



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

In the build up to safer Internet day please see further [resources](#) to support keeping your child safe online.

Safety Message

We have spoken with students this week to remind them of the importance of road safety. Please could you reinforce this at home as we had a report from a member of the public about a student who walked into the road, without looking, to overtake someone on a narrow pavement, and they had to swerve their car to avoid hitting them.

Lost Property

There will be an opportunity on 13 February to look through the lost property. Items will be put into the main hall for students to look through at lunch break. Parents/carers are invited after school from 3.20-4.30, please use the front entrance by reception.

Artificial Intelligence

Generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools have become increasingly widespread and easily accessible. Many staff, pupils, and parents/carers may already be familiar with popular generative chatbots like ChatGPT, Google's Gemini and Snapchat AI ('My AI'), as well as other tools like Google's Bard, DALL·E for image generation, and voice synthesis applications.

Last week, Mr. Grant and Mrs. Kirk led an assembly focused on the responsible use of AI. They highlighted the benefits and risks of these tools and emphasized the importance of understanding and critically evaluating the information encountered online.

We encourage all students to approach AI thoughtfully, to question the reliability of the content they interact with, and to consider how they can use these tools responsibly while staying safe online.

Year 11 Raising Achievement Programme

We'd like to congratulate our students on their hard work and excellent attendance at the additional sessions ([timetable here](#)) provided by the school and various departments. These sessions are a fantastic way to advance their preparations for the summer exams. Attending them ensures students are making the most of the opportunities available and giving themselves every chance of success. Their dedication is making a real difference!

HFL Maths Tutoring

Please click [here](#) for details of online GCSE Maths tutoring sessions run by HFL.

Key Dates

- 6 Feb: Y9 Options Evening
- 11 Feb: ASA Meeting
- 13 Feb: Lost Property
- 17 Feb: Half Term
- **20 March: Revised Date, Spring Chill Concert**

Next Week

[Autumn/Winter Lunch Menu: Week 1](#)

House Points

Current house points			
Bourne	Coram	Handel	Raven
23290	22879	25275	24473
3 rd	4 th	1 st	2 nd
24/01/2025			

Communications

- [Year 9 Work Shadowing Letter March 2025](#)

Vacancies

- [Teacher of Maths](#)
- [Sports/Gym Supervisor](#)

Teaching Career

Get Into Teaching event
4pm-8pm, Tuesday 11 February 2025
Main Reception, Chapman Lounge, College Lane, University of Hertfordshire.
[Link to register delegate attendance](#)

Music Lessons

To register for music lessons for the Spring Term please go to [HMS Music Lessons](#). If you wish to withdraw from music lessons please use this [form](#) or email SchoolsDirectInvoicing@hertfordshire.gov.uk before the February half term. Any other queries regarding music lessons please [email](#)

Year 11 Raising Achievement Evening

The slides from the subject presentations at the year 11 Raising Achievement evening are now available on our [website](#). These provide an overview of each course and some guidance on how parents might support students as they revise for each subject.

Character

This week marks a significant moment in our character education as we commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day on 27th January. Our prefect team has delivered character-based sessions to Years 7 and 8, focusing on themes of empathy, inclusivity, and critical thinking. Across the school, students attended a very moving and thought-provoking assembly by Mr. Walker, which further developed these themes and highlighted the importance of standing up against discrimination. These reflections continued during tutor time, where students explored these ideas further through their assembly reflection slides.

Careers - NHS after-school talks

Students from Years 7 – 13 can book on Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust's after-school talks held at Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Aylesbury. Attend as many as you can to understand healthcare from different perspectives, find out how different healthcare professionals work together and to perhaps discover roles you haven't thought about.

- **Discover careers in psychology: Thursday 13 February**
 - Interested in how people think and behave? Find out about clinical and non-clinical careers in the NHS.
 - 5 – 7pm Thursday 13 February 2025
 - [See full agenda and book free tickets on tickettailor.com](#)
- **Discover careers in biomedical science: Wednesday 12 March**
 - Celebrate Healthcare Science Week by finding out about the exciting specialities of infection sciences, blood sciences and cellular sciences. Explore the vital roles behind-the-scenes which support the diagnosis and treatment of disease.
 - 5 – 7pm Wednesday 12 March 2025
 - [See full agenda and book free tickets on tickettailor.com](#)

Sports Results

U13B Girls Football vs Surbiton	Lost 4-1
Senior Netball vs Tring	Lost 33-30
Y8B Netball vs KLS	Won 18-5
U16 Girls Football vs Collingwood	Lost 2-1
U18 Boys Football vs JFK	Won

Public Health

Please click [here](#) for information from the NHS about how to get the right care in the right place for your child.

Swan Youth Project

The Swan Youth Project is open and ready to welcome new members in 2025. We're also always on the look out for new supporters and partners, so please do get in touch with manager, Parul Dix, at manager@swanyouthproject.co.uk if you would like to find out more about how our charity supports young people in Berkhamsted.

We aim to boost our young people's mental and physical wellbeing. Our youth club offers a happy and safe place for anyone aged 11-16 to come every day after school to play games, learn life skills, or simply hang out with friends – and make new ones.

So far in January, we've baked bread, made cup cakes, painted jars, played balloon games and had a lively discussion about religious freedom! We're also thrilled to be partnering with Britannia Gym once again to offer boxing training.

Find out more about us on our [Facebook page](#) or [website](#).

ASA News

ASA Meeting - 11 Feb

Our first meeting of 2025 is coming up. Held once a term, we'll discuss upcoming plans, new ideas and review spending requests from the school. It's a great way to feel connected to the school

and we're a friendly bunch - many of us are in fact new to the ASA ourselves. So, if you're thinking of coming along, please do - we would love to see you.

Quiz - 21 Mar

Ticket on sale soon.

Tooled Up at Ashlyns - resources from Dr Kathy Weston: School PIN 4989



An Exploration Into Parenting Styles



United Front Parenting



A-Z of Parenting Questions

What is your parenting style? Are you a permissive parent, an authoritarian, or an authoritative one?

Is your partner on the same page as you? Do you always present a united front to your children, and would you agree that doing this is not always easy?

You've probably realised there are different ways to be a parent, even if you've never consciously adopted one style of parenting. **Tooled Up** has a range of **resources to help you consider your own parenting technique** and to help you be the **best parent you can be**.

Our [Exploration Into Parenting Styles](#) webinar is a great place to start. In this guide, Dr Kathy Weston and Professor Stephen Scott of Parenting Matters discuss **differing parenting styles** and **explain how** these can **best support children** with family life.

Our webinar [United Front Parenting](#) explores the **ways you and your co-parent can stay in step** with each other when it comes to rules, arguments and interactions.

If you have a **question about parenting**, rest assured others are asking the same thing! Browse our [A-Z of Frequently Asked Parenting Questions](#) and discover how Tooled Up can help you.

If you are parenting **younger children**, Dr Gauri Seth **answers** your **questions** on topics including **boundary pushing, arguments and screen time**. You can access her Q&A webinar here: [Parenting Younger Children](#).

Upcoming Webinars:

[Everything Parents Need to Know about Roblox, Jan 27 10-11](#)

[Helping Children and Young People Accept Their Autism, Feb 19 12.30-13.30](#)

[A Parents' and Educators' Guide to Medication for Autism and Anxiety, Feb 24 19.30-20.30](#)