



Next Week – Week 1

School News and Notices

Updated Guidance on Self-Isolation

You may have seen news today that the Government has updated their guidance on the self-isolation period for close contacts which will be reduced from 14 days to 10 days. This is to take effect from Monday 14 December and is applicable to anyone who is currently self-isolating. We will be contacting any existing isolating students who now have a shortened isolation period, to ensure they know their revised date to return to school.

End of Term Arrangements

You may be aware that the DfE has suggested that if schools were concerned about their capacity to carry out Track and Trace in the first week of the school holidays, they might wish to close to students a day earlier than planned. However, to do so, we would have to replace the final day with an INSET day and add a full teaching day somewhere else in the calendar. This would, obviously, be very difficult - particularly at this late stage - and as such, **we will be sticking with our published term dates i.e. the final day will remain as Friday 18th December, finishing at 12.30pm.** Should we receive any further updates from the DfE, we will of course let you know as soon as possible.

Christmas Meal

While we are unable to serve a traditional Christmas lunch for the students next week, we will be serving Christmas themed fare, catering for all dietary requirements, across the whole week, with all the trimmings!

Ashlyns Futures

Thank you to all the parents who have offered to participate in our Careers interviews. We are very grateful for your support in giving our students an insight into the world of work and the variety of careers choices available to them. We are still looking for a few more volunteers specifically in the following areas; journalism, sports, music, healthcare, animal welfare, graphic design/digital media and science. If you have a spare 20 minutes to be interviewed on GoogleMeet in the New Year, please get in touch with rlambert@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk

Music Performance

Alongside our usual musical showcase events, such as the spring term recital and summer concerts, our young musicians are offered the opportunity to participate in our 'chill' concerts. These events are important in that they allow students to perform in front of a live audience in the Chapel and begin to develop their confidence and performance skills. Not to be thwarted by the current restrictions, our budding musicians took the opportunity to test themselves via a virtual 'chill' concert. Well done to all involved for combating nerves of live performance as well as being filmed at the same time. Please click here for the video

Safeguarding Part 1

Please click [here](#) for the Lives not Knives Newsletter from Herts Constabulary.

Safeguarding part 2

We have spoken to year groups in assembly this week about safety systems in place to protect them in school, and the consequences of tampering with fire safety equipment - where any student places the safety of others at risk, police are likely to be involved and the highest sanctions applied.

Key dates this half term:

- 18 December: Non-Uniform Day (Christmas Jumper Day)
- 18 December: Term Finishes 12.30pm

Attachments:

- ASA Christmas Tree Sale Flyer
- Festive Meals Poster

Attendance

Forms with the highest attendance week ending 04 December:

7C2 98.4%
8C1 99.1%
9H2 97.3%
10R2 98.1%

Tooled Up

Christmas is a time for being together with loved ones. This 'Covid Christmas', things might feel slightly different. How can we prepare as a family for the holiday period, so that everyone's needs are met and the time spent together is fun, fruitful and hopefully, stress-free? Click [here](#) to read Dr Weston's top ten 'conversations' that every family should have before the big day. For those of you who were unable to attend the live video talk by Kathy Weston on Wednesday, you can watch a recording of the event by clicking the following [link](#) which will be available for the next 14 days. If you haven't yet signed up for a Tooled Up account, click [here](#) to enter your email and choose your password. **PIN number 4989**

Music Lessons

If you would like to start music lessons next term please go to www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk to register. If you would like to stop lessons at February half term please email SchoolsDirectInvoicing@hertfordshire.gov.uk.

DSPL Courses

Please click [here](#) for a list of online parenting courses and support groups. Please click [here](#) for the DSPL Autumn newsletter.

Christmas break Covid arrangements

If your child tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) at any point during the Christmas break, please notify us as soon as possible so we can complete the relevant tracking and tracing process with public health, if required, and notify any other children or staff who have been close contacts and who need to self-isolate. During the holidays you should contact covid@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk – **this will only be monitored until Christmas Eve as after this point your child(ren) shouldn't be a close contact of anyone at the school.** Please don't call the normal absence line as this won't be covered during Christmas term.

