



Next week- Week 1/A

Attendance reporting procedures Please report children's absence by 08.30 each morning via the Arbor app. Please use the [Absence Form](#) to report future absence e.g. dentist appointments.

Safeguarding

Please find the Spring term, online safety newsletter [here](#).

Ashlyns School - 75th Anniversary

There is currently a display in the LRC Annex showcasing the 75th Anniversary of Ashlyns School this year - historical photographs and artefacts are on display, students can view the display at break and lunchtime.

West Herts College - Open Days

West Herts College is hosting their Spring Open Days over the next few weeks. If your child is considering their options for post-GCSEs, then attending an Open Day is a great way to get an insight into everything available:
Hemel Hempstead Open Day - Saturday 28 February 9.30am - 12.30pm
Watford Open Day - Saturday 7 March 9.30am - 1.00pm

Town Council Tree Planting

Berkhamsted Town Council would like to invite our school community to the Lagley Meadow Hall Community Tree Planting Day on Saturday 14 March between 11am and 1pm. Details can be found [here](#).

Student Achievement

Congratulations to the Swim team who did superbly well at the gala against Abbots Hill this week. Both the A and B teams for the Juniors and Seniors won most of the races putting in a dominant performance.

Well Done to Violet, Rosie, Lamorna, Nina, Isla, Phoebe, Cece and Hannah in the Junior Teams and Poppy, Isla, Rose, Freya and Caite in the Senior Team.

We have another gala against Abbots Hill in Summer term so if anyone is interested in taking part please let the PE staff.

Careers

As we approach National Careers Week (2-6 March 2026), our preparations have reached an exciting milestone, marking our most ambitious careers programme to date. The core of this year's vision is to bridge the gap between the classroom and the professional world, ensuring every student understands the long-term value of their current studies. To achieve this, every academic department has developed bespoke, subject-linked careers lessons. These sessions are designed to show students how the skills they are mastering in their daily timetable translate directly into industry, transforming abstract concepts into tangible future pathways.

A highlight of the upcoming week is our diverse assembly programme, which will feature a wide array of guest speakers representing a vast spectrum of modern industries. These high-profile encounters are designed to spark curiosity and broaden horizons, providing students with first-hand insights into the reality of the workforce.

Key Dates

- 10 Mar: ELD
- 11 Mar: Y7 Parent-Teacher Consultation Evening
- 16 Mar: Y11 & Y13 Group Photos
- 27 Mar: Last Day of Term Normal 3.20pm Finish
- 13 April: Term Starts

Next Week Autumn/ Winter Lunch Menu: Week 2

Communications

- [Y10 Assessment Week](#)
- [Y10 Parent-Teacher Consultation Evening](#)

Vacancies

- [SEM Higher Learning Teaching Assistant](#)

House Points

Current house points			
Bourne	Coram	Handel	Raven
17812	21353	19784	22781
4 th	2 nd	3 rd	1 st

27/02/2026

SEND Information Fayre

Please find the information for the next Dacorum Families SEND Information Fayre [here](#)

Year 11 Raising Achievement Programme

As we enter these critical final weeks in our preparation for the exams, the Raising Achievement Programme has shifted gears to focus on high-impact, intentional preparation. In this morning's assembly, Mr. Roberts challenged Year 11 to move beyond passive study and embrace a more rigorous, "cognitively challenging" approach to their final months.

By sharpening their focus now, our students are building the stamina and precision needed to translate their hard work into the results they deserve.

Sports Results

Y11 Boys Football vs Hemel	Won 4-1
Y11 and Senior Netball Cup and Plate Finals	Y11A - Cup Winners Y11B - Plate Winners Senior - Plate Winners
Y8B Boys Football vs Longdean	Won 6-2
U18 Boys Football vs TBSH	Lost 3-0
Y8 Boys Rugby vs SHFGS	Won
Y11 Boys Football vs Broxbourne	TBC

ASA News

QUIZ NIGHT - FRIDAY 13TH MARCH Tables are sold out!

Limited number of individual tickets available on [ParentPay](#).

Price £10 per ticket

Cake / Platter Auction: Can you bake or create a platter for us to auction on the night? Email asa@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk to let us know.

See the flyer [here](#) for full details.

NEW 2 YOU UNIFORM SALE - SATURDAY 21 MARCH

We're excited to announce another uniform sale in the school hall!

