



Next Week, after half term - Week 2

The Headteacher's end of half term letter can be found [here](#).

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.

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

Duke of Edinburgh - Year 10

Congratulations to the 85 students who participated in last weekend's DofE Bronze expedition, hiking across the Chilterns. The external assessors were very impressed with our students' commitment, teamwork and positive mindset.

LRC Harry Potter Event

Yesterday our Year 7's were transported to Hogwarts for a fun-filled afternoon of Harry Potter activities. The scene was set with Professor Harvey performing a reading from the Philosopher's Stone with a cascade of magical sparks. Each student received their own bespoke wand from Ollivanders which they had great fun decorating. Some spell-duelling with Mr McDonald followed and students got to test their Harry Potter knowledge in a hotly contested Hogwarts Quiz, winning fantastic book prizes at the end of the evening.



Lost property and uniform labelling

Sadly we continue to receive lots of lost property that is unmarked and unclaimed. Please would parents ensure that all items of clothing (PE kit, coats, ties, blazers, shoes, trainers) are labelled with names. If unlabelled items are handed in, they will be kept for a short period of time before they are recycled if unclaimed.

Y7 Maths Club

Year 7 fun maths club is starting after half term in room 86 on a Thursday lunchtime. Students should see Miss G Kershaw with any questions.

Parent Forum

Our Parent Forum meets virtually in the evening once per term; we are grateful to our existing parents on the forum for giving up this time, and providing us with very helpful feedback on various strategic items. If you might be interested in joining the Parent Forum, please contact Fiona Thompson on ftompson@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk who can give you more information.

Key Dates

- 25 Oct: Half Term
- 1 Nov: Back to School
- Thurs 4 Nov: Y12 PTC (online)
- 19 Nov: Y11 trial exams begin
- 21 Nov: ASA Craft Fair
- 26 Nov: Occasional Day, school closed
- 29 Nov: INSET day, school closed to students

Attendance

Forms with the highest attendance w/e 15 Oct:

7B3 99.3%
 8H2 98.6%
 9C2 99.3%
 10C2 96%
 11H1 98.5%

House Points

Current house points			
Bourne	Coram	Handel	Raven
9787	8827	8259	8672
1 st	2 nd	4 th	3 rd

22/10/2021

Vacancies

- Lead Cover Supervisor
- Foreign Language Assistant
- (KS5) Sixth Form Administrator
- Sport and Fitness Leader
- Fitness Instructor/Gym Administrator - Aspire2fitness

For full details please click [here](#)

Follow us on Twitter:

[@Ashlyns_School](https://twitter.com/Ashlyns_School)



Careers Carousel

As part of our Year 9 Careers Carousel programme, this week we were joined by Swarco UK Ltd who delivered an interview skills session followed by mock interviews for our students. The opportunity provided an insight into the different types of interview scenarios, how to prepare and research beforehand and how to answer interview questions. Our thanks to Swarco UK Ltd for their time in making this event possible.

LRC Author Event with Peter Bunzl

Our Year 7 students recently had the chance to meet the author Peter Bunzl. The inspiring presentation covered Peter's journey as an author; from his childhood interest in writing and producing his own comics, to his initial career in animation and his life-long love of storytelling. Peter explained his inspiration for his *Cogheart* book series; how his interest in clockwork automaton models and the Victorian-era led him to develop such evocative characters and settings. Peter commented: *It was a real pleasure to visit Ashlyns and talk to the students in the beautiful chapel and to have such thoughtful questions about what it takes to be an author.'*

LRC Creative Writing Competition

The LRC recently ran a creative 500-word spooky writing competition for Year 7. We had a fantastic selection of stories; the short-listed winners had their work performed by our English department at a lunchtime Halloween event. Congratulations to Ella D, Jaya C, Cora B, Caiden F, Kolbi B, Carolina B R

Bedrock Vocabulary

If your child is in Years 7, 8 or 10, please encourage them to take part in our Bedrock Half Term Challenge, where they can work on their vocabulary and earn merits at the same time! Details are available for students on Google Classroom.

Consultation on proposed admission arrangements for 2023-24

Ashlyns School will be consulting on its admission arrangements for 2023-24 from 1 November to 12 December 2021. The proposed admission arrangements can be viewed [HERE](#); they have been designed to ensure children living in the parishes of Berkhamsted and Northchurch are able to secure a place at their local school.

If you have any comments regarding our proposals, please submit them via email to: admissions@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk.

The Governors of Ashlyns School will determine the admission arrangements for 2023-24 by 28 February 2022.

Safeguarding

(1) Dacorum Family Services

Dacorum Family Services are offering a [parenting workshop](#) to parents/carers across the whole DFS North & East Partnership area. These workshops will be held virtually via zoom and facilitated by two of the School Family Workers. For more information on dates and times please click [here](#).

(2) Holiday support and advice

A reminder that students can access support services (Kooth free on-line confidential counselling, Chat Health etc) using links available via their RMuUnify log-in.

