



Next week- Week 2

Attendance reporting procedures Please report children's absence by 08:30 each morning using our [online google form](#) which can also be found on the school website. This form should also be used to report future absence e.g. dentist appointments.

Industrial Action

You will no doubt be aware, through national media coverage, that the National Union for Education is intending to take industrial action later this term.

This action is not against the school itself, but is part of national, industrial action organised by the NEU.

The proposed dates of the action vary by region, but will affect our area on 1 February, 1 March, 15 March and 16 March. We will, of course, endeavour to remain open to as many students as possible. However, I would like to give parents notice that learning will, in all likelihood, be significantly disrupted on these dates and you may need to make alternative childcare arrangements.

We will be in touch nearer the time to update you with more details.

James Shapland

Safeguarding

Students in Years 8-13 have continued to take part in a presentation and workshop on county lines this week. Feedback from students on this presentation has been excellent; please do discuss with your child what they have learned.

Non Uniform Days

Thank you to everyone for the contributions to non-uniform days for this year. We have raised a fantastic total of £6068.59 to be donated to our chosen charities of Save the Children, Comic Relief and The Swan Project.

Assembly Theme

This week's assemblies have been led by Mrs Kingston and have focused on critical thinking (our character theme of the week), discussing how our social media algorithms may deliver unsolicited content to our feeds and how it is important to view these ideas or content through an educated, critical lens. The assembly then focused on Andrew Tate and the importance of understanding him in the wider context of his misogyny and recent arrest and imprisonment.

Tooled Up with Dr Kathy Weston are offering a session on this topic in April; we would encourage parents to sign up as the influence of social media personalities like Andrew Tate is a growing and important issue.

[Andrew Tate and Toxic Influencers: April 25, 2023, 7.30pm BST](#)

We'll be joined by criminologist, Dr Lisa Sugiura to discuss Tate's methodologies, his appeal to some and what we can do to mitigate the risk that exposure to such material can bring.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Key Dates

- 2 Feb: Y11 Targeted PTC
- 9 Feb: Year 9 Options Evening
- 13 Feb: Half Term
- 23 Feb: Y9 Parent-teacher Consultation Evening

Next Week Lunch Menu - Week 1

After School Canteen

Our caterers, Culinera, are now operating an after school service. Open to all students, they will be serving reduced priced snacks and drinks until 15:45 from the Sixth Form Cafe.

House Points

Current house points			
Bourne	Coram	Handel	Raven
23297	22930	23558	24741
3 rd	4 th	2 nd	1 st
20/01/2023			

Attendance

Forms with the highest attendance week ending 13 Jan:

7C1 98%
 8H2 99%
 9B2 97%
 10R2 97%
 11R2 94%

Sunday 5 March: Rotary Berkhamsted Half Marathon and Fun Run

For more information please click [here](#).

Vacancies

- [Teaching Assistant 18hrs](#)
- [Teaching Assistant 30hrs](#)

Holocaust Memorial Week

Students will have an assembly next week and reflection activities in form time to remember those who lost their lives in the Holocaust. As part of this parents are invited to watch the Holocaust Memorial Day 2023 UK Online Commemoration, which will be streamed online next Thursday 26 January at 7pm. You can register to watch the event using the link below.

[Holocaust Memorial Day 2023 UK Online Commemoration](#)

Character Theme of the Week

As we continue to develop our character programme we can take the opportunity to look at some of our character themes of the week which we have been working on with the students to date. These include: Fairness, Empathy, Ambition, Gratitude and Critical Thinking. Each week students receive an assembly related to a particular character strength with related reflection slides which are later delivered as part of a form time activity.

Inclusion Surgery

From Monday 23rd January, our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators will be holding a parent/carer Inclusion Surgery, where any concerns about your child's learning, development or well-being can be discussed. The Inclusion team ensures that all students with special needs and disabilities are well-supported, nurtured and able to succeed academically and socially.

The sessions will take place on Mondays between 2.30pm and 3.30pm for Years 7-9 with Mrs Haezewindt, these can take place in person or remotely (this must be stated when booking) for Years 10-11 all sessions will be remote with Ms Vroomen. If you would like to book a slot, please contact Mrs Milne on jmilne@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk

Please note: Priority will be given to parents who have not had a surgery meeting in the autumn term.

Royal Navy Careers Event

This week the Royal Navy delivered two interesting and informative career sessions. The students had the opportunity to find out more about the wide variety of roles available and the chance to understand the nuances of life in the Royal Navy and Royal Marines. Our guest speaker commented: 'It was a pleasure to present to such attentive, polite and inquisitive students wanting to explore their career pathways.'

Year 11 Raising Achievement Evening

It was wonderful to welcome so many Year 11 parents to our Raising Achievement Evening yesterday evening, where heads of subjects gave presentations on the content of the GCSE examinations and how to help students with revision, in order to support parents at home. The presentations will be made available to Year 11 parents next week.

Please do continue to encourage Year 11 students to attend both Session 6, our supervised silent study session, in the LRC every day except Friday, and our [subject specific sessions](#) at lunchtime and after school. It is important that they continue with the excellent habits of independent revision that they were building during the run up to the trial examinations.

