



Next week- Week 1/A

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.

Dear Parent/Carers

I would like to extend my thanks for all your support during the Ofsted inspection this week.

Your children were, as always, a credit to the school and I could not have been more proud of them - both for the way in which they conducted themselves and for the way in which they engaged in the process. We will be able to update you on the outcome when we receive the report for publication, which usually takes around a month.

Best wishes
James Shapland

Safeguarding

Please find a link to [childnet](#) which offers a toolkit to support parents and carers of children of any age to start discussions about their online life, and to find out where to get help more help and support

Peak District Trip

The second half of Year 7 are returning from the Peak District today after a very successful residential trip for the whole year group! X-Band departed early on Monday morning for Hartington Hall, ready for a jam-packed three days. We stopped at Markeaton Park for lunch and a round of mini-golf in the sun; the students then had the chance to burn off some energy before heading to our accommodation. Luckily, the sun was shining when we reached the venue and we had lots of outdoor time followed by dinner. Tuesday's walk was a great success and the rain cleared up for us - there were snacks and ice-cream along the way to keep energy high. Both discos saw some phenomenal dance moves (from both students and staff) and, for both sides of the year group, we finished with an excellent rendition of 'Sweet Caroline'! Wednesday saw X-band visit Drayton Manor on the way home while Y-band arrived and replicated our first three days and had a great time mini-golfing, walking, discoing, playing bingo and finishing up at Drayton Manor too. Our second half of the week saw some rain on Wednesday night but Friday has been beautiful and energies are high. Y-band did a phenomenal job on our walk and showed such drive and resilience. On the whole, the year group have done us all proud and we hope they had an amazing time creating memories for life!



Key Dates

- 5 Oct: Open Evening: early finish for students at 12.30
- 6 Oct: Inset Day; school closed to students
- 11 Oct: Y9 Parents' Information and Support Evening
- 12 Oct: Y13 Parent-Teacher Consultation Evening
- 19 Oct: Y11 Into The Sixth Evening
- 23 Oct: Half Term

Communications

- [PE and Sport at Ashlyns](#)

Next Week Lunch Menu: Week 2

Music Lessons

Lesson timetables can be found on Google Classroom (code nq4d5yw) and on the notice board in the Music Block.

If you wish to register for instrument lessons please go to [HMS Music Lessons](#). Please note as per HMS' Terms and Conditions if you wish to withdraw from lessons or make any changes effective from Thursday 4th January 2024, this must be done in writing to

SchoolsDirectInvoicing@hertfordshire.gov.uk by **MONDAY 9th OCTOBER**.

Any other queries regarding music lessons please email Mrs Marval at music tuition@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk.

Character Programme

This week students have been focusing on the school value of Inclusivity. As a school we define inclusivity as '*Ensuring that everyone feels welcome, valued, and respected, no matter who they are or where they come from.*' This has been a focus in our tutor time activities, assemblies and reflection activities across KS3, KS4 and KS5.

Careers

Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust invites you to ... Discover careers in psychology: Thursday 19 October

Interested in how people think and behave? Find out about both clinical and non-clinical (organisational development) careers in the NHS.

- **Who:** Students in Years 9 and above
- **Where:** In person career talk at the Sir Henry Floyd Building lecture theatre, Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Aylesbury
- **When:** 5 – 6.45pm (registration from 4.45pm), Thursday 19 October 2023
- [Click to book your free ticket on Eventbrite](#)

Culinera Canteen Update

In advance of the change of lunch menu to the new Autumn Menu we will be trialling some of the new dishes next week. Monday we will be serving chicken/courgette Parmigiana with spaghetti, Tuesday Thai red curry and Thursday jumbo TopDog with cajun wedges.

Sports Results

Y8 Boys Rugby vs Adeyfield	Lost
Y11 Boys Football vs Cardinal Newman	Lost 5-2
Y9A&B Netball vs Abbot's Hill	A- Won 41-14, B- Won 18-9
U15 Girls Football vs Bishopsholt	Won 7-0
U18 Boys Football vs JFK	Won 6-2
U14 Girls Football vs KLS	Lost 3-1
Y10 Boys Football vs Chiltern Hills	3-3 AET, Won 5-4 pens.
U13 Girls Football vs Brooklands Middle	TBC
U18 Boys Football vs Tring	TBC

Berkhamsted Rotary Club Fireworks

Berkhamsted fireworks, Saturday 4th November at Berkhamsted Cricket Club. Tickets are available to buy from School Reception. Please click [here](#) for more details.

ASA News

ASA AGM – 17 October 7pm

Our AGM will be held on 17 October on the Boardroom (first floor). We would like to invite anyone who has an interest in the ASA and what it does to raise money for the students – everyone's contribution is welcome. Some of our long-standing members will be stepping down in July when their children leave Ashlyns and in order to continue, the ASA needs some new volunteers to help in whatever way they can. Almost all of our regular events now have a small team in place to run them, so joining now does not mean anyone would be burdened with a load of responsibility, so please think about whether you can give up a small amount of time to share the effort and have some fun at the same time!

HALLOWEEN PARTY - years 7 & 8 - Monday 30 October 7.00 - 8.30

Entrance is £5 including a drink and snack. Fancy dress prizes & a spooky sweet stall. Tickets on ParentPay now. Please email asa@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk to volunteer help on the night or if you can't use ParentPay.

Tooled Up at Ashlyns - resources from Dr Kathy Weston



The Story of Afro Hair with
Kandace Chimbiri and
Professor Damien Page



Intercultural Couple
Relationships with Dr Reenee
Singh



Understanding Girls
with Dr Tara Porter

With the term well underway, our programme of webinars for you has plenty to offer. Explore our diverse series of webinars below, and follow the links to register.

October 4, 2023 - 10:30 BST

[The Story of Afro Hair – Book Discussion with Kandace Chimbiri and Professor Damien Page](#)

Join Kandace Chimbiri and Professor Damien Page as they discuss Kandace's book 'The Story of Afro Hair, 5,000 Years of History, Fashion and Styles', which details the fascinating 5,000-year history of Afro hair. This webinar will be of interest to anyone wishing to learn more about Black history and how to celebrate children's individuality and identity.

November 14, 2023 - 19:00 GMT

[Intercultural Couple Relationships with Dr Reenee Singh](#)

Intercultural, interracial and interfaith couples are on the rise all over the world. In this webinar, we'll look at what the latest research tells us about intercultural relationships, the discussion around them, and a few practical tools and techniques which both teachers and intercultural parents will be able to adopt.

November 21, 2023 - 19:30 GMT

[Understanding Girls with Dr Tara Porter](#)

Clinical psychologist and author Dr Tara Porter explores why girls are struggling with their mental health so much at present and the potential underlying causes. In our webinar, she will discuss factors which may contribute to girls' suffering, and provide parents with ideas for supporting their daughters.

December 5, 2023 - 19:30 GMT

[An Insight into Auditory Processing Disorder \(APD\) with Kate King](#)

Difficulty in processing what we hear can have a significant impact on learning, daily living and social interaction. APD can be hard to identify, sharing traits with both ASD and ADHD. In this webinar, Kate King explains what parents and teachers might observe and provides practical strategies to support learners.

December 7, 2023 - 19:00 GMT

[Mistakes and Mattering with Dr Kathy Weston](#)

Join Dr Kathy Weston as she talks about the importance of normalising mistakes in family life to reduce academic anxiety, and allow children an optimal chance of doing well in school. She looks at current research in this area and the practical ideas it offers to parents.