Music Lessons

The timetables are posted on Google Classroom (class code nq4d5yw); they are also up on the Music block notice board. You can register for music lessons via [their website](#). Any queries regarding music lessons please email musictuition@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk

Sanitary Products

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

ASA

Donations Required: Bags2School

We have our 3rd collection planned for early December and donations can be made from the 1st November, so please take time to clear out those unwanted items and donate them to a truly great cause and make room for those new items that Santa will be delivering to you. For full details [please see the attached flyer](#).

Christmas Hampers

We are again organising our Christmas Hamper Raffle this year and are looking for your good quality donations for the themes. [For full details please see the attached flyer](#). Donations can also be brought in by students (there will be a donation point in reception) as well as at the Craft Fair. Please indicate which theme they are for.

Festival of Light Tombola

We are lucky enough to have secured a stall at the Festival of Light on Sunday 28th November and are planning to run a Chocolate and Drink Tombola, so need your good quality donations of all kinds of chocolate and bottles of

Sixth Form Information:

Every week in the Sixth Form we provide our Year 12 and 13 students with a wide variety of extracurricular activities that enhance their learning experience and provide them with opportunities to explore different careers and communicate with people who work in a variety of employment fields. Some examples of these are included here:

- Speakers for Schools provide virtual talks with inspiring people from the world of business, the arts, and politics. Here is a [link](#) to their up-coming broadcasts.
- Two events coming up to support University and Degree Apprenticeships applications - [National Apprenticeship Fair](#) 10th November 2021 11am-6pm - Virtual Event
[UKHEX](#) (Higher Education opportunities information from Universities across the UK) Fair 24th November 2021 11am-6pm - Virtual Event.
- Interested in Law? - [Virtual Work Experience with BrowneJacobson](#), Wednesday 27th October, 9am - 4pm. [The Inner Temple](#) is offering five free events to Years 12/13.
- Interested in medicine? - [Hertfordshire Health Academy Virtual Nursing Event](#), 27th & 28th October - find out about HPFT NHS Trust, values & services as well as hear first-hand about Learning Disability Nursing & Mental Health Nursing. Online '[Get into Medicine](#)' conference.
- Interested in criminology? - join the University of Plymouth's Crime Scene Investigation: Operation Tandem from Monday 8th November. Fill in the [application form](#).
- Interested in media and journalism? - The Telegraph are offering Year 12 students the opportunity to take part in a 4 week online programme learning about journalism and many other Media roles.

Sports Fixtures, results

Date	Year	Sport	Opposition	Result
15 Oct	Y8 A	ESFA Cup Football	Brampton	L 0-1
18 Oct	Y9A	Netball	Tring	L 5-28
19 Oct	Y8	Rugby	Tournament	4th
20 Oct	Y11A	Netball	Longdean	W16-10
20 Oct	Senior	Netball	Longdean	L 6-21
20 Oct	Y7	Rugby	Tournament	2nd

Tooled Up at Ashlyns



16 October 2021

Online Safety: Using Parental Controls



FEATURED 4 October 2021

Cultivating Good Gaming Habits: Tips for Parents



11 December 2020

50 Questions to Ask Your Teen about Their Digital Diet



21 December 2020

Family Digital Values

As the half term holiday begins and children are likely to be online more often, it's a good time to brush up on internet safety in our homes. This week, we've

drinks that will help make this a huge success and excellent fundraiser for the school. Donations can be made from the 1st November at the same addresses that are detailed on the [Christmas Hamper Flyer](#) or at the [Craft Fair](#). Please note students cannot bring in any alcohol.

A huge thank you to you all, your help really makes a difference.

Volunteers Needed

As we head into our busy Christmas and end of year fundraising activities these can not be completed without volunteer help which we totally rely on. Please keep an eye out for requests to help and please sign up where you can, even an hour really helps. Thank you so much.

Rotary Club Firework Display

The Rotary firework event will be held on Saturday 6th November; tickets are on sale now and can be purchased from the Ashlyns school office. Tickets cost £8 for adults, £5 for children and £22 for a family ticket; prices are higher on the night so it is worth buying in advance. Please pay with correct cash or cheques made payable to RCBB.

added a [new resource](#) summarising instructions for parental control settings on major devices and operating systems. Take a look and check that your children are protected from adult and inappropriate content. If gaming can feel like a battleground, it's also worth reading our tips on [cultivating good gaming habits](#). They will help to ensure that gaming is fun and beneficial, rather than a source of conflict. We've also got a list of [questions](#) to kickstart important chats about digital life and a useful template for initiating discussions about your [family's digital values](#), as well as numerous podcast interviews on subjects connected to internet safety. Simply take a look at our [digital life](#) category to find out more.

Our Mental Health Education Week, exclusively for the Tooled Up community, is drawing ever closer. Get ready for a week of evening webinars starting on November 15th, all of which are open for registration. Find out more and book on the [Tooled Up Education homepage](#) now!