



## 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 a [link](#) to a news article that highlights the risk of online radicalisation that young people could be exposed to as a result of the Hamas attack.

## Character

This week, our students delved into the powerful theme of humility, both in form time and during our assemblies. These activities aimed to instil a deeper understanding of humility as a foundational aspect of character development. We have actively encouraged students to reflect on what humility might look like in a practical sense as they navigate their way through life.

## Year 11 Raising Achievement Programme

As we approach this crucial period of their academic journey, we want to emphasise the importance of dedication, focus, and resilience. The upcoming weeks are a time of intense revision, where hard work will pave the way for GCSE success. The school has a variety of revision sessions commencing next week as communicated in correspondence that has been previously sent home. Please encourage your child to make best use of these sessions to support them in their studies. Sitting down together and making a revision plan with these sessions in mind is a great activity that you can do as a family to support your child.

## Support

If you are struggling with the cost of buying a Prom dress please contact Mrs Woods, [woods@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk](mailto:woods@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk). We have some dresses that have been donated and a local dress company has contacted us with a great offer.

Please click [here](#) for the Families First website with lots of useful information and advice for families including School Attendance/Anxiety, Money Advice and Relationship Support.

The 16 to 19 Bursary Fund provides financial support to help students overcome the specific financial barriers to participation they face, so they can remain in education and reach their full potential. Students can apply for the bursary if they are aged 16 to 19 and are studying at school or college in England or on a training course, including unpaid work experience.

A bursary is money that you can use to pay for things such as books and other equipment for your course, transport and lunch. Please contact [twilson@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk](mailto:twilson@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk) for more details.

## Key Dates

- 15 Jan: Y12 Trial Exams
- 18 Jan: Y11 Raising Achievement Evening
- 19 Jan: Y8 X Band HPV Immunisations
- 2 Feb: ASA Quiz Night
- 5 Feb: ASA Meeting
- 8 Feb: Y9 Options Evening
- 15 Feb: Y9 Parent-Teacher Consultation Evening
- 19-23 Feb: Half Term
- 1 March: Y8 Y Band HPV Immunisations

## Next Week [Winter Lunch Menu](#): Week 3

## House Points

Current house points			
Bourne	Coram	Handel	Raven
11594	11224	10823	11702
2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>
12/01/2024			

## Communications

- [Y10 Work Experience Week Reminder](#)
- [GCSE Spanish Trip](#)
- [Y7 Science Museum Trip](#)

## Vacancies

- [Head of PRE](#)
- [Teacher of Technology](#)

## ASA News

**ASA Volunteers meeting** – Monday 5 February, 7pm – please come along

Now is a great time to find out more about the ASA and see if you would like to lend us some support. Many secondary schools no longer have an active parent association, and we are very proud of what ours has

## Student Achievements

Well done to Tommy H, Jarvis P, Austin J-S, Hannah S, Nell G, Eliza L and Evie G who, on Sunday morning, helped 1st Berkhamsted Scouts Group to collect over 1000 Christmas trees which were taken to be shredded to make wood chippings. They were out from 8am until 11am in the cold to help support and raise funds for the scouts group.

## Herts County Cross Country Championship 2024

These will be held at Verulamium Park, St Albans on Saturday 3 February. If you are interested and feel your child meets the necessary standard then please send them to see Mr Preston or email him with your child's details and for information: [jpreston@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk](mailto:jpreston@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk)

## Sports Results

U13A Football vs Longdean	Won 2-1
Y9A Boys Football vs Hemel	Lost 4-1
U18 Boys Football vs Samuel Whitbread	Won 4-2
U13A&B Girls Football vs Tring	A - Lost 6-4 B - Won 5-0
Y8 Basketball vs Hemel	Lost 34-23
Y9B Boys Football vs Hemel	Lost 4-0
Y7 Boys Football vs Roundwood	Won 4-2
Y8 Basketball vs JFK	TBC
Y10 Boys Football vs JFK	TBC

## 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).

achieved over the past few years. Our approach has always been to 'share the load' so that no one feels overwhelmed with responsibility. There are experienced teams and well-established processes in place for most of our big events, so the running of the ASA is in great shape, but we need to think about planning for the future so that the ASA can continue to fund activities, equipment and experiences for our students. We will be holding a short, informal meeting on 5 February when you can come along and find out more.

### Comedy Night – Save the Date!

We will be holding another of our very popular comedy nights on Friday 15 March 2024. Details to follow.

### Quiz Night – 2 February

We still need offers of puddings or cakes for the ASA quiz auction. If you are coming to the quiz, please think about whether you can buy or make a cake or pudding for this event and email us to let us know. If homemade, we kindly ask for a list of ingredients too ([ASA@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk](mailto:ASA@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk)).

### New2You Uniform at reduced prices

We still have good quality second hand (old-style) PE shirts and hoodies, as well as some skirts and blazers (limited sizes). We are selling these at very low prices - £3 for a hoodie, £2 for a polo shirt, £3 for skirts and £5 for blazers. If you would like to buy anything please email [ASA@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk](mailto:ASA@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk) specifying the item/s and size/s required.

Polos in sizes 30/32, 34/36,  
38/40 and 40/42  
Hoodies in sizes 34/36,  
38/40  
Skirts in most waist sizes

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



Q&A with a Family Lawyer



Supporting Children Who  
Fear Making Mistakes



Parental Separation and  
Divorce

A very happy new year from everyone at Tooled Up!

Once the festive decorations are packed away, parents will be looking ahead to what 2024 holds in store. This could be the year of a major transition, perhaps your child's first steps in Reception or a teenager applying for university. Other families will have their first experience of exams in the summer, or face the nervous wait for a school place. Whatever milestones you reach this year, you can be sure your children will continue to grow, develop and change, bringing new achievements and new challenges. And of course, Tooled Up will be here every step of the way with support, advice and a place to share your experiences.

Our year begins with a packed schedule of live online events on a huge range of education and wellbeing topics.

[January 18, 2024 - 13:00 GMT: Parental Separation and Divorce Q&A](#)

Couples and family therapist Dr Rennee Singh answers your questions on the impact of parental separation and divorce on children. Register [here](#).

[January 15, 2024 - 19:00 GMT: Q&A with a Family Lawyer](#)

Clare Curran, partner at Curran Bowles Family Law in Northern Ireland, talks us through the work of family lawyers. She'll explain what to expect from a visit to a law firm, and answer any questions you may have. Register [here](#).

[January 16, 2024 - 19:30 GMT: Supporting Children Who Fear Making Mistakes](#)

Join Dr Kathy Weston and metacognition expert, Liz Keable, as they discuss the importance of normalising mistakes in family life to reduce academic anxiety and allow children an optimal chance of doing well academically. Register [here](#).

[January 26, 2024 - 12:00 GMT: Mental Health of Children and Young People](#)

With child and adolescent psychiatrist Dr Meinou Simmons. Register [here](#).