



Next Week- Week 2

Attendance reporting procedures - to speed up the process of recording morning daily absence, late arrivals and appointments, and ensure we have accurate records of symptoms, we are now asking parents to report children's absence by 0830 each morning using our [online google form here](#) which can also be found on the school website. This form can also be used to report future absence e.g. dentist appointments.

Covid Flow Chart - please see the [flowchart](#) which summarises simply how attendance works should you have Covid symptoms.

Letter from the Headteacher

Please see a letter from the Headteacher [here](#).

Face coverings

Due to the environmental impact, we no longer provide free disposable masks. Reusable, washable masks are available to buy from the dining room each morning. These masks are £1 each, payable by cash.

Contingency Arrangements for Y11 and Y13 Examinations

Ofqual have provided [details of contingency arrangements](#) for accrediting qualifications should there be any interruption to external examinations next summer, along with an [open letter for students](#).

Safeguarding

(1) Following several incidents of students reporting being approached by a stranger on their journey to school, the driver has been identified and spoken to by the police. Well done and thank you to the vigilant students who reported this to us. Please contact the police if you have any further concerns via 101.

(2) County Lines: young people are being exploited, but it's not always obvious. The Children's Society have launched their [#LookCloser campaign](#), developed in partnership with the National County Lines Co-ordination Centre and British Transport Police, and encourages everyone to learn the signs of child exploitation and how to report it.

Parental communication with school

As a school, we have very high standards in all aspects of school life. Pivotal to those standards is the Behaviour Policy put in place by the Governing Board. Staff have a duty to apply that policy fairly to all students and should a student not meet the standard, we ask that parents work with us as outlined in our [Home-School Agreement](#). Sometimes, as a parent, you may not agree with a decision and we are always willing to listen if you think that we are getting something wrong. We thank parents for being courteous and respectful at all times and refraining from using confrontational or aggressive language when you talk to us on the telephone, in reception, or at the front of school. We ask the same if you are leaving a telephone message or communicating via email or text message.

Key Dates

- 19 Nov: Y11 trial exams and study leave begin
- 26 Nov: Occasional Day, school closed
- 29 Nov: INSET day, school closed to students

Communications

- Letter from The Headteacher
- [Sixth Form Covid Measures](#)
- [Year 11 Trial Exams](#)

Attendance

Forms with the highest attendance w/e 05 Nov:

- 7B3 100.0%
- 8B2 97.7%
- 9R2 97.7%
- 10C2 96.7%
- 11H2 100.0%

House Points

Current house points			
Bourne	Coram	Handel	Raven
13241	11654	11236	11536
1 st	2 nd	4 th	3 rd

12/11/2021

Vacancies

- Sport and Fitness Leader: *Aspire2Fitness*
 - Fitness Instructor/Gym Administrator x2: *Aspire2Fitness*
 - Premises Site Assistant
 - Teaching Assistant 30hrs
 - Teaching Assistant 18hrs
- For full details please click [here](#)**

Sanitary Products

Matron has a large supply of free sanitary products for students to use.

Can we remind parents that, as part of our Covid control measures, parents should not visit the site except by prior appointment. Further [guidance on communications can be found here](#).

Hertfordshire local offer The *local offer* lets parents and young people know what special educational needs and disabilities services are available in Hertfordshire, and who can access them. It's available on the following [link](#).

School SEND Report

The school [SEND report is available here](#) on the school website. Its purpose is to give you an overview of how we can support your child and you if your child has additional needs that require a special response. Thank you to those parents who co-produced this with us in the summer term.

Accessing reception during trial exams

From Friday 19th December, parents and visitors will not be able to access the reception car park area of school for drop-off/parking between 0820 and 0900, to allow Year 11 students to assemble and use this area prior to entry into trial exam rooms. Thank you in advance.

Careers

Last half-term, students in years 7, 8 and 9 were introduced to Unifrog, an online careers resource which gives students the opportunity to research and explore possible careers. They will return to this in tutor-time each term, but they are also able to access this from home via the tile on RM Unify.

If your child is interested in a career in technology, software engineering or languages, the UK intelligence services offer opportunities for school leavers and degree apprenticeship roles. Career information for MI5 can be found [here](#), MI6 [here](#) and GCHQ [here](#).

Year 11 Parents

On Thursday, 25th November, Year 11 students have the opportunity to attend the third of Dr van der Spoel's virtual sessions to help with revision strategies and techniques. This session is on 'organisation' and should help students organise their revision and time. The session starts at 5pm and lasts for half an hour. This has been publicised to students on Google Classroom; if your child has not yet signed up and you would like them to attend, [please click here](#).

Sports Results

Y11 Boys Football vs John Warner	Lost 2-1
Y10B Boys Football vs Astley Cooper	Won 8-1
Y9&10 Netball vs Longdean	Y9 Won 10-8, Y10 Won 16-6
Y10A Boys Football vs Hemel	Postponed
U14 Girls Football vs Tring	2-2 Won on penalties
Y7B Football vs Nicolas Breakspeare	Won 8-1
U18 Boys Football vs Aldenham	Lost 2-1
Y9 Boys Football vs Longdean	Lost 7-4
Y7B Netball vs Adeyfield	Postponed
Y8A Boys Football vs John Hampden	Postponed

Mumps

We have been notified of a possible case of mumps in the school.

For more information about mumps, please see the [NHS website here](#).