NEW THIS TERM: Prom Outfit Rail 🎉 Got a dress, suit, shoes, or accessories gathering dust? Help this year's prom cohort look and feel amazing while making a sustainable choice!

Drop-off locations:

- School office
- 67A Kings Road

Alongside prom wear, we're also gratefully accepting regular school uniform donations.

Thank you for supporting sustainable fashion and helping students shine!

ASA MEETING - TUESDAY 3 MARCH, 7PM

Join us for our Spring term meeting. We'll review recent events, plan future activities, and discuss fundraising bids. Your input makes our events better and our fundraising more successful - so please come along! Drop us an email at asa@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk if you can make it.

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY: DACORUM DECORATING SUPPLIES

Pop into Dacorum Decorating Supplies (317 High Street, Berkhamsted) from Monday 2 March till end April for an incredible deal that benefits the ASA!

Due to machine faults, they have a huge selection of quality trade paints mixed in incorrect colours - perfect for

anyone planning a refresh! Just mention the ASA when you go in.

High-quality paint at low cost + fundraising for Ashlyns + keeping paint out of landfill = win-win-win!

Brands: Crown, Dulux, Farrow & Ball, Little Greene

Prices:

- 10.0 Litre - £12.50
 - 5.0 Litre - £10.00
 - 2.5 Litre - £7.50
 - 1.0/750ml - £5.00
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BAGS 2 SCHOOL - 21 APRIL

If you're having a clear out before 21 April, please donate any unwanted clothes, shoes and textiles etc. for Bag 2 School; a textile recycling company who will repurpose your clothing AND donate money to the ASA.

The more we collect, the more they donate. Please drop off your items to: 15 Swing Gate Lane, HP4 2LJ.

www.bag2school.com

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Social Media Support If you have a flair for words and social media skills, we need you! The commitment is manageable - more hands make light work.

Comedy & Curry Night (10 July). We need a few volunteers to help organise our Comedy Night. The lead is in place, but we're looking for support with event management and marketing/communications.

Interested? Email asa@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk

SAVE THESE DATES

- 3 March - ASA Meeting, 7pm
 - 13 March - Quiz Night
 - 21 March - New 2 You Uniform Sale
 - 10 July - Comedy & Curry Night
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As always...

Stay in the loop: Complete this [form](#) to receive updates on fundraising activities and see where your contributions make a difference

Join our lottery: Sign up for the ASA 100 Club [here](#) for monthly chances to win cash prizes

Shop & raise: Sign up [here](#) for Easyfundraising - raise funds effortlessly while you shop online

Get in touch: asa@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk

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



Smacking, Discipline and Listening to Children: Insights for Parents

Article 3 minute read



"That's So Gay!" How to Respond if Primary-Aged Children Use the Word 'Gay' as an Insult

Tips to Try 3 minute read



Dr Weston Talks with Jessica Bondy and Dr Fiona Pienaar: Words Matter

Podcast

How we talk to children matters. Words don't just communicate; they shape a child's sense of safety, identity and self-worth. Sometimes harm caused by words is loud and obvious but more often it is subtle, woven into everyday interactions. Research shows that repeated exposure to belittling or persistently critical language can affect children's emotional wellbeing and long-term mental health.

Reflecting on our language isn't about being perfect. It's about awareness - noticing when our words support growth or when they risk undermining emotional safety.

At Tooled Up, we've gathered expert insight to help you build children up with your words, nurturing resilience and confidence at every stage of childhood.

Supporting young children can sometimes feel challenging. In moments of stress or frustration we may fall back on approaches we experienced ourselves. While certain responses may stop behaviour in the moment, do they truly teach the lessons we want young children to learn? Our article [Smacking, Discipline and Listening to Children: Insights for Parents](#) explores what physical punishment communicates to young children and why warmth combined with firm boundaries is more effective.

As children grow they become more aware of identity and social norms. Playground language can sometimes be hurtful, and adults may feel unsure how to respond. [That's So Gay: How to Respond if Primary-Aged Children Use the Word Gay as an Insult](#) gives clear, practical guidance for addressing this and any hurtful language calmly, helping build empathy, respect and emotional literacy.

During adolescence, language plays a powerful role in identity and peer dynamics. Teenagers are particularly sensitive to criticism and comparison, making affirming communication vital. Our webinar [Words Matter: Protecting Young People and Children](#) explores how words can support or undermine development, providing strategies for adults to guide teenagers through this complex stage.