Remember as soon as your child or any member of your household develops symptoms, they must start self-isolating immediately and book a test regardless of it being Christmas.

Main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- A loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If you're not sure whether symptoms suggest that they have COVID-19 or an everyday cough or cold, you can consult this online NHS symptom checker: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

Please do not send children back to school if any of the following apply:

- They have symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)
- They, any members of your household, or any close contacts (including extended family or friends they have seen and bubbles at holiday activities and sports clubs) have tested positive for COVID-19
- They haven't completed the full 10 day isolation period requested

Self-isolating is one of the most important things we can all do to help stop the spread of the virus and protect our loved ones and the vulnerable. You can read our helpful self-isolating guide at: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/selfisolatingguide

If you or your family are affected by COVID-19 and need support locally with things like shopping, getting medication or financial advice, visit: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/coronavirus

Hygiene Bank

Ashlyns contribution to the Hygiene Bank was a massive 188.45kg! With the help of Northchurch's donations we had a combined total 207.45kg. Outstanding contributions from 7R1, 7C2, 7H1, 9C2, 9B1 and 10C2.

Cross Country

The house competition saw more participants take part than any previous year with every student gaining important points for their House. All the students should be very proud of their efforts. Handel were the overall winners followed by Bourne in second place, Raven third and Coram fourth. The individual winners for each year group are as follows:

Y7

Olly C, Florence H, Jobe G, Rose M

Y8

Max H, Neomi F, Tam H, Emma R

Y9

Leon D, Phoebe G, Jacob T, Lucy B

Y10

Jake E, Indie F, Llewly H, Natalie C

Stationery Shop

Stationery items that were previously sold through the LRC are now available to purchase in the Shop Area of Wisepay. Please note that there is a minimum transaction value of 50p. Items will be available to collect from the LRC two working days after ordering.

Updated Policies

Please click [here](#) to see the updated Health and Safety Policy.

Current house points			
Bourne	Coram	Handel	Raven
16412	15915	15389	15433
1 st	2 nd	4 th	3 rd

11/12/2020

News from The ASA

CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE - draw date Monday 14th December (ticket buying closed at 3pm today)

The ASA and the Hamper team would like to say a huge THANK YOU to our school community for your support in buying raffle tickets, your generous donations, and also to our local businesses for their support.

GOOD LUCK TO EVERYONE FOR MONDAY'S DRAW

CHRISTMAS TREES - £7 for every tree sold goes to the ASA

If you haven't bought your tree, please consider buying from this pop-up who is supporting local schools, including Ashlyns, at no extra cost to you! Thank you.

SANTA SLEIGH - 22nd December

The ASA are once again supporting the Rotary Club's annual charity outing - thank you to our volunteers for assisting Santa on his rounds!

EASYFUNDRAISING - ADVENT CALENDAR - the EASY way to fundraise!

Don't forget to enter the daily draw - you could win a £250 donation each day for our school, and for every entry you make, you get a free entry into the Christmas Day Grand Prize Draw of £2000 for John Lewis PLUS £2000 for our school!! It's so easy - once you sign up, you'll get a reminder with a link to click to enter - and that's it!

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/advent-calendar/

POP UP

CHRISTMAS TREE SHOP

**Supporting
local schools &
Berkhamsted
Raiders CFC**

**Parking available
On sale 9am - 5pm**

**A great
selection
of sizes.**

**From only £20
On sale from
28th Nov -
18th Dec**

**Now
including
Non Drop
Nordmann
Fir**

**FIND US - The Old Mill,
London Road, Berkhamsted,
Herts HP4 2NB**



Swing Gate Lane

A4251 London Road

Cedar Road

Bank Mill Lane

**Non Contact
Local Delivery
Available
07751 323 485**



Berkhamsted Raiders CFC



JOIN US FOR

A WEEK OF *Christmas*



MON 14TH -
FRI 18TH

December



Join Us For Our Daily
Festive Meal Deals Only
£2.30

WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS!