



## Next Week- Week 1

### First Week in Jan - 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.

Please see page 3 below for a message from Herts County Council

### Lateral Flow Test Kits

Please remind your children that test kits are available to collect from their form tutors at registration. Please make sure they take enough to test twice a week throughout the Christmas break.

### Careers in Sport

On Tuesday 18 January, Harvey Grout, Founder of Careers in Sport, will be delivering a presentation to our Year 9 and 10 students. The presentation will provide an overview of the diverse professions in the sport and fitness industry and highlight the skills and qualifications required. Please discuss this opportunity with your child and complete the form [here](#) to register your interest. Please note that each session has a limited capacity and once reached the form will close. You will receive an email confirmation if your child has been allocated a place or whether they are on a waiting list.

### Food Pantry

Thank you for all the generous donations for the food pantry, this will make a huge difference to local families. If you have not had the chance to donate, and would like to, the last day for donations is Monday, thank you.

### Student Achievements

Well done to Indie F, Y11, who competed in the South England Athletics Association Cross Country as part of an 8-strong team representing Hertfordshire. There were 95 runners and Indie came 9th overall. Within the Herts team she came 2nd and Herts came 2nd overall as a team.

After a successful season so far at Tottenham Hotspur, Eloise H, Y10, has been formally referred to the England Girls Talent Programme by both Tottenham and the scouting network of the English FA. This programme identifies and prepares talented young players with the potential to become a senior Lioness.

### Wellbeing Newsletter

Please click [here](#) for this half-term's Wellbeing Works newsletter, written and produced by our dedicated 6th Form Wellbeing Ambassador team.

### Key Dates

- 21 Dec: Last day of term, 12.30 finish for students; Christmas Jumper Day, non-uniform (Christmas Jumper optional)
- 5 Jan: Return for Y7,11, 12 & 13 Please click [here](#) for staggered times
- 6 Jan: Return for Y8,9 & 10. Please click [here](#) for staggered times.

### Attendance

Forms with the highest attendance, w/e 10 Dec:

- 7H1 100%
- 8H1 97%
- 9C2 97.5%
- 10B2 97.5%
- 11B1 96.2%

### House Points

The final Autumn term results will be shared with students on Tuesday.

### Vacancies

#### Support Staff

- [ICT Support Technician Apprentice](#)
- [Premises Site Assistant Temporary Contract](#)
- [Premises Assistant Permanent Full Time](#)
- [Aspire2Fitness Gym Administrator \(casual post\)](#)
- [Aspire2Fitness Gym Instructor/Administrator](#)
- [Learning Mentor \(Temporary\)](#)

#### Teaching Staff

- [Deputy Headteacher \(Pastoral\)](#)
- [Teacher of Spanish and French](#)
- [Head of Science Faculty](#)
- [Teacher of Science \(part time\)](#)
- [Head of English Faculty](#)

## Reporting Student Achievements

We'd be delighted to hear of notable achievements your children have gained outside of our school environment. Whether it's sport-based, theatrical or musical, a selfless contribution towards a charity, a personal hurdle overcome or something else, we'd like to hear about it. Please fill out [this form](#) with the details and the achievement will be shared on a display in school.

## Covid Vaccination

Herts County Council are encouraging parents and carers to book an appointment for their child at a vaccination centre. You can [book online](#) or by calling 119.

There is also a wide range of walk-in options at vaccination sites across the region for adults and some specific clinics for young people. Please check which sites are running clinics for young people on the website before you book. You can find times and addresses [here](#). Young people, parents and carers can find more information about COVID-19 vaccinations [here](#).

## Safeguarding

The Children's Commissioner has this week released [a parent guide on how to talk to your child](#) about sexualised bullying and the pressures of growing up online. The report brought together a group of 16–21 year-olds and asked them to explain what they think parents should know, and what they should say to their children when talking about these issues: what their parents and carers did and said that was helpful when they were younger...and what wasn't. The report emphasises that::

- Over half of 11–13-year-olds have already seen pornography.
- Many children view porn unintentionally for the first time – 62% of 11–13-year-olds say that their viewing of porn was mostly or more unintentional.
- Parents' perceptions of how much porn their children are watching does not match the reality: only 25% of parents think that their child has seen porn – compared to 53% of children who have.

