



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.

Safeguarding

Please find an [article](#) about the concerns around social media usage due to the Israel Gaza conflict. There are concerns that children may be able to view disturbing images or videos, alongside being faced with extremist views.

Parent Forum

Our Parent Forum meets once a term, with the first one taking place on Monday 20th November at 7.00pm. Previous agenda items have included topics such as school values, assessment, catering and careers provision. Our group of parents provide extremely valuable feedback and discussion points on these important items which are extremely helpful to us going forward. Thank you to parents already on our Forum for giving up their time.

We would like to expand the number of parents/carers involved; if you would be interested in exploring the possibility of being part of Parent Forum, please email Fiona Thompson on ftompson@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk

Year 11 Raising Achievement

We continue to be impressed by the commitment and dedication of our year 11 students who are regularly attending session 6 after school. A steady flow of i-Cards continue to arrive at reception which is another indication of the hard work and effort being put into students' studies across the school.

Character Programme

This week the students have been focusing on this school value of independence through their house assemblies and tutor registration activities. At Ashlyns we define Independence with the students as '*Taking accountability for my own actions*' which we link closely to other performance based virtues such as self regulation, problem solving and critical thinking.

Toy Hub

The Toy Hub is a local charity whose aim is to support local families this Christmas. They provide toys and gifts to families in need so that no child goes without. Please click [here](#) for details of how to donate, apply for support and volunteer to help.

Careers

Careers in Accountancy & Finance

On Wednesday 1 November at 10am we are hosting a careers talk for students in Year 9-11 on accountancy and finance. Our guest speaker from Dickinsons Chartered Accountants will talk about how a career or qualification in finance can lead to many opportunities across lots of other industries such as sport, film, medical and travel. Finance is the common language used across the globe and the key skills are not just in the numbers.

Key Dates

- 19 Oct: Y11 Into The Sixth Evening
- 23 Oct: Half Term
- 2 Nov: Y11 Parent-Teacher Consultation Evening
- 9 Nov: Y12 Parent-Teacher Consultation Evening
- 15 Nov: Autumn Chill Concert
- 20 Nov: Y11 Trial Exams
- 24 Nov: Occasional Day, School closed
- 27 Nov: Inset Day, School closed to students

Communications

- [Y11 Into the Sixth Evening](#)
- [Y10 French Study Trip 2024](#)
- [Y10 Work Placement](#)

Next Week Lunch Menu: Week 1

Vacancies:

- [Teacher of Science](#)
- [Teacher of PE](#)
- [Teacher of A Level Maths & Economics](#)
- [Teacher of English](#)
- [Head of Philosophy, Religion & Ethics](#)
- [Spanish Foreign Language Assistant](#)
- [Exam Invigilator](#)

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.

If your child is interested in attending this event, please complete the attached form [here](#) to register your interest. An email will be sent nearer the time confirming allocation of a place and the event arrangements.

KPMG Degree Apprenticeship Talk

This week we welcomed Jannah who is currently in her second year of a degree apprenticeship with KPMG. Jannah discussed ways in which to search and apply for degree apprenticeships along with the pros and cons of this particular type of course and career path. For more information on apprenticeships please click [here](#) and take a look at the Hertfordshire Opportunity Portal.

The Institution of Engineering and Technology

This week we welcomed a speaker from The Institution of Engineering and Technology who delivered an inspiring and informative presentation to students who are considering a career in engineering. The talk provided a starting point to understanding what engineering is, the various career routes to becoming a professional engineer and useful resources to help students start researching career opportunities.

Dining update

Working with our catering partner, Culinera, we continue to expand our gluten free menu options at break and lunchtime. Along with the freshly made gluten free pasta pots, sandwiches, paninis, and the famous chocolate brownie, we have now installed an additional fryer dedicated to gluten free food which provides access to our ever popular 'FryDays'. Fresh salads, accompanying vegetables and fruit are available daily.

Due to our open kitchen environment, we are unable to guarantee a 100% gluten free state but our chefs work to the highest standards to prevent cross contamination.

The new Winter menu for all will launch on Monday 30 October and will soon be available to view under the 'Dining' section of our website.

