

Next Week- Week 1

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.

The Great British Book Bake-Off

Our Year 7 students were all 'Star Bakers' this week creating a stunning variety of cakes for our LRC Great British Book Bake-Off. This popular annual event at Ashlyns tasks the students to create a cake in the shape of their favourite book or character. The LRC was turned into the Book Bake-Off tent, where 48 cakes were on display including *Harry Potter*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *The Maze Runner* and *Mary Poppins*. Students won book prizes and specially-designed Book Bake-Off wooden spoons and aprons. Well done to all the students who entered.



Accessing reception during trial exams

From **Friday 19th November**, 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.

Year 11 trial exams

Well done to Year 11 who have made an excellent start to their GCSE trials today - and thank you to students in other years for helping maintain quiet around exam areas.

Punctuality

A polite reminder that students should be arriving on site by 0830, to ensure they are on time for morning registration at 0835, and to avoid consequences for lateness.

Bedrock

With over 300,000 students using Bedrock across the UK, one of our dedicated students has been selected for their consistent completion of lessons.

We are thrilled to announce that Milo G has won a £10 Amazon voucher for his hard work and dedication to Bedrock.

Key Dates

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

Communications

- [Use of Social Media, Y7](#)

Attendance

Forms with the highest attendance, w/e 12 Nov:

- 7C2 97.5%
- 8B1 98.7%
- 9C2 97.5%
- 10B2 99.3%
- 11B2 98.2%

House Points

Current house points

Bourne	Coram	Handel	Raven
15260	13431	12833	13389
1 st	2 nd	4 th	3 rd

19/11/2021

Vacancies

- Premises Site Assistant
- Teaching Assistant 30hrs
- Teaching Assistant 18hrs

For full details please click [here](#)

Vaccinations

The remaining covid vaccinations are taking place on Tuesday, please see [this letter](#) for more information.

Sanitary Products

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

Face coverings

Due to the environmental impact, we no longer provide

There are more chances to win prizes in this half term's Bedrock Stars Prize Draw. All you need to do is earn 140 points before December 19th!

Careers

If your child is interested in a creative career in the video games industry, Pearson College London is hosting a virtual *Game Art Careers* evening on Monday 22 November at 6pm. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the industry and how to establish a career. Special guest speakers include *Creative Assembly*, the multi-award winning BAFTA UK game studio behind *Total War*, *Alien: Isolation* and *Halo Wars 2*. Details on how to sign-up can be found [here](#).

This week, Year 10 students had the opportunity to participate in a virtual careers event with Warner Bros Studios. The interactive event gave students an insight into film production using artefacts from *Harry Potter*, and covered the different roles available in the film industry including Script Editor, Location Manager, Production Designer, Concept Artist, SFX and Costume Designer.

Swan Youth Project

The Swan Youth Project in Berkhamsted have asked us to share two exciting job opportunities; one for [Deputy Manager](#) and the other for a [Youth Worker](#). Click on the links for job details and how to apply. The closing date for applications is November 30th.

Safeguarding

(1) The National Sleep Helpline

[The National Sleep Helpline](#) helps anyone with sleep issues including adults, parents and young people. The helpline is available from 7pm and 9pm, Sunday to Thursday on 03303 530 541. Having a sleep issue is surprisingly common. At any given time this affects up to 40% of adults and 50% of children (this rises to 80% with a SEND diagnosis).

(2) School Age [victim] Robbery

The Met Police are running a campaign to reduce street robberies involving school aged-children, by raising awareness of [Fearless](#), the youth brand of the independent charity Crimestoppers. *Fearless* provides young people access to non-judgemental information and advice about crime and criminality. They provide a safe place to give information about crime 100% anonymously.

Mobile phone use, including use of earphones on the go, can unfortunately make young people more at risk of street robbery. The campaign aims to raise awareness of the risk of street robbery and increase understanding by equipping young people with crime prevention advice.

(3) Anti-Bullying Week

This week we have been discussing with students the theme of this year's anti-bullying week, *One Kind Word*, alongside conducting our Anti-Bullying survey across Years 7-9.

We encourage students to speak out if they witness, or are a victim of, hurtful behaviour or bullying, or simply 'check in' with people if they are concerned that the behaviour of others is having a negative impact on them. We have always taken bullying very seriously, whether online or face-to-face, and expect our students to respect each other and be kind. [Please click here to read a useful guide](#). Please take some time to read through this as it is specifically designed for parents. It would be very useful if you could engage in conversations about bullying at home, and of course, let us know of any concerns you may have.

free disposable masks. Reusable, washable masks are available to buy from the dining room each morning. These masks are £1 each, payable in cash.

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**.

From the ASA Donations, Donations, Donations, Please

The ASA is now desperate for your donations - the following events all rely on your generosity.

The events which you can support through your donations are:

[Bag2School](#) – Unwanted clothes and accessories
**LAST DAY TO DONATE:
Tuesday 30th November**

Festival of Light Tombola –
Drinks and chocolates
**LAST DAY TO DONATE:
Friday 26th November**

[Christmas Hamper](#) –
Themed donations - **Food from around the world, Treat Yourself, Garden and Outdoors and Christmas**
**LAST DAY TO DONATE:
Friday 10th December**

Christmas Wreath Kits -
back by popular demand!
You can place your wreath-making kit orders via email to the ASA. Deadline to order is Friday 26th Nov, with collection will be on Saturday 11th Dec. [See flyer - please ensure you let us know all the details we need!](#)

DSPL8 Compassion and Resilience

DSPL8 have commissioned *Bounce Forward* to deliver a series of three, 60-minute online sessions that will explore compassion in a way that is practical, thought provoking and in the context of helping children to develop resilience, enabling them to thrive now and in the future. Click [here](#) to register for your **free** place.

Volunteers

The ASA is looking for volunteers for its ever popular tombola at this year's Berkhamsted Festival of Lights on Sunday 28 November. If you can spare some time please sign up via [this link](#).

Transgender Awareness Week

This week marks the annual Transgender Awareness Week, which runs every year. It exists to educate and inform the public about the issues faced by trans, non-binary and gender-diverse people, and to promote tolerance and respect towards all genders. It is worth noting that about 1% of the UK's population has been identified as transgender. According to a 2020 survey, four in five people who identify as transgender are the victims of hate crimes. When it comes to reducing transphobia, it's always important to educate yourself and others. Further information for students and parents can be found [here](#).

We are also delighted that our **Student Equality Ambassadors** are available on Mondays and Wednesdays, with staff supervision, to be a listening ear for students with any issues around identity, friendships, bullying, social media or who simply want to chat.

Tooled Up at Ashlyns - resources from Dr Kathy Weston

Thanks to everyone who has attended our exclusive webinars for Mental Health Awareness Week, with leading experts from the world of mental health. If you missed them,, keep your eye on the Tooled Up library as we'll be publishing some recordings and notes soon.

Upcoming webinars and resources:

- 25th November at 8pm: Claire Harvey sharing evidence relating to mental health for LGBTQ+ teens and how to ensure that teens have good self-esteem and a great support network.
- 13th December: Dr Joy Rosenberg (Oxford Audiology Solutions) - building resilience in children who are Deaf. [Book your free places now!](#)
- [Podcast with Professor William Pickett and Professor Wendy Craig on cyberbullying.](#)

