



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

Information about a new protective measure currently being undertaken by the social media app Roblox can be found [here](#).

Anxiety and Attendance Workshop

The next anxiety and attendance support session will take place on Wednesday 10 December 9.30am-11.00am, at Hobbs Hill Wood Primary School, Peascroft Road, HP3 8ER. This is provided by Dacorum Family Support Services and will focus on anxiety and attendance, and how to support parents whose children may, or do, suffer from Emotionally Based School Non-Attendance.

Further sessions will take place at Ashlyns on the following dates:

Wednesday 11 February - 9.30am-11.00am

Wednesday 25 March - 9.30am-11.00am

Wednesday 13 May - 9.30am-11.00am

Wednesday 24 June - 9.30am-11.00am

All are welcome to attend any sessions; you do not need to book.

Exam Certificates - Summer 2025

GCSE and A level Certificates from the summer series will be available to collect from the main school reception from Monday 8 December. Current Y12 students who sat their GCSEs at Ashlyns in the summer will be issued with their certificates during form time next week.

Scholastic Book Fair

The LRC will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair from Tuesday 9 to Friday 12 December. The Book Fair will feature a wide variety of titles and genres and will be open for all students to browse and buy books at break and lunchtime on each day. Please note book sales are cash only.

Year 11 Raising Achievement Programme

Our Year 11 students have conducted themselves extremely well throughout the trial exam period. They have shown real focus, dedication to their studies, and maturity in managing what can be a stressful process.

Results Day will take place on Monday 12 January, using a letter-opening procedure designed to mirror the experience of receiving real GCSE results.

A big well done to Year 11 for their hard work and excellent attitude. Keep going!

Character

Congratulations to our Year 10 prefect team who have delivered their first solo Character session as part of the Year 7 & 8 Character Programme. They have shown impressive leadership, confidence, and a genuine commitment to our school values. It's been fantastic to see them role-model integrity, inclusivity, and independence while supporting the younger years. Well done to all involved!

Key Dates

- 8 Dec-12 Dec: Y13 Trial Exams
- 14 Dec: Carol Concert
- 17 Dec: Christmas Lunch
- 19 Dec: Last Day of Term, school closes 12.30pm

Next Week Autumn/ Winter Lunch Menu: Week 3

Communications

- [Y12 Higher Education Convention](#)

House Points

Current house points			
Bourne	Coram	Handel	Raven
10968	12432	11693	13419
4 th	2 nd	3 rd	1 st
05/12/2025			

Christmas Carol Concert

This year's concert will take place on Sunday 14 December at 4pm in the chapel. No tickets are required, just turn up. There will be refreshments afterwards in the hall.

Christmas Tree

The Christmas Tree Place has very kindly donated a tree to Ashlyns for our reception area again this year. They also supplied one for the Chapel which will be decorated by the ASA for the Carol Service. 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.

Careers - Ercol Apprenticeships

The Ercol Apprentice Open Evening on 9 February from 6pm to 8pm, is now available to book on Eventbrite. Please click [here](#) to book

This is a great opportunity to tour the Ercol facilities, meet the teams and watch demonstrations to gain an insight into the work they do. Members from the apprenticeship team will be on hand to answer any questions students might have about the careers and apprenticeships that Ercol offer.

Careers

In the summer term 2026, both Year 10 and Year 12 students will be out on Work Experience for a full week. Year 10 will complete their placements in June, and Year 12 in July. Over the Christmas break, we encourage students and families to take the opportunity to reach out to friends, relatives, neighbours, and wider networks to explore possible contacts and placement opportunities. This is often an ideal time to start conversations, as many workplaces are quieter and people have more availability to discuss options.

Sports Results

U15 Girls Football vs Astley Cooper	Lost 2-1
Y7A&B Netball vs KLS	7A - Won 21-4 7B - Won 10-2
U18 Boys Football vs Nicholas Breakspear	Won 3-1
U9 Boys Rugby vs Longdean	Won 27-5
Y8 Boys Football vs Hemel	Won 5-1
Y10A Netball vs Tring	Lost 35-24
Y8B & 10B Netball vs Longdean	8B - Lost 10-4 10B - Lost 21-10
U15 Girls Football vs Adeyfield	Won 2-1
Y10 Boys Football vs Longdean	Won 5-1
Y10 Boys Football vs KLS	TBC
Y9 Boys Football vs Onslow St Audrey	TBC

Christmas Tree Collection Service

Local Scout Groups are offering a collection service again this year. For a suggested donation of £6 per tree. All funds raised will go to support local Scout charities. You can book [here](#) before 2 January.