**We would encourage all parents to read the guide.**

## Tooled Up at Ashlyns

With Christmas just around the corner, you might like to take a look at our seasonal resources, designed to help make the holidays progress smoothly.

- [50 Ways to Bond with Your Child Over Christmas](#)
- Christmas screen time [article](#) and [podcast](#)
- If your children divide their time between two homes, we also have some great tips about managing the festive season from [Dr Reenee Singh](#).

Our library of resources has doubled in size in the last 12 months and we now have almost 350 evidence-based resources for you to enjoy.

- [100 Ideas to Try if You Feel Bored](#)
- [Boosting children's self-esteem](#)
- [Cultivating kindness](#).

## From The ASA: Treasurer Vacancy

The ASA is urgently looking for a co-Treasurer to share the role with our current Treasurer, to start as soon as possible. No financial experience is required - just good excel and organisational skills needed. You will be guided with a full handover and support from the current Treasurer and Trustees. For further details or to apply, please email the ASA. We really need to fill this part-time role asap, and the support of our Treasurers enables us to carry on our vital fundraising. [asa@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk](mailto:asa@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk).

## Christmas Wreaths

Thank you to everyone who supported this fundraiser - please don't forget to share your wreath photos on our FB page.

## Christmas Hampers

Mr. Shapland has drawn the 15 lucky hamper winners this morning - winners will be notified today if they have been lucky enough to win one of our lovely hampers. Many thanks to everyone who donated and bought tickets, and to our Hamper Team - David, Liz and the hamper elves - in preparing the hampers which have raised an amazing £2500 for the school!

## Thank you

We would like to say a huge thank you to all our volunteers for your help with the events we have been able to run this year, and to our school community for your support. We wish all our families a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year!

## Message from Hertfordshire County Council:

As we head into the festive season, we'd like to say thank you for continuing to play your part in the fight against COVID-19 and helping to keep yourselves and others safe.

We are all looking forward to spending time with friends and family this year, there are simple steps you can take to help make this festive period as safe as possible and reduce the risk of you and your family catching and spreading COVID-19:

- Get vaccinated - Vaccination continues to offer the best protection for ourselves and others around us from becoming seriously ill from COVID-19. You can also now get your booster three months after your second dose, to book this and any COVID-19 vaccinations, visit: [www.nhs.uk/covidvaccination](http://www.nhs.uk/covidvaccination)  
Young people aged 12-17 yet to receive their COVID-19 vaccination(s) can find out more and book at: <https://covid.healthierfuture.org.uk/vaccine-information-for-young-people>
- Test regularly – 1 in 3 people with COVID-19 don't display symptoms. Regular rapid testing at home can help to prevent transmission. Find out all the ways to get home test kits (LFD tests) at: [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/rapidtest](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/rapidtest)  
From 14 December, all adults who are fully vaccinated and children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 by NHS Test and Trace – whether Omicron or not – should take a lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days instead of self-isolating.
- Stay at home – if you have symptoms stay at home and book or order a PCR test online at: [www.nhs.uk/get-tested](http://www.nhs.uk/get-tested)  
If you test positive you must self-isolate for the required period and not have people visit you at home. There is support available to help people who need it to self-isolate, call HertsHelp on 0300 123 4044, email [info@hertshelp.net](mailto:info@hertshelp.net) or visit [www.hertshelp.net](http://www.hertshelp.net)

Finally, please don't send children back to school in January if they have symptoms. Hertfordshire's childcare, nurseries, schools and colleges are working so hard to keep our communities safe and reduce disruption to children's learning and development so let's all work together to help them and each other.