Year 10 Work Shadowing

Year 10 parents will have received a letter this week with information regarding the work shadowing day on Wednesday 8th March, 2023. This is part of our careers programme where year 10 students have the opportunity to go to work for the day with a parent/carer, family friend or other trusted adult. You can submit the information of your child's work shadowing placement via this google form [Year 10 Work Shadowing](#) or by using the link in the letter that has

ASA News

Autumn fundraising - ASA events last term raised **over £11,000** for the school. Once again, huge thanks to everyone who volunteered or supported ASA fundraising last term.

The craft fair alone made over £5,000. We do however need a small team of people to take over running the craft fair this year for it to continue. Please contact the ASA if you think you can help – a full handover and support will be provided.

ASA Quiz tickets now on sale via ParentPay. Individual tickets and tables of ten will be available to buy via ParentPay. Food bags (nibbles etc) will also be available to purchase. Quizzers can bring their own drinks and food, but there will also be a licenced top-up bar. There will also be a homemade cake auction – please email the ASA if you can make and bring a cake to donate.

Co-Chair vacancy – we still need someone to fill this busy, but fun role working with a great team of enthusiastic people. Please see the [attached letter](#) from Gary explaining a bit more about what it entails.

Old i-phone/tablet – if you have an old working iphone or tablet that you no longer want, please consider donating it to the ASA. We are looking for three devices we can pair with our card readers to take payments at our events.

Email ASA@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk if you can help with any of the above.

been sent home. The deadline to have organised your child's placement is **Friday 10th February, 2023**. Students unable to find a placement will need to attend school as normal in full school uniform where they will take part in classroom based careers activities for the full day.

Bags2School - Bags2School donations can either be dropped at the school office or to 30 Oakwood, HP4 3NQ by 31 January.

Hertfordshire Cross Country Championship Saturday 4 February

The deadline for entry into the competition at Westminster Lodge, St. Albans is TODAY at 6pm. If you wish your child to enter the championship please email Mr Preston; jpreston@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk, with their details by 6pm.

Dates for your diary

14 July – Comedy night

15 July – Music Festival

Sports Results

7A Boys Football vs Tring	Won 9-1
11B Netball vs KLS	Won 21-14
U13 Girls Football vs Croxley Danes	Drew 2-2, Won 4-3 on penalties
Y7B&C Boys Football vs JFK	B - Lost 6-4, C - Won 6-1
Y9 Netball vs Laureate	Won 15-3
Y10 Boys Football vs Samuel Ryder	Won 5-0
U13 Girls Football vs Thorpe St Andrew	Lost 0-1
Y8A&B Netball vs Abbot's	TBC
Y9A&B Netball vs Abbot's	TBC
Y7B Boys Football vs Linslade	Won 2-1

Tooled Up at Ashlyns - resources from Dr Kathy Weston



Andrew Tate and Toxic Influencers: A Guide for Parents and Educators



Does parental warmth have a positive impact on teens' sleep?



Researcher of the Month: Dr Cele Richardson Explains How Parental Warmth Influences Teens' Sleep

As parents of teens, we all know that sleep problems are extremely common during adolescence. Unfortunately, we also know that lack of or low quality sleep is increasingly being causally linked to poor mental health. Various research papers have examined how parents might be able to support teens to sleep better and our Researcher of the Month, [Dr Cele Richardson](#) is looking into exactly that. In our podcast episode with her, Dr Richardson discusses her 2022 study, which shows that when parents have a *warmer* relationship with their teens, teens tend to have better sleep hygiene practices, sleep for longer at night and feel less sleepy during the day. As parents, we are ideally placed to help them form good and healthy habits. Learn more about the impact we can have in this fascinating [interview](#).

But let's also think about the mental health benefits of physical exercise, as next week's webinars are all about sports!

[Q&A with a Rugby Great: January 25, 2023, 7pm GMT](#)

On Wednesday, we'll be joined by Rugby correspondent Gavin Mairs who will interview trailblazing player and ex-headteacher Floyd Steadman OBE about his astonishing personal story. [REGISTER NOW](#)

[The Boat Race and Elite Rowing: January 26, 2023, 7pm GMT](#)

On Thursday, we chat to two experienced athletes from the world of rowing: James Ball and Caoimhe Dempsey. Both managed to secure wins at the Oxford-Cambridge boat race and will reflect on their learning, resilience and the efforts they made to reach this level in sport. They will also be joined by a performance nutritionist who once advised the GB rowing team.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

You might've heard about the recent arrest of social media personality Andrew Tate. Over the past few months, it has been difficult to avoid this misogynistic influencer and content creator. But, who is he and what should we know about him? In April, we'll be taking a closer look at him so save the date:

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For those of you who missed last week's Q&A webinar with adolescent psychiatrist, Dr Anna Conway Morris and Dr Chris Schramm, not to worry. The [recording](#) of their conversation is in the library now, so you can hear them answer a whole host of questions submitted by parents.