

Next Week - Week 1

Reporting Covid Results

Positive, negative and void Lateral Flow Test results should be reported to both [NHS Test & Trace](#) and school via the [online form](#). If the result of the test is unclear (void) you should do another test.

Hayfever

As we are now entering hayfever season please could we ask that students take their medication before coming to school. If they need further medication during the day please email matron@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk with details.

Forgotten items

Please remind students they are responsible for remembering all their equipment each day; ask them to check their timetables so they can be prepared. Please avoid dropping items at reception as we would like to limit the number of visitors we are having to the school during the day.

Update on Process for Awarding of GCSE/A-Level Grades

Thank you to parents for their responses and feedback to the draft policy circulated last week. Year 11 and 13 parents and students have been updated today by separate letter (see link opposite).

Good Luck

...to our Year DofE Gold students completing their practice expedition this weekend!

Mental Health Survey

Partners from across the Hertfordshire mental health system (led by the Public Health team at Hertfordshire County Council) have worked together to develop a [short survey](#) for all parents/carers of children and young people living or being educated in Hertfordshire. It will help inform the provision of services and support across Herts. The survey is completely anonymous unless you choose to leave your email address at the end, and should take you around 10 minutes to complete.

Safeguarding

(1) Blocking out online sexual abuse

Many young people today are being contacted in their own homes via online platforms and apps and asked for sexual pictures and videos, while their parents and carers believe they are safe.

More and more sexual abuse material is created by offenders who coerce and groom children into sexual activities, often in children's own bedrooms and bathrooms. They then record this via webcams for live streaming services. It's know as 'self-generated' child sexual abuse imagery.

Key dates:

- 29 April: Y8 Online Parent-Teacher Consultation Evening
- 3 May: Bank Holiday, School closed
- 25th May: Y11 and Y13 whole-year-group photos
- 31 May: Half Term

Letters Out:

- [GCSE/A-Level Update](#)

Music Tuition:

If you wish to withdraw or change music lessons for September 2021, please email

SchoolsDirectInvoicing@hertfordshire.gov.uk by **MONDAY 17 MAY**. All other music tuition enquiries should go to musictuition@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk.

Attendance:

Forms with the highest attendance week ending 16 April:

7B2 99.4%
8C2 99.3%
9H2 99.6%
10C2 97.7%
11R2 100%

House Points:

Current house points			
Bourne	Coram	Handel	Raven
26789	27912	26802	27335
4 th	1 st	3 rd	2 nd

23/04/2021

In the last year, “self-generated” child sexual abuse imagery has increased by 77% and is a third of all child sexual abuse material identified and removed from the internet. These included images of girls aged 11 to 13 whose abuse had been recorded via a webcam in a domestic setting.

To help prevent the creation of this type of abusive imagery, a campaign has been launched by the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) backed by the Home Office and Microsoft. It aims to help raise awareness of this type of criminality among parents and carers of young teens, empower and educate girls aged 11 to 13+ to spot the techniques used by sexual predators and give them the knowledge to *Block, Report, Tell* someone they trust. It is a national campaign running from Wednesday 21 April for six weeks.

You can find out more on the [IWF website](#), as well as **specific sites for parents and young people**.

(2) YoungMinds Crisis Messenger

The YoungMinds Crisis Messenger text service provides free, 24/7 crisis support across the UK. If you are experiencing a mental health crisis and need support, you can text YM to 85258. The service aims to connect every texter to a trained volunteer promptly to provide crisis help. They will listen to you and help you think more clearly, enabling you to know that you can take the next step to feeling better. It is a confidential service and free on some networks (EE, O2, Three and Vodafone). [For more information click here](#).

(3) The Herts for Learning Summer Online Safety Newsletter

The newsletter can be found [here](#) and includes information on:

- digital 5 a day - digital safety wellbeing kit - Children’s Commissioner for England
- Ollee – ‘your helpful digital friend’ - Parent Zone and Children in Need
- what parents and carers need to know about WhatsApp (16+ age rating) – National Online Safety
- tips to keep children safe on Netflix - O2 and the NSPCC
- Net Aware – helping to keep children safe online - O2 and the NSPCC
- online safety activities you can do from home - Childnet

Tooled Up

Please follow this [link](#) to view information and resources from Dr Kathy Weston which also includes an invitation to a free webinar hosted by Kathy and *Tooled Up Education*.

After School Sports Clubs

Please click [here](#) for the new extracurricular clubs timetable.

Better with Breakfast

The benefits of eating a good breakfast are well documented and positively improve student cognitive function, on-task behaviour in lessons and academic performance. We are delighted to confirm our **Breakfast Club** is open from 07:50 - 08:20 in the Dining Hall, serving a variety of items to start the day well.

Aspire2Fitness:

Please click [here](#) for a great new joining offer from Aspire Gym.



House Competition Update

As we enter the final term, the House competition couldn't be closer. Having spent much of the year in the top spot, Bourne's precarious title challenge appears to have faltered in recent weeks and they have slid from glorious first to the foot of the leaderboard. Coram have retaken the familiar first place with a steady stream of merits, however they cannot rest on their laurels as Raven have shot up with a strong showing in the poetry competition and are hot on their heels in second place.

With just over a thousand points separating all four Houses it is still all to play for!

Please encourage your child to take part in as many House events as possible this term.

Summer Term			
Date	Event (Year Group)	Department	Person
April/May	Maths challenge	Maths	Mr Ma
May 10	Yr 7 Book Bake Off	LRC	Ms Lambert
May 17-21	Tug of War	PE	Mr Preston/PE Team
May/June	Geographer of the Year Awards	Geography	Mrs Lindop
June	Orienteering challenge (Yr 7-10)	N/A	Dr Fielding
June	Ashlyns Speaks (Yr 7-9)	English	Miss Khatun
June	Year 7 Castles Challenge	History	Mr Church
June 9	Year 9+10 Digital Escape Room	LRC	Ms Lambert
June	Sports Day	PE	Mr Preston/PE Team
June 28	Year 7 Book Charades	LRC	Ms Lambert
TBC	Technology challenge	Technology	Mr Nicholson
TBC	Art challenge	Art	TBC