hard, and it has been lovely to see them settling into their routines and making the most of their learning opportunities. Keep an eye on the 'News' page of our school website over the coming days to see highlights of what the children have been getting up to across all areas of the school this term.

We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 2nd November, ready for another busy and exciting half term.

Arbor App

You can now use Arbor to update your contact details, home address and your child's medical information, including any allergies. You can also report your child's absence directly through the app.

You can already view your child's attendance, and soon you'll also be able to keep track of their behaviour through Arbor as well. We're pleased to be making more features available to help keep you informed and connected with your child's school life.



Allergy Awareness

Our designated Allergy Lead is our Assistant Headteacher, Mrs Cheryl Thompson. If you have any questions or concerns relating to allergies, please contact Mrs Thompson via the school office, who will be happy to assist you. We are also working towards achieving the Allergy Trust Mark as part of our commitment to promoting allergy awareness and safety throughout our school.



Four Attendance Awards – A Fantastic Achievement!

We are delighted to share that our school has been awarded FOUR attendance awards in recognition of our pupils' excellent attendance and the improvements we have made as a school.

These awards celebrate our achievements during the 2025/26 academic year:

- Summer Term 2026 – National Award: Our attendance was in the top 25% of primary schools nationally.
- Summer Term 2026 – Similar Circumstances Award: Our attendance was in the top 10% of primary schools serving communities with similar levels of pupils eligible for Free School Meals.
- Whole Academic Year 2025/26 – Similar Circumstances Award: Our attendance across the full academic year was in the top 25% of primary schools in similar circumstances.
- Attendance Improvement – National Award: Our improvement in overall attendance from 2024/25 to 2025/26 was in the top 25% of primary schools nationally.

These awards are a wonderful achievement and reflect the importance of regular school attendance, alongside the support and commitment of our families and staff.

Thank you to all our parents and carers for your continued support in helping children attend school regularly and make the most of every learning opportunity. Every day in school makes a difference, and we are incredibly proud of what we have achieved together! 🌞

After School Clubs

A big thank you to all the children who have taken part in our after-school sports clubs this half term. We have loved seeing so many pupils getting involved and enjoying the opportunity to play.

We will be sending out new club sign-up forms soon, giving other children the opportunity to take part next half term. We are excited to be offering Boys' Football and a brand-new Girls' Football Club. ⚽

Collection will remain at the main school office at the usual time. If your child is permitted to walk home independently, you must email the school office to provide consent if you have not done so already.

Uniform

We would like to remind you of the importance of children arriving at school in the correct school uniform. We have noticed that some pupils have been coming into school (on their school uniform days) wearing non-uniform items, including hoodies, tracksuit bottoms and coloured trainers. Please ensure that children wear the correct school uniform in line with our school policy.

PE Reminders

As we head into the colder months, please can we remind you of a few important points to help children be ready for their PE lessons.

- Earrings: Please ensure earrings are removed before PE lessons. If they cannot be removed, they must be securely taped over.
- Keeping warm: As the weather gets colder, please ensure your child brings a black jumper, hoodie or sweatshirt for outdoor PE. Please make sure it is clearly labelled with their name so it can be returned if misplaced.
- PE days and kit: If you are unsure which days your child has PE, please visit the school website for the latest information: [PE Days and Kit – Ashmead School](#)

Sports Events and Fixtures

We would like to make you aware of our Sports Events and Fixtures page on the school website. This page will be regularly updated with results and highlights from school sports festivals, tournaments and other sporting events, giving you the opportunity to keep up to date with our sporting achievements and successes. Please visit the page using the link below to find out more:

[Ashmead School – School Clubs, Sports Events and Fixtures](#)

Road Safety Reminder - Stay Alert, Stay Safe!

We have been made aware of a concerning near-miss incident involving pupils walking near the school and the GP car park. Two pupils reportedly stepped into the road while looking at their mobile phones, apparently unaware of a vehicle turning into the car park. Thankfully, this was reported to us as a concern, but it is an important reminder of how easily accidents can happen when we are distracted.

Please could you take a few moments to remind children about the importance of staying alert and putting mobile phones away when crossing roads.

We encourage all pupils to:

- Stop, look and listen before crossing the road.
- Put their phones away and remove distractions when approaching or crossing a road.
- Use safe crossing points wherever possible.
- Stay aware of moving vehicles, including those entering and leaving car parks.

A moment of distraction can have serious consequences – please help us keep road safety a priority.

Head Lice - A Gentle Reminder

Head lice are common among school-aged children and can spread easily through close head-to-head contact. They are nothing to be embarrassed about and are not linked to poor hair hygiene.

We kindly ask that you check your child's hair regularly for head lice and live lice eggs (nits). If you discover head lice, please treat them promptly using an appropriate treatment and follow the instructions carefully. Please also check the hair of other family members.

Although we do not have a school policy requiring long hair to be tied up, we recommend that children with longer hair wear it tied back, particularly when cases of head lice are being reported. This may help reduce opportunities for head-to-head contact. 

Firework Safety: Keeping Our Families Safe

FIREWORK SAFETY

Keep everyone safe this fireworks season



CHOOSE SAFE DISPLAYS

Organised displays are usually the safest choice.



CHILDREN: WATCH FROM A SAFE DISTANCE

Only adults should handle or light fireworks.
Always supervise children.



NEVER GO BACK

Never return to a lit firework or relight one that fails to go off.



SPARKLER SAFETY

Sparklers are not for children under 5.
They get extremely hot.



LOOK AFTER PETS & NEIGHBOURS

Warn neighbours in advance. Keep pets indoors with a safe hiding place.



DISPOSE OF FIREWORKS SAFELY

Once cooled, soak used fireworks in water and follow local disposal advice.



READ THE FIREWORK CODE

www.gov.uk/guidance/my-safety-fireworks

Stay safe. Celebrate responsibly.



With Bonfire Night and other celebrations approaching, we would like to remind all families to enjoy fireworks safely and responsibly.

Please remember these important safety tips:

- **Choose organised displays where possible.** These are generally safer than setting off fireworks at home.
- **Keep children safe.** Fireworks should only be handled by adults. Children should always be supervised and kept at a safe distance.
- **Follow the Firework Code.** Buy fireworks only from reputable, licensed retailers, check the safety markings, read the instructions carefully and follow the recommended safety distances.
- **Never return to a lit firework.** Do not relight fireworks that fail to go off, throw fireworks or carry them in your pockets.
- **Take care with sparklers.** They become extremely hot. Never give them to children under five, and ensure older children are closely supervised.
- **Think of pets and neighbours.** Give neighbours advance notice where possible, consider quieter fireworks, and keep pets indoors with a safe place to hide.

- **Dispose of fireworks safely.** Allow used fireworks to cool, soak them thoroughly in water and follow local disposal guidance.

Please also remind children never to touch fireworks they find in the street or elsewhere.

Thank you for helping us keep our school community safe during the fireworks season.

Stay safe, look after one another and enjoy the celebrations responsibly!

For further advice, visit the official [GOV.UK Firework Safety guidance](http://GOV.UK/Firework%20Safety%20guidance).

Whiteboard Pen on School Uniform? We've Found the Answer! ✨



Does your child come home from school with whiteboard pen all over their uniform? Does it infuriate you when you think another t-shirt or jumper is ruined? 😞 Well, thanks to one of our amazing teaching assistants, we've discovered a little cleaning miracle... **Murphy Wood Cleaner!** 🧼 Apparently, it works wonders at removing those stubborn whiteboard pen marks! Who knew?! What a brilliant little tip to share with our parent community. Give it a try and see if it works for you.

Safety outside of school at the park

We are aware of several incidents at the park involving Key Stage 2 pupils, both before and after school. These have included unkind language, children being physical with each other and heated arguments. Please be aware that as a school, we cannot be responsible for children's behaviour at the park. We would encourage you to make sure that your children are supervised. If they are not, please do encourage them to share with you any concerns they have.

Kate's Garden Working Group

A massive thank you to all families who came to help in Kate's Garden last month. The pond area, beds and surroundings are looking amazing and are now ready for some new bulbs and seeds to be planted. The next stage of this project will be announced after half term.



Up and coming diary dates

Autumn Term

Friday 16th October – Break up for half term

Monday 2nd November – Return to school

Monday 2nd November - School Photos (school uniform only please)

Tuesday 3rd November - School Photos (school uniform only please)

Wednesday 4th November - Year 5 and 6 Quidditch

Thursday 5th November - Year 5 and 6 Quidditch

Monday 9th November - Year 3 and 4 Roman Day

Thursday 19th November - Parents Evening (Day 1)

Friday 20th November - Children in Need

Wednesday 25th November - Parents Evening (Day 2)

Thursday 3rd December - Twice Treasured Shop

Friday 4th December - Twice Treasured Shop

Friday 18th December – Autumn Term ends (2pm finish)

Spring Term

Monday 4th January – School starts for the spring term

Friday 12th February – Break up for half term

Monday 22nd February – Return to school

Thursday 4th March - World Book Day

Thursday 25th March – Spring Term ends (2pm finish)

Summer Term

Monday 12th April – School starts

Monday 3rd May – Bank Holiday

Monday 10th – Thursday 13th May – Year 6 SATs

Monday 24th - Friday 28th May 2027 - Year 6 Residential to Green Park PGL Centre

Friday 28th May – Break up for half term

Monday 7th June – Return to school

w/b 14th June – Year 1 Phonics Screening check and Year 2 re-takes

Tuesday 6th July - Transition Day

Wednesday 21st July – School finishes for the Summer Term (2pm finish)

In our November Parent Post, we hope to announce the term dates for 2027-2028.

Support in the Community

We are delighted to be taking part in the **Intergenerational JOY Project** with the Church of the Good Shepherd this academic year. The project provides a wonderful opportunity for all our Year 5 pupils to spend time with people from different generations, sharing experiences, learning from one another and, most importantly, having fun together. Through a range of activities and shared experiences, the children have been able to build new relationships and discover just how much different generations can learn from one another. It has been fantastic to



see the children engaging so positively and developing confidence through these interactions.

BTG
EXTRA

BRIDGE
the
GAP

Monthly drop-in café!
There will be free hot
drinks and a free lunch,
as well as guest agencies
in attendance, so come
along and join us!

Southcourt Baptist Church,
40, Penn Road,
Aylesbury, HP21 8HW
Phone 07768 566089

Drop-In Café
Wednesday
21st October



from 11.30am to 2pm
in the MAIN HALL