



Next week, after Easter- 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

We would like to take this opportunity to wish our students and families a safe and happy Easter break. Should you have a concern about a child within the holidays please contact children's services on 0300 123 4043 or via this [link](#), and/or the police.

Student Achievements

Congratulations to the U18 Girls' Football team who are County Cup champions! The girls played a phenomenal game in Tuesday's final against St Clement Danes winning 5-0! Goals: Marianne G, Daisy T (2) Lily W and Mollie R. Congratulations to captain Mollie who was also recognised as player of the match for her dominant role in midfield. Thank you to everyone who came along to support. We could not be more proud of this team!



Sixth Form

Following their enrichment session with The Anthony Nolan Trust earlier this month, 34 Yr13 students volunteered to take part in the recent stem cell recruitment drive in the sixth form centre - this is wonderful news for such an important charity that saves and improves the lives of people with blood cancer and blood disorders by matching patients in need with unrelated, volunteer stem cell donors.

Year 11 Raising Achievement

As we head into the Easter break, Year 11 students are in the critical last weeks for revision. We want everyone revising with real intention, but it is equally vital to find a healthy balance. Make sure to break up study periods with exercise, time outdoors, and seeing friends in person to stay refreshed.

Students have all the resources needed for their exam preparations. Using quizzing, dedicated practice papers, and mark schemes is critical; this is how you start to notice the patterns and rhythm of the exams.

When we return, i-cards will continue, with the triple i-card running for one further week. Students need 15 i-cards and to maintain good attendance and punctuality; this is the "passport to the Prom."

Key Dates

- 13 April: Term Starts
- 14 April: Y10 Trial Exam Week
- 29 April: Y8 Parent-Teacher Consultation Evening

Next Week [New](#) [Spring/Summer Menu:](#) Week 1

The Culineria page on the school website will be updated after Easter, please use the above link to view the new menu.

Communications

- [Arrangements for Y13 Students](#)
- [Headteacher's End of Term Letter](#)

Vacancies

- [Assistant Head Teacher](#)
- [Teaching Assistant](#)

House Points

Current house points			
Bourne	Coram	Handel	Raven
22388	27529	26462	28641
4 th	2 nd	3 rd	1 st

27/03/2026

Music Lessons

If you wish to register for Music Lessons please click [here](#). If you wish to stop Music Lessons please email HMS.customersupport@herfordshire.gov.uk or use this [form](#) to withdraw from lessons. Any other queries regarding Music Tuition at Ashlyns School please email musictuition@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk

Careers

Exploring a Career in the British Army

We are hosting a free online session for parents and guardians: Tuesday 28 April, 6-7pm, to provide clear, trustworthy guidance on how they can support their young person if they're considering the British Army. Please register [here](#).

Careers in Aviation - British Airways

This week we hosted a Careers in Aviation event for students in Year 9 and 10, delivered by one of our alumni who is now a pilot for British Airways.

The engaging and insightful presentation covered the demanding flight school curriculum and the importance of continuous learning in the field. In addition, students heard about the practical realities of the profession and the key skills and character traits needed to succeed in the industry.

The event concluded with a lively Q&A session where students posed questions about everything from the best travel destinations through to how to navigate challenging weather conditions. The session provided an invaluable, firsthand perspective on the aviation industry, leaving many students inspired to explore flight careers.

Victoria Collins MP Visit

We were delighted to welcome our local MP, Victoria Collins, to the school recently to speak with students about her career in politics. It was a fantastic opportunity for our young people to engage directly with the democratic process and gain insight into the life of a Member of Parliament.

Our students showed incredible maturity by raising several poignant issues, including the proposed social media ban for under-16s, period poverty, knife crime, and violence against women. Victoria was particularly impressed by the depth of their questions and their passion for these important topics. It was a proud moment for the school to see our students speaking so articulately about the challenges facing their generation and the wider community.

LRC

Recreate a Book Cover Competition

During the Easter break, the LRC are inviting Year 7 to 10 students to get creative and recreate a book cover of their choice using only found objects and items from home. Entries should include the original book cover alongside their creation. All submissions should be handed in to the LRC by Wednesday 15 April for a chance to win prizes.

Sports Results

Y7 Boys Football vs JFK	Lost 2-0
U13B Girls Football vs Adeyfield	Drew 1-1
U18 Girls Football vs St Clement Danes	Won 5-0 County Cup Champions
U18 Boys Football vs JFK	Won 4-0
U15B Girls Football vs St Joseph's	Drew 4-4- Lost on penalties

Future Talent Awards

An exciting opportunity for talented young musicians. Applications are open offering financial support and workshops to Pupil Premium Grant students who are committed to their music education. More information and how to apply can be found [here](#) and the deadline for applications is the 24 April.

Family Lives

Family Lives have confirmed our online parenting groups and workshops (via MS Teams) for the Summer term, funded by Herts County Council in the Autumn term for parents/carers who live in Hertfordshire or who have a child attending a Hertfordshire school. Please complete the referral form [here](#).

