



## 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 an informative news article outlining an organised crime group targeting young people around Europe [here](#).

## Careers

**Free NHS career talks:** Bucks NHS Trust have released its *Discover Careers in Healthcare* programme for 2026-27. Ideal for students in Yrs 7-13 who are interested in healthcare, helping people or exploring future careers in the NHS. The first will take place on Wednesday 2 December, 4.45pm - 7pm at Stoke Mandeville Hospital (in the lecture theatre), other talks will be released a term in advance. Please find more information [here](#).

## Character

This week's assemblies introduced our students to the Ashlyns Character Pyramid, which will be a key focus during tutor time throughout this half term. The pyramid guides students on how to cultivate strong personal character and strive to become the best version of themselves.

A major theme of the week was the difference between extrinsic rewards (prizes and recognition) and intrinsic motivation—the internal drive to make positive choices simply because it is the right thing to do.

This reflects our core school values: showing Integrity by doing the right thing when no one is watching, demonstrating Independence by taking ownership of our actions, and practicing Inclusivity by considering others. Keep an eye out for the pyramid displays around the school!

## Year 11 Raising Achievement Programme

This week brought three important developments for our Year 11 students:

1. i-Cards for Passport to Prom: The i-Card scheme is now live. Students need 20 teacher signatures—awarded for attendance, revision session participation, positive learning attitudes, and school values—to earn their Passport to Prom.
2. Cognitive Science Revision Sessions: Dr. Van der Spoel visited to run workshops for students (and an evening session for parents) on effective revision strategies. The key takeaways were starting early using Repetition (flashcards for knowledge retrieval) and Practice (past papers with mark schemes).
3. The Compound Effect and Attendance: In assembly, Mr. Roberts reinforced the impact of making small, daily 1% gains. He reminded students that despite all the additional support on offer, high daily attendance and active engagement in every lesson remains the number one driver of academic success.

## Key Dates

- 14 Sept: Y7 Individual & Class Photos
- 17 Sept: Y10 Parents' Information Evening
- 18 Sept: Y10 & Y12 Individual Photos
- **1 Oct: Open Evening 12.30pm early finish**
- **2 Oct: Inset, school closed to students**

## Next Week

[Spring/Summer Menu: Week 3](#)

## Communications

- [Open Evening 2026](#)

## House Points

| Current house points |                 |                 |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Bourne               | Coram           | Handel          | Raven           |
| 232                  | 225             | 194             | 225             |
| 1 <sup>st</sup>      | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | 3 <sup>rd</sup> | 2 <sup>nd</sup> |
| 11/09/2026           |                 |                 |                 |

## Vacancies

- [Teaching Assistant](#)

## Music Lessons

Music Lessons have now either started or will be starting next week. The lessons take place in the Practice Rooms in the Music Block. Lesson timetables can be found on Google Classroom (Music Timetables and all students registered for lessons will have received an invite email) and on the Music Block notice board. It is the responsibility of students to get to their lessons on time. Please re-check your times over the next few weeks as there may be amendments to begin with.

Session 6 for Year 11 starts Monday 14 September. It runs Monday through Thursday, 3.20 - 4.20pm in the LRC. All Y11 students are invited to attend for independent study. Please bring your i-cards - signatures will be provided for attendance.

### Student Achievement

Rosie C - Y8 competed in the English National Judo Championships at the University of East London on Saturday, one of the biggest competitions in the judo calendar. After 3 years out of action with a significant injury, it was her first competition back where she got Gold and became English Champion!

### Parent Forum

Our Parent Forum meets once per term (on a Monday evening at 7.00pm) to discuss and give feedback on strategic school items. We very much value the work done by our Parent Forum to inform and help our work in all areas of the school going forward. If you would be interested in becoming part of Parent Forum for this academic year, please email Mrs Thompson on [ftompson@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk](mailto:ftompson@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk).

### School Travel

Hertfordshire County Council is currently running a public consultation on proposed additional 20mph speed limits in Berkhamsted and Northchurch. The consultation aims to gather views on where lower speed limits may be appropriate to improve safety, encourage walking, wheeling and cycling, and reduce traffic noise.

The consultation is available at [20mph programme in Hertfordshire | Hertfordshire County Council](#) and closes on Sunday 4 October 2026.

If you have any queries regarding the lessons or timetables please email [musictuition@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk](mailto:musictuition@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk) or alternatively speak to your music teacher directly.

### Coram Family Lives

Information about the online parenting groups and workshops funded by HCC, can be found [here](#).

### Berkhamsted Heritage Open Days - Foundling Tours

We are thrilled to be hosting this annual event on Sunday 13 September, as part of Heritage Open Days, with guided tours from our former foundlings of Ashlyns. Sixth Form. Students will also be serving tea/coffee, raising funds for their charity WAMBA. More information can be found [here](#).

### NHS Blood Donor Session

Ashlyns continue to support this vital NHS service with monthly sessions. The next one will take place here on Sunday 20 September. More information can be found [here](#).

## ASA News

### New 2 You Uniform

We've had a busy time in the New 2 You Uniform cupboard which has been wonderful, but as a result we're running a little low on some uniform items - in particular blazers and PE tops. If you've replaced any items, please do send the old ones into school or drop them off at 67a Kings Road, HP4 3BP. We're happy to do a little repair work so send them in even if they need a bit of TLC. Thanks

### Halloween Disco - Tuesday 20 October (Years 7 & 8)

Tickets will be on sale on ParentPay in the next couple of weeks. It's always a sell-out so you'll need to be quick. Keep checking the e-Bulletins for further info.

## AGM - Tuesday 13 October, 7pm, Boardroom at Ashlyns

Our annual AGM is next month. Everyone is welcome and it's a great chance to hear what we achieved in the last year and what we have planned for the one ahead. If you're new to Ashlyns, the ASA is a great way to feel part of the school community and it would be lovely to see you there. Email us using the address below if you have any questions.

### 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

**New 2 You uniform:** Drop us an email if you're looking to buy. Donations welcome - either to the school office or at 67a Kings Road, HP4 3BP.

**Get in touch:** [asa@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk](mailto:asa@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk)

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



Unkindness, Conflict and Bullying: What is the Difference?

Tips