Lost Property

We have an abundance of named lost property that has been outside student reception for a while now. If your child is missing anything please ask them to come and collect it by Friday 20th or it will be donated to charity.

Student Achievement

Well done to Bea F, Tom A and Ryan H, Y9, Miles P, Y10 and Maisy H, Y7 who have been selected to join the Hertfordshire County Hockey Squad.

Sports Results

Y9B & Y10B Netball vs Laureate	9B - Won 13-8 10B - Lost 12-8
U13 Girls Football vs Linslade	Lost 6-5
Senior A&B Netball vs Hemel	A - Lost 27-11 B - Lost 29-11
Y7 Boys Rugby vs KLS	2nd
Y8 Boys Football vs Longdean	Won 7-2
U15 Girls Football vs Haydon	Won 7-3
Y8A&B Netball vs JFK	A - Won 10-3

ASA News

ASA AGM –Tuesday 17 October 7pm

Reminder that our AGM will be held on 17 October at 7pm in the Boardroom (first floor). This will be followed by a regular ASA meeting at which we have three new funding bids from school to consider, including new 3D printing facilities. Please come along to have your say and see if you would like to support the ASA in any way. We would love to see some new faces and new fundraising ideas are always welcome!

Donation, Donations, Donations

The ASA are busy now organising 2 fabulous fundraising events which totally rely on your generous donations. So this is just a heads that we shall be requesting and collecting donations very soon for our Chocolate and Bottle Tombola and also our wonderful themed Christmas Hampers. Please start collecting and saving your donations and watch out for further details on where to donate

Craft Fair 19 Nov

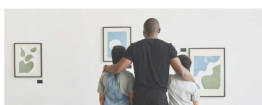
The Craft Fair is now fully sold out with over 60 stalls across all 3 main halls at the school but requires in the region of 80 volunteers to ensure the event is its usual success. A large range of roles will need to be undertaken from setting up, putting up signage, looking after our stall holders and, of course, working in our Café. Please keep an eye out for the Craft Fair Sign Up Genius, hopefully out next week, and please sign up to help wherever you can.

	B - Lost 7-0
Y9A Netball vs JFK	Won 29-6
Y8 Boys Rugby Tournament @JFK	
Y8 Boys Football vs Tring	TBC
Y7 Boys Football vs Haileybury Turnford	TBC
U18 Boys Football vs Laureate	TBC

Tooled Up at Ashlyns - resources from Dr Kathy Weston



Music and Young People's Development



Paintings Every Family Should See



Understanding Developmental Coordination Disorder (Dyspraxia)

In recognition of 'World Mental Health Day' yesterday and the highly disturbing events that have featured in the news this week, we have created opportunities for you to get your questions answered. Our specialists are experts in children's mental health, adolescence and trauma.

October 15, 2023 - 16:00 BST

[Making Sense of Traumatic Events in the World](#)

Parents are invited to hear one of the nation's expert child psychiatrists, Dr Dennis Ougrin, on the theme of how to talk to and support children as they witness traumatic events.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

November 2, 2023 - 20:15 GMT

[Dr Kathy Weston & Dr Anna Conway Morris, Live Q&A with a Consultant Psychiatrist](#)

Got a burning question for a psychiatrist who specialises in adolescent mental health? Join us for this live chat, where parents can ask anything live or submit questions anonymously on the night.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Interested in neurodiversity? We have fresh webinars in the library and live events coming up. In recognition of dyspraxia awareness week last week, we have added a new [webinar](#) to our platform. If you are interested in learning from the world's experts on ADHD, don't forget to register for our day-long, online [event](#) on the 10th November.

Understanding Girls with clinical psychologist [Dr Tara Porter](#)

Join the author of Sunday Times Best Selling "You Don't Understand Me: The Young Woman's Guide to Life" exploring why girls are struggling with their mental health so much at present. She will provide parents ideas for bolstering their relationship with their daughters whilst supporting their mental health.

November 21, 2023 - 19:30 GMT

[Register Now](#)

Take solace in art, poetry and music. With all its troubles and strife, it is still a beautiful world. Enjoy webinars on the pleasure of [art](#), read through our booklist on [poetry](#) or listen to our recent podcast on [music](#) and its impact on children and young people's development.