



## 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 see an informative [resource](#) about preventing sexually coerced extortion that has been provided by the NSPCC and focuses particularly on young males.

## Filming with Victoria Collins MP and Channel 4

Today, we were delighted to welcome our local MP, Victoria Collins, and a Channel 4 film crew to Ashlyns as part of her *Safer Screens* tour. Year 11 and Sixth Form students took part in a filmed discussion on the impact of smartphones and social media on mental health and well-being.

Victoria Collins highlighted that this is one of the biggest issues she receives correspondence about from constituents, making our students' perspectives even more valuable. They were fantastic throughout: thoughtful, articulate, and insightful in sharing their experiences and viewpoints.

The segment, which will offer a glimpse into parliamentary life, is set to air in May on Channel 4. A huge well done to all the students involved!

## Character

Our Year 10 Prefects continue to impress in delivering the Character Programme to Year 7 and 8 students during tutor time, fostering meaningful discussions and development.

- Year 7 have begun a new unit called *Being Determined*, focusing on resilience, perseverance, and the mindset needed to overcome challenges.
- Year 8 have started *Saving for the Future*, which explores delayed gratification, the importance of saving, and the character strengths of self-regulation and patience needed to achieve long-term goals.
- Year 9 are engaging with *Good Speech*, a unit that encourages students to reflect on how communication can be virtuous or harmful, helping them develop thoughtful and respectful ways of speaking.
- Year 10 continue to use the VESPA programme, developing independence and self-regulation as they progress through their GCSE journey.

Our Character Programme remains at the heart of our pastoral curriculum, equipping students with the values and skills they need for success in school and beyond.

## Year 11 Raising Achievement Programme

Our Year 11 students continue to impress showing real dedication to their studies. Attendance to revision sessions has been excellent with many students attending multiple sessions throughout the week.

In the coming weeks we will be totaling up student i-Cards; it is important students are handing in their i-Cards to ensure they gain their passport to prom as well as giving them a chance to win prizes in the upcoming i-Card draw.

## Key Dates

- 5 Mar: ELD
- 13 Mar: Y7 Parent-Teacher Consultation Evening
- 18 Mar: Y10 Parent-Teacher Consultation Evening
- 20 Mar: Spring Chill Concert
- 21 Mar: ASA Quiz night
- 7-18 Apr: Easter Holiday
- 21 Apr: Bank Holiday, School closed

## Next Week

### Autumn/Winter Lunch

### Menu: Week 2

## House Points

Current house points			
Bourne	Coram	Handel	Raven
28859	28178	30527	30402
3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>
28/02/2025			

## Communications

- [Year 13 Business and Economics Revision Workshops March 2025](#)
- [Maths Enrichment Ballot March 2025](#)

## Vacancies

- [Exam Invigilator](#)
- [Higher Level Teaching Assistant](#)
- [Teacher of Technology](#)
- [Receptionist](#)
- [Administrator](#)

## ASA News

### ASA News

Support Ashlyns and Win Big with the ASA 100 Club!

Join our growing community and help us raise funds for Ashlyns! Sign up using [this form](#) to our private lottery, offering you a chance to win

## Careers

### West Herts College - Spring Open Days

West Herts College are hosting their Spring Open Days this March.

Hemel Hempstead Open Day

Saturday 1 March 9.30am - 12.30pm

Watford Open Day

Saturday 8 March 9.30am - 1pm

Please click [here](#) to book (and receive a free drink on the day)

## Animation

This week we welcomed a guest speaker with over 20 years experience in the UK Animation industry working as a layout artist on the BAFTA and Emmy award-winning show Peppa Pig.

Our Year 9 students had a fascinating insight into the process of creating the series and the wide variety of job roles and skills needed to deliver each episode. Our speaker commented: *'It was a pleasure to come to Ashlyns to talk about jobs in the creative arts; the students were engaged and asked brilliant questions.'*

## LRC

In celebration of World Book Day on Thursday 6 March, we are supporting the charity Just Be A Child which sends donated books to rural locations in Kenya. The donations are sent via shipping containers which are then converted by local communities into Libraries and Learning Centres providing children access to books.

To support this initiative, we would welcome your donations of good condition unwanted fiction, non-fiction and picture books for children of all ages. Please deliver any donations to the LRC by Tuesday 4 March '25. Thank you for your support.

