

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 useful [article](#) that provides adults with advice regarding protecting children from indecent images on social media network Meta.

Character

This week we have continued our work on the school value of inclusivity with a particular focus on the character virtue of Volunteering. Students have reflected upon the importance of volunteering and being an active member of the school community. This has also been linked to National Careers Week where we have explored the importance of taking up opportunities both in and out of school to develop a range of skills and competencies that will support them in their future ambitions.

Raising Achievement Programme

The commitment shown by our Year 11 students towards their exam preparation is truly praiseworthy. Many students have been utilising all available resources, including revision sessions, study guides, past papers, and extra tutoring, to maximise their learning potential. We have also seen record numbers at session 6 and the open intervention sessions which is a testament to the attitude and mindsets on display shown by many of this current year 11 cohort.

Virtual Reality

Year 7 have been enjoying Virtual Reality using our class set in Computer Science. As well as shrinking to the size of a mouse to explore the insides of a computer they also investigated the differences between AR and VR. There was also some excitement as they explored the depths of the sea. This linked to their topic on Computer Systems and Future Tech.

"VR was fun because I got to see the inside computer without destroying one and getting grounded for eternity."

"The VR was really fun! I saw a computer, the components of a computer, augmented reality and we saw a shark!"



Berkhamsted Rotary Fun Run

Well done to the Ashlyns Team and all our students who ran the Berkhamsted Fun Run on Sunday.



Key Dates

- 14 March: Y7 Parent-Teacher Consultation Evening
- **15 March: Non-Uniform Day for Comic Relief**
- 21 March: Spring Chill Concert
- 28 March: Last Day of Term
- 15 April: First Day of New Term

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

House Points

Current house points			
Bourne	Coram	Handel	Raven
21958	21170	21437	21746
1 st	4 th	3 rd	2 nd
08/03/2024			

Vacancies

- [Teacher of Textiles](#)
- [Teacher of Product Design](#)
- [Head of Philosophy, Religion & Ethics](#)
- [Teacher of A Level Sociology](#)
- [Teacher of A Level Psychology](#)
- [Teacher of English](#)
- [Teacher of English & A Level Sociology](#)

HMS Music Lessons

If you wish to stop Music Lessons for the Autumn Term (September) please email SchoolsDirectInvoicing@hertfordshire.gov.uk by Monday 13th May.

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

If you are in receipt of Free School Meals you are eligible

Careers

This week we have celebrated National Careers Week where students have had the opportunity to discuss and explore future career aspirations and ambitions. This has included dedicated assemblies, tutor based activities as well as a guest speaker in years 9 & 10.

To celebrate World Engineering Day, Dalkia, one of the UKs leading engineering businesses, visited Ashlyns this week to introduce a group of students in Year 9 and 10 to the array of STEM career options available in the engineering industry. Dalkia's team of professionals shared insights from their own careers working on key landmark buildings around the UK and emphasised the critical role that engineers play in addressing climate change and advancing the UKs ambitious Net Zero targets. Our thanks to the Dalkia team who delivered such an inspiring event for our students.

Oaklands College Open Events

Welwyn Garden City Tues 23 April 5-7pm

St Albans Thurs 25 April 5-7pm

Sports Results

U13 & U15 Girls' Indoor Cricket Tournament	U13 - 2nd U15 - 2nd
Y11 & Senior Netball Versatility Tournament	Y11 - 6th Senior - 5th
Y7 Boys Football vs Nicholas Breakspear	Won 4-1
Y7A&B Netball vs Longdean	Y7A - Won 18-16 Y7B - Won 17-3
Y8 Boys Rugby vs Longdean	Lost 15-25
Y8A Boys Football vs Longdean	TBC
Y11B Boys Football vs KLS	TBC
Y8A Netball vs Hemel	TBC

School Travel

On Monday 11 March we will be asking students to take part in our annual travel survey. As a community we continually aim to increase safe and sustainable travel methods; we ask that if you need to use a car for the school journey that you safely drop your child a ten minute walk from school. Another option is to car share where possible.

To encourage students to engage in active and sustainable travel methods we will be offering house points to the form in each year group with the highest number of students who have travelled to school by either walking/wheeling, park and walk, car share, cycling, or public transport on Monday 11 March.

Thank you for supporting us in embracing active sustainable travel as the norm throughout our entire school community.

Dacorum Family Services

[Anxiety and attendance workshop](#) Wednesday 13 March 10-11.30am.

to apply for Remission of Fees. Application must be made before registering for any lessons. Please click [here](#) for more information and to make an application. New applications can be made from today, 1st March 2024.

ASA News

Comedy and Curry Night - 15th March

The comedy and curry night has exceeded our expectations and sold out really quickly but don't worry if you have not been able to secure a ticket as the ASA are busy organising another event with a different line up for the 12th July 2024 - Save the date and watch out for ticket information coming soon

Volunteers needed to help on Saturday 16th March for an hour or two to help set down after the Comedy Night. Please [sign up](#) if you can spare some time.

ASA 100 CLUB

This is a great way to raise money for Ashlyns with a chance to win a prize. Anyone can buy one or more numbers in our monthly draw. Each number is £2 per month or £24 a year, half of this money is used for 3 cash prizes and half to the ASA. You have to be in to win, so sign up today to be in the next draw. Email ASA100CLUB@gmail.com for more info.

Congratulations to the winners of the January draw:

1st prize - J Rollit

2nd prize - S Bird

3rd prize - F Thompson

Tooled Up at Ashlyns - resources from Dr Kathy Weston



50 Fantastic Female Sporting Role Models



Talking About Women's Bodies



Exciting Books for 11-13-Year-Olds

If you have a school-aged child then you're more than likely aware of World Book Day on March 7th. This annual event promotes books, authors and a love of reading to all children.

As parents it's essential that we do everything we can to develop reading for pleasure in our children. As English teacher Patrick Cragg reflected in a [Wednesday Wisdom](#) from last year, research highlights the enormous long-term benefits for children of a healthy reading diet, not just in academic performance across all subjects but in emotional wellbeing and social skills.

Begin with our [tips](#) and [video](#) on reading to your child, and learn about the importance of phonics for early readers in this [webinar](#) from Professor Kathy Rastle.

Our platform contains [poems](#) you can read to your children, book lists for [11-13-year olds](#) and for [teenagers](#) with titles that will appeal to young people who just need that one, engaging book that will get their reading journey started. If you have any recommended titles to add, our [team](#) would love to hear from you.

March 8th marks International Women's Day and we have a wealth of resources and information for helping the girls and young women in your family feel empowered and inspired. Tune into our brilliant [podcast](#) on the importance of body knowledge for young women as well as the importance of exercise for mental fitness.

Families can read through our list of [50 Fantastic Female Sporting Role Models](#) with children and discuss which sporting stories inspire you the most! If you have children who enjoy sport and want to excel, consider watching our [Q&A](#) with England Women's Lacrosse captain Laura Merrifield.

Perhaps in this World Book Day Week with its focus on International Womens' achievements, it is the perfect time to introduce your children to this [list](#) of books featuring 'strong female characters'. Parents can derive some book inspiration from this [list](#) of recommended reads from the Tooled Up team.

Finally, this busy week also saw World Hearing Day on March 3rd. Explore Tooled Up's accessible and informative resources on deafness and hearing loss, beginning with our [20 Things to Know](#) about deafness, and this [webinar](#) with audiologist Dr Joy Rosenberg on building resilience in deaf children.