If you have any concerns about this, please call NHS Direct on 111, or contact your GP.

Music Lessons

If you wish to withdraw or change music lessons for the Summer Term 2022, please email

SchoolsDirectInvoicing@hertfordshire.gov.uk by **MONDAY 31st JANUARY**.

Follow us on Twitter:

[@Ashlyns_School](#)

From the ASA

CRAFT FAIR - cancelled

With much sadness and regret, we have been advised by HCC Covid Team that the Craft Fair should not go ahead under the current covid situation. The health and safety of our volunteers, staff and students, as well as our stallholders and visitors, are paramount. We know many of you were looking forward to this annual fundraiser, so please continue to support our local businesses by shopping local, and take a look at the list of stallholders on our Craft Fair Facebook page to shop direct with them. We want to thank our volunteers for their help so far on this event, and the businesses who have supported the ASA through advertising with us.

Christmas Wreath

Making - Friday 10th and Saturday 11th December: details to follow.

Science Competition with the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory

This year, the STFC Rutherford Appleton Laboratory will again be running a School Science Prize for students in Years 7, 8 and 9. Everyone who enters will receive an e-certificate, and the overall winner will receive an Amazon Fire 7 tablet. To enter, please upload entries (in .doc, .docx, .pdf, .odt or .txt format) on our [entry form](#). Please make sure that the name and school of the entrant is in the text of the entry, and that the file name is in the format "LastName-FirstName". For example, if the student's name is Sam Smith, and their entry is a pdf, the file should be named "SmithSam.pdf".

Evening Science Talks (virtual)

Please see these talks run by Scientists and Engineers from the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory and the Daresbury Laboratory during December. They are interesting topics and accessible for the age groups specified, or for all!

[Astronomy Talks – Missions to Near Earth Asteroids; Monday 22 November 19:00](#)

[Talking Science – The Science of Dr Who \(age 12+\); Tuesday 23 November 18:00, by Karl Byrne](#)

[Talking Science – Marvellous microbes for plastics pollution \(age 12+\); Friday 26 November 19:00, by Dr Joanna Sadler \(University of Edinburgh\)](#)

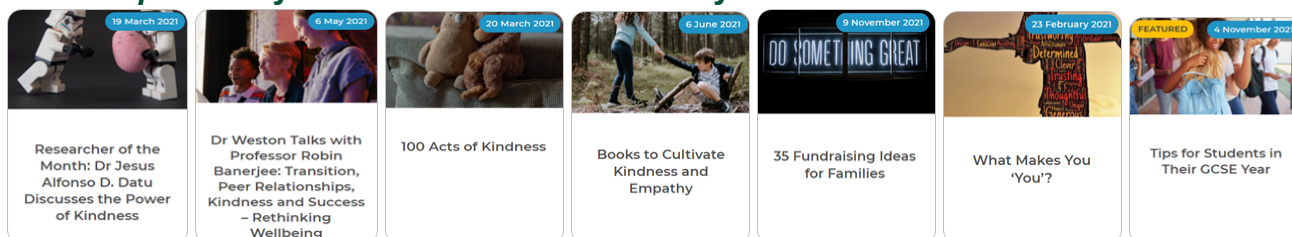
[Astronomy Talks – Black holes in the Universe: where, what, and why?; Monday 6 December 19:00](#)

[Talking Science – The James Webb Space Telescope: Preparing for launch; Friday 17 December 19:00, by Paul Eccleston \(Chief Engineer, RAL Space\) and Dr Stephen Wilkins \(University of Sussex\)](#)

LRC Great British Book Bake Off

On **Monday 15 November** the LRC will be hosting our popular book-themed baking competition for Year 7 students. We are looking for cake creations in the form of a favourite book, character or scene. Your cake can be in any form such as tray bakes, biscuits, cupcakes etc. Cakes need to be delivered to the LRC before registration on Monday morning with the prize giving ceremony at lunchtime at 1.45pm in the hall. There are lots of amazing prizes to be won along with House points for each entry. **Ready, steady, bake..!**

Tooled Up at Ashlyns - resources from Dr Kathy Weston



- It's World Kindness Day on Saturday; listen to [Dr Jess Datu](#) and [Professor Robin Banerjee](#) about the power of kindness
- How many of our [100 Acts of Kindness](#) can your family tick off between now and the end of term?
- Try one of our [family friendly fundraising ideas](#) for a cause close to your heart
- Help your children to notice their own kindness by completing our self-esteem building activity, [What Makes You You?](#) We have also compiled a [list of books to help cultivate kindness and empathy](#) for young people of all ages.
- Embarking on GCSEs? Watch this [video](#) with your child, full of tips on organisation, revision and planning, which they can put to good use in the run up to the school holidays.
- Our Mental Health Education Week starts on November 15th. There are still a few places left on our exclusive evening webinars with expert clinicians. [Book today.](#)

Donations

Please keep your [Christmas Hamper](#) and Drink and Chocolate Tombola donations coming in as soon as possible as we are currently extremely short of donations and we need to start our preparations to ensure a successful event. Please see the [flyer](#) for details of what is required and where they can be donated and the flyer will also enable you to purchase some raffle tickets

Please also continue your [Bag2School](#) donations as detailed on the attached flyer

Volunteers

We are now actively looking for volunteers to help with the Craft Fair, Craft Fair Cafe and the Festival of Light Tombola. Please sign up if you have received a Genius invite, or email into the ASA to express an interest of helping.