Children's Wellbeing Practitioner Workshops

These NHS workshops are delivered virtually via Microsoft Teams and are free to attend. Details on how to register can be found [here](#).

New Extra-Curricular Sports Clubs Timetable



PE Extra-Curricular Timetable Summer Term 2026



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch 1:35-2:00pm	Tennis (Y7) Senior Gym Cricket / Table Tennis (Sports Hall) Astro	Tennis (Y8) Senior Gym Cricket / Table Tennis (Sports Hall) Astro	Tennis (Y9) Senior Gym Cricket / Table Tennis (Sports Hall) Astro	Tennis (Y10) Senior Gym Cricket / Table Tennis (Sports Hall) Astro	Tennis (Girls/ 6th Form) Senior Gym Cricket / Table Tennis (Sports Hall) Astro
After School 3:30-4:30pm	Rounders Club Girls' Cricket Senior Gym	Rounders Fixtures Y7 & 8 @ Ashlyns Tennis Senior Gym	Athletics Senior Gym	Rounders Fixtures Y9 & 10 @ JFK Boys' Cricket Senior Gym	Senior Gym

Please see the school website and Sports Hall noticeboard for all fixtures & team sheets. Regular updates are on our Socials feed - follow us @AshlynsPE. If you would like us to run any other club please speak to a member of PE.

ASA News

Funding agreed: New minibus for Ashlyns

We're delighted to share the news that the ASA is funding one of two minibuses being leased for the school. The current fleet is ageing and increasingly costly to maintain. Minibuses are essential for school life, getting students to careers events, field trips, curriculum activities and sporting fixtures - so we're really proud to help keep those wheels turning. It's a brilliant example of how the support of the ASA can make things happen. And it's only possible because of our fabulous school community and everyone who has attended an ASA event, volunteered, or donated over the years. Thank you!

New2You Uniform Sale A huge thank you to everyone who donated and supported the New2You uniform sale last week; and special thanks to Anna K and her team for running this great initiative.

As we enter Easter holidays, here are a few important reminders:

ASA Co-Chair vacancy We're looking for a Co-Chair to work alongside Martin and the team. This new role will help ensure continuity for the Association and a smooth handover when the time comes. It's a great way to get more involved with the school, together with a friendly group of people who care about the school.

If you're tempted, we'd love to hear from you: asa@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk

Coming up: The Ashlyns Comedy Night - 10th July Join us for a great night of laughs, with Culinera's fabulous curries. Early bird tickets are coming soon - watch this space!

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

Dacorum Decorating Supplies - A reminder that discounted mis-mixed trade paints are still available until the end of April, with all proceeds going to the ASA. Great quality, great prices - worth a look if you have any painting planned.

Bags 2 School - 21st April - clear out your unwanted clothes, shoes, and textiles over the Easter break, and donate them to Bags2School, a textile recycling charity that turns your donations into funds for the ASA. Every bag counts, so the more we collect, the more we receive. Drop off at: 15 Swing Gate Lane, HP4 2LJ | bag2school.com

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



10 Things to Try to Help a Child Speak Up When They're Worried

Tips to Try 3 minute read



Raising a Resilient Learner: Preparing Young Children for School Assessments

Tips to Try 5 minute read



Avoiding Procrastination: Top Tips for Adults and Children

Tips to Try 6 minute read

As we approach exam season, many students are beginning to focus on their revision, and for some, it's already in full swing. This time of year can bring a range of emotions, from self-doubt to bursts of motivation and everything in between.

As parents and carers, your role is not to have all the answers, but to offer reassurance, structure and calm during this time. It's natural to feel a mix of concern and uncertainty, but the key is to provide support in a way that empowers without adding pressure or taking over.

Your presence and encouragement can make all the difference and Tooled Up offers a variety of resources to help you feel prepared.

While pre-school children don't face exams, their emotions can run high as they move later into the school year with changes in routine, transitions and tiredness playing a part. Children sometimes struggle to express their feelings so our resource [10 Things to Try to Help a Child Speak Up When They're Worried](#) contains practical ideas that you can implement into your daily life.

For younger students approaching end-of-year assessments, building confidence in small, manageable ways is key. Keep routines consistent, encourage a positive attitude towards "having a go," and practice simple recall in everyday conversation to make assessments feel less daunting. [Raising a Resilient Learner: Preparing Young Children for School Assessments](#) offers guidance on talking about exams in family life, how to help children feel calm and ways to make revising fun.

As formal public exams approach for older children, procrastination may start to creep in, often due to feelings of overwhelm, fear of making mistakes or uncertainty about where to start. Breaking revision into manageable, prioritised tasks, and setting realistic goals can be useful. [Avoiding Procrastination: Top Tips for Adults and Children](#) provides our top tips to help.