Dacorum Community Trust

The Dacorum Community Trust is a small charity with the purpose of providing practical support for people experiencing financial hardship in Dacorum. More information can be found [here](#).

ASA News

We're in the home stretch of our incredible Festive Fundraising season!

Thank you to everyone who's contributed so far. You've been absolutely brilliant - with cakes for the Craft Fair, bottles and chocolates for the tombola, and mince pies for the Carol Concert.

We need one more push!

Christmas Hampers - Urgent Appeal

We need your help! Our Christmas Hamper Raffle donations are worryingly low, and we're aiming to create around 20 spectacular prize hampers.

Can you donate this weekend? We're looking for festive treats, gift sets, bottles, toiletries, luxury items, vouchers—anything that would make a fantastic hamper prize. Check the flyer for inspiration and drop-off locations.

Raffle Tickets: Buy yours now via [ParentPay](#)! £5 for 3 numbers | £10 for 6 numbers (any multiple of £5)

Draw Date: Monday, 15th December

[See the flyer here](#)

Carol Concert - Sunday, 14 December

Join us for a magical start to Christmas at the Ashlyns Carol Concert! We're looking for volunteers to help serve refreshments afterwards.

[Sign up here](#) if you can spare an hour or two.

Santa's Sleigh - Thursday, 11 December

Spot our team helping Santa navigate Berkhamsted's hilly streets with the Rotary Club charity sleigh!

Time: 5:30pm - 8:00pm

Volunteers still needed! It's a wonderful festive evening and a heartwarming way to spread Christmas cheer.

[Sign up here](#) if you can help.

Pre-loved Uniform Sale - New Event - Saturday 13 December

Our first sustainable uniform sale—helping reduce textile waste while supporting our school community! See the flyer [here](#) for the full price list.

Time: 10am - 12pm

Donations needed: Please drop good-condition uniform items at the school office or bring them on the morning.

Volunteers needed: We'd love help with setup, sales, or takedown. [Sign up here](#)

Burns Night - Thursday, 30 January 2026

Our inaugural Burns Night has been incredibly popular—don't miss out!

Tickets: £47.50 via [ParentPay](#)

Time: Doors open 6:30pm

Includes: Three-course Scottish supper, live band, dancing, and the ceremonial Address to the Haggis

Whisky donations welcome! Clearing out your drinks cabinet? We'd love any whisky donations (opened or unopened) for the event. Drop-off points listed below.

Donation Drop-Off Locations

- 32 Shrublands Avenue, HP4 3JA
- 9 Birtchnell Close, HP4 1FE
- 11 Haynes Mead, HP4 1BU
- 15 Swing Gate Lane, Berkhamsted HP4 2LJ
- 5 Falcon Ridge, HP4 2HJ
- 1 Upper Hall Park, HP4 2NW

Thank you to everyone for all the contributions we've had to date, we can't do this without you.

As always...

Complete [this](#) form to stay in the loop about fundraising activities and see where your contributions make a difference.

Sign up [here](#) for a chance to win a cash prize with our 100 Club (aiming for 150 Club!).

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

On 3rd December every year we observe International Day of Persons with Disabilities, a time to reaffirm our commitment to inclusion, accessibility and dignity for all. This day challenges us to look beyond stereotypes and barriers, and to nurture environments where every child can thrive.

How can we nurture kindness, inclusivity and awareness in our children? A good start is to discuss differences openly and positively.

With younger children, have age-appropriate chats about body diversity and connect these conversations to people in their lives. [Books for Children by Disabled Authors](#) offers authentic perspectives and **helps children see disability as a natural part of life**. While not all of the books focus on this theme, they illustrate that disabled people are active participants and contributors in all areas of society **and that having a disability doesn't define a person's interests or talents**.

[Strength through Adversity](#) is a great webinar to watch and perhaps share with **older children**. It showcases the story of Darren Edwards, a disabled adventurer who overcame adversity and **demonstrates how disability does not limit potential**.

If you are a parent of siblings of children with a disability, listen to [Siblings of Children with Neurodevelopmental or Intellectual Disabilities](#). This podcast explores the unique experience of these siblings and discusses meaningful strategies families and schools can deploy to help support and foster meaningful sibling relationships.