



## Next week- Week 1

**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.

## Safeguarding

Please find a [link](#) to the Spring term Herts for Learning online safety newsletter.

## Assembly Theme

This week our assemblies have been led by Mrs Kirk, with the very accomplished help of some of her students, focusing on Holocaust Memorial Day on 27 January. Mrs Kirk talked about ordinary people and how we can all be extraordinary in our actions of standing up for those who are persecuted and to challenge prejudice and discrimination.

## Summer exams

Individual Statements of Entry are now being issued which include the dates and times of exams. Please ensure you check this carefully and read the information regarding the regulations of exams as detailed in the letter sent with the statements.

## Learning Ambassadors Visit to Thomas Coram

Some of our Year 8 and Year 9 History Learning Ambassadors had a fantastic time on Wednesday morning teaching Year 4 students about historical figures they may not have heard of before. In pairs the students picked one key individual to teach to their group of five or six year 4s. Individuals included Dido Elizabeth Belle, Princess Adenrele Admola and Arthur Roberts. The Learning Ambassadors were, as always, wonderful ambassadors for Ashlyns and should be very proud of themselves.

## Swimming Survey

As you may be aware, many Primary Schools were not able to offer school swimming during Covid. As a consequence there are a number of pupils in secondary schools that are unable to swim. It is not a national curriculum requirement to provide swimming lessons in Secondary Schools, however we believe it is a very important life skill for all young people. There may be an opportunity for your child's school to access funding to support non-swimmers.

In order for us to gain a better understanding of how many Year 7 & 8 pupils that are currently unable to swim across all Hertfordshire Secondary Schools, we would be grateful if you could **complete a short survey [here](#) if your child cannot swim.**

The deadline is Monday 30 January.

## Careers

West Herts College presented to our Year 11 students in assembly this morning and explained the variety of courses and qualifications that are available at both campuses. West Herts has two Open Days scheduled where students can find

## Key Dates

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

## Communications

- [Industrial Action 01 February](#)

## Next Week Lunch Menu - Week 2

## House Points

Current house points			
Bourne	Coram	Handel	Raven
24456	24140	24622	26000
3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>

27/01/2023

## Attendance

Forms with the highest attendance week ending 20 Jan:

- 7R1 99%
- 8B2 99%
- 9B2 98%
- 10H2 99%
- 11R2 99%

## Vacancies

- [Teacher of French part time](#)
- [Teaching Assistant 18hrs](#)
- [Teaching Assistant 30hrs](#)
- [Teaching Assistant with Personal Care 18hrs](#)
- [Teaching Assistant with Personal Care 30hrs](#)
- [Science Technician](#)
- [Premises Assistant](#)

out more about college life, explore the facilities and meet tutors. Places can be booked at [westherts.ac.uk](http://westherts.ac.uk).

### Hemel Hempstead Campus

Saturday 25 February 2023, 9.30am-12.30pm

### Watford Campus

Saturday 4 March 2023, 9.30am-1pm.

## Sports Results

U12 Girls Football vs Alexandra Park	2-2 - Lost 4-2 AET
Y8A&B Netball vs Longdean	A - Won 21-14, B - Won 8-0
Y10A Boys Football vs Tring	Won 6-3
Y7B & 10B Netball vs KLS	7B - Won 4-2, 10B - Lost 15-12
Y9 Boys Football vs Hemel	Lost 7-0
Y9A Netball vs Longdean	Won 18-7
Y10B Boys Football vs Tring	Won 4-1
U18 Basketball vs JFK	TBC
U18 Girls Football vs Surbiton	TBC

## Tooled Up at Ashlyns - resources from Dr Kathy Weston



This week, we've been focusing on the theme of kindness at Tooled Up! Did you know that kindness and empathy have far-reaching psychological and social consequences? There's fascinating evidence showing that practising kindness has a positive impact on our mental health, as well as educational and interpersonal benefits.

Our library already features a [whole section of resources](#) devoted to promoting kindness, including [interviews](#) with leading [researchers](#), family fundraising [ideas](#), a 100 Acts of Kindness [activity](#) and a [list](#) of books that can help to cultivate [kindness](#) and empathy at home.

While we're nudging our children towards embracing kindness and empathy, we still need to address the topic of hate and toxicity. We have upcoming webinars with a top criminologist that can help parents make sense of these tough topics:

### [Misogyny and Sexism: A Guide for Parents and Educators: March 14, 7.30pm GMT](#)

Dr Lisa Sugiura will explain clearly what misogyny and sexism mean and what they 'look like' in real life. She will also give parents and educators tools for recognising and tackling them at home and school. [REGISTER NOW](#)

### [Andrew Tate and Toxic Influencers: A Guide for Parents and Educators:](#)

## ASA News

### Additional fundraising –

This week the ASA received a cheque for £466 from the Rotary Club from the Santa Sleigh collections last term. Thank you to the team who volunteered for this event in December.

**ASA Quiz – 17 March** – tickets are now on sale. Individual tickets and tables of ten can be purchased via ParentPay, together with food bags (nibbles etc.) 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.

[ASA@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk](mailto:ASA@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk)

**Bags2School** - Bags2School donations close this Tuesday, 31 January. Thank you to everyone who has donated clothing and old shoes etc so far. Drop off is 30 Oakwood, HP4 3NQ.

### Reminder

**14 July – Comedy night**

**15 July – Music Festival**

[April 25, 7.30pm BST](#)

Dr Sugiura returns for a webinar that takes a closer look at the toxic influencer, his methodologies, his appeal to some children and teens and what we can do to mitigate the risk that exposure to such material can bring. [REGISTER NOW](#)

Tate has built a prominent online presence with a vast fan base among tween and teen boys worldwide through misogynistic and sexist ideologies. Despite being banned from many platforms, his appeal continues to flourish, with many users sharing his hateful content online. This is due to the influence of the *algorithms* that the most successful social media platforms are built upon.

Do you *really* understand how these algorithms work? Do you feel equipped to help your children learn more about what has become an essential part of digital literacy? We've rounded up some of the best evidence-based resources designed to help young people navigate and understand online algorithms and you can find them [here](#).

And for those of you who missed our brilliant second webinar with allergy expert Professor Adam Fox, you can now find the [recording](#) in our library. Professor Fox returned to answer more of your questions and discussed a unique model of working with parents of children with allergies, which he is bringing forward in his practice.