## Extended Learning Day - Wednesday 8th March

All students will take part in an extended learning day where they will focus on a particular aspect of the curriculum. Communication has been sent out yesterday with more detail about the content of the day, the arrangements and any reminders of equipment that students may need to bring.

### Overview:

Year 7 - Science Museum Visit

Year 8 - Examining the history of the Foundling Hospital

Year 9 - Work Shadowing

Year 10 - PSHE (more detail is below)

Year 11 - Exams

Year 12 - Careers and Future Pathways

Year 13 - Study Day

## Year 10 Extended Learning Day

As part of our PSHE programme, Year 10 students will be focusing on important themes such as gender dynamics, relationships, and personal health. Sessions will include Progressive Masculinity and Femininity, Men's and Women's Health, Healthy Relationships, and Emotional Wellbeing. These workshops aim to equip students with the knowledge and skills to navigate key societal issues. A detailed email with session information has been sent to parents and carers. If you have any questions, please refer to the email.

CASH PRIZES while making a real difference. The more members we have, the bigger the prizes and greater the support for our school. 50% of the proceeds goes to the prize fund, and 50% goes directly to the ASA. For just £2 per month, you can be part of it!

Congratulations to the lucky winners...

September 2024 draw:

1st: J Harding

2nd: E Robson

3rd: D Mills

October 2024 draw:

1st: J Parr

2nd: T Harris

3rd: R Rickenberg

In other news, as announced before, Quiz Night sold out in record time, but we'd love any cake donations bought or made for our popular cake auction. If you are able to donate a cake (homemade or bought) please email [asa@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk](mailto:asa@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk) (no nuts please).

Thanks as always for your support.

*p.s. go on, sign up for the 100 Club!*

## Sports Results

Y9A Netball vs Hemel	Won
Y10 Boys Football vs Hemel	Lost 3-1
Y9 Boys Football vs KLS	Won
Y10A Netball vs Hemel	Won 50-20
U13A&B Girls Football vs Tring	U13A - Drew 2-1 U13B - Won 2-0
Y10 Boys Football vs Adeyfield	Won 7-2
Y9A&B Netball vs Abbot's Hill	Y9A - Won 24-17 Y9B - Won 17-7

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



Supporting Your Child to  
Challenge Harmful Talk



Representation in Early Years  
Toys and Games



Non-Traditional Family Forms

This Saturday marks Zero Discrimination Day 2025. Founded by the United Nations, it promotes inclusion and equality in all UN member countries, and the right of everyone to live a full and productive life.

The day highlights the need to combat inequalities of all kinds: gender, age, health status, sexual orientation, race and class.

At Tooled Up, celebrating diversity is a key part of our work with parents and schools. Our **resources** are **aimed at** encouraging acceptance and **helping children understand themselves and the different groups** in the world around them.

**If your child hears** or experiences **prejudicial language**, **are they equipped** to challenge it? We share tips in [Supporting Your Child to Step Away From and Challenge Harmful Talk in Their Peer Group](#). This resource also includes **useful advice for parents whose children are using denigrating language** towards groups of people.

For those with primary aged children, **we spoke to Vese Aghoghovbia**, founder of Philly and Friends **who explained the importance of younger children encountering diverse toys and stories** in everyday life.

Listen to Vesa in this webinar [Representation in Early Years Toys and Books](#).

It is **important for children to be accepting of "non traditional" families** be that their own or that of their peers. Our activity [Fantastic Families](#) is a wonderful way to open a conversation and **explore different family types with primary aged children**.

### March 2025 webinars:

[March 18, 2025, 12:30 -13:30 GMT](#)

Join us and Pippa Simou, Chartered Coaching Psychologist and former teacher, as she leads an enlightening session diving into the world of ADHD in girls. Pippa will shed light on the unique challenges that girls with ADHD face and how this experience differs to that of boys with the same diagnosis.

[March 20, 2025, 19:30 -20:30 GMT](#)

In this webinar, researcher Dr Iro Konstantinou will talk us through insights from research evidence that can help inform strategies when it comes to motivating our children to try hard, persist and stay focused in their learning and revision. There will be an opportunity for Q&A at the end of the presentation.