



## Next week- Week 2/B

**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 childnet. This provides a variety of resources and guides to support parents and carers in providing guidance for their children in the area of digital health.

## Christmas Carol Concert

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our Carol Concert on Sunday 10th December which starts at 4pm and finishes at 5pm. The ASA will be serving mince pies and mulled wine in the dining room afterwards. It is free to enter with a collection for the Coram foundation afterwards.

## Exam Certificates

Certificates from the Summer exams will be distributed to Y12 students next week during Registration. Students who have left will be able to collect their certificates from Reception from Monday 11th December, and a letter has been sent to explain this process.

Please keep your certificates in a safe place as the school does not have copies and you will need to contact the exam boards and pay for a certifying statement if you lose them.

## House Event

On Monday 11th December Handel House will be holding a bake and treat sale in the canteen at lunchtime. Money raised will be going to the Hospice of St Francis. Any baked contributions (no nuts) are welcome and can be dropped at the PE office from 8am. If your child would like to support by purchasing goods, they will need a small amount of change with prices ranging from 50p-£1.

## Year 11 Raising Achievement

As we approach the end of the calendar year, we encourage students to use this time wisely. While we understand the importance of relaxation and personal time especially on the back of the GCSE trial exams, it's equally crucial for students to set their sights on a successful new year, filled with commitment to their revision and academic goals.

Session 6 is now back up and running, offering students a structured and supportive environment for their studies. This extension of the school day running Monday-Thursday weekly provides a dedicated space for focused revision, ensuring that your child can make the most of their time leading up to the final exams.

## Character Programme

Over the past two weeks, our students have actively engaged in discussions, activities, and self-reflection exercises centred around the theme of respect. We

## Key Dates

- 10 Dec: Christmas Carol Service
- 20 Dec: Last Day of Term, School Closes 12.30
- 4 Jan: School Starts

## Next Week [Winter Lunch Menu](#): Week 1

## House Points

Current house points			
Bourne	Coram	Handel	Raven
8094	7656	7073	7700
1 <sup>st</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>
08/12/2023			

## Vacancies

- [Teacher of English](#)
- [Teacher of Maths](#)
- [Science Technician](#)

## ASA News

### Gift Voucher - Secret Bid

The ASA have been given two Gift Vouchers which we are delighted to offer to the highest secret bid. The vouchers are:

1. 6 week foundation course at Best Results Fitness on Northridge Road
2. 5 sessions at Berko Box on Northridge Road

If you would like to make a bid then please email to [asa@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk](mailto:asa@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk) stating the value of your bid and for what voucher you are bidding. Vouchers will be given to the highest bids received by Friday 15th December

As we now plan for our final 2 events of the year and into 2024, we of course, still need

believe that instilling a sense of respect is not only essential for individual growth but also for building a positive and inclusive school community.

Our focus for the next two weeks will revolve around the empowering theme of courage. Courage is a fundamental virtue that we believe plays a crucial role in shaping resilient and confident individuals. During this period, students will have the opportunity to explore and define what courage means to them. Whether it's facing challenges, standing up for what is right, or embracing new experiences, we want our students to understand that courage comes in various forms and is an integral part of personal growth.

### Wellbeing Assemblies

Mr Monks, our Mental Health Lead at Ashlyns, has led assemblies this week discussing resilience and wellbeing with students. This has involved promoting the NHS guidance: The Five Ways Wellbeing and Herts Healthy Minds website:

<https://www.healthyyoungmindsinherts.org.uk/five-ways-wellbeing>

This offers a range of practical advice and ideas. Students were also reminded of ways they can seek support in Ashlyns via Learning Mentors and their HOY. As part of the follow up, we will ask all students to complete the anonymous Herts Health and Wellbeing Survey (all years 7-13) which helps inform County level planning and provision for future Health and Wellbeing services.

### Christmas Tree

The Christmas Tree Place has supplied the beautiful tree in our reception area. We also have one in the Chapel, funded by the ASA, which will be decorated for the Carol Concert. Please help to support this local business by visiting their shop which is conveniently located on Chesham road, just off the roundabout to the A41. Please click [here](#) for their website with more details.



### Sports Results

Y11 Netball Vs JFK	Lost 42-18
Y7 Boys Rugby vs ACS	Won 15-10
Y7 Boys Football vs Tring	B - 2-2 - Won on penalties C - Won 4-0
U15 Girls Football vs St Clement Danes	Lost 3-2
Senior Netball vs Tring	Lost 28-7

### HMS Music Lessons

If you wish to stop Music Lessons for the Summer Term please email [SchoolsDirectInvoicing@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:SchoolsDirectInvoicing@hertfordshire.gov.uk) by **Monday 5th February** or use this [form](#) to withdraw from lessons. If notice is given after this date, costs will be incurred.

If you wish to register for music lessons please go to [HMS Music Lesson Registration](#)

Any other queries regarding Music Tuition at Ashlyns School please email Mrs Marval at [musictuition@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk](mailto:musictuition@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk).

your wonderful donations and help to ensure they are the success they usually are Carol Concert (10th December) - Volunteer helpers are still needed to help in serving the refreshments after the carol concert - Please see sign up link if you can help for an hour or two - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0C45AAAF2EA3FA7-46367161-ashlyns/68867223>

**Christmas Hampers (15th December)** - Tickets are still on sale and donations are still needed so please try and donate or buy a ticket to be in with a chance of winning a lovely hamper for Christmas - Please see [attached flyer](#) with all donation details including drop off locations

### Quiz Night 2nd Feb 2024

Tickets are now on sale via ParentPay for our 2024 Quiz Night so why not get a team together and come and join us. It's a great fun and social night and you can bring your own food and drink but tickets are limited so please sign up quickly - Please see [attached flyer](#) with all details

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



Parental Separation and  
Divorce Q&A



Dr Kathy Weston on Grief



Child Bereavement and Grief:  
Podcast

This week our focus is on 'Grief Awareness' and driving compassion towards those who are affected by loss and bereavement. In the UK, charity The Good Grief Trust has given the week a theme of "Better Together". Bereavement can make us feel desperately alone and isolated, but knowing that many others carry the pain of grief, and having an opportunity to talk about our experiences, can be a crucial source of support.

At Tooled Up we have a range of resources that can help you as the parent or carer of a bereaved child.

Julia Samuel MBE is the author of the bestselling book [Grief Works](#), a psychotherapist and the co-founder of the charity 'Child Bereavement UK'. In this [podcast](#) she talks to Dr Kathy Weston about child bereavement, grief and how parents and school staff can support children and young people when someone they love passes away.

In our [webinar](#) on supporting young people through sibling bereavement, we heard from Dr Laura Towers of the University of Sheffield, on the impact of sibling loss and different ways to support those affected.

Author Justin Bowen spoke to Tooled Up about his own family's experience of loss and what prompted him to write support books for parents, schools and children experiencing bereavement. His [podcast](#) with Dr Kathy Weston has practical ideas and a message of hope and optimism for all adults. You will find his work in our [book list](#) of stories to help children navigate and make sense of loss and bereavement.

Dr Weston shares her own thoughts on grief and bereavement in this shorter [podcast](#), and you can access our collected [tips](#) for supporting children and young people through grief.

As always, we are already planning webinars and events for 2024. You can find our list of upcoming events [here](#). If there's a question you'd like to be asked during a webinar, please send these in advance to [kathy@tooledupeducation.com](mailto:kathy@tooledupeducation.com). You can ask for the question to remain anonymous, and no names or identifying information will be shared.

We would like to draw your attention to our newly-announced Live Q&A with Dr Reenee Singh on Parental Separation and Divorce. Register [here](#) for January 18th 2024, 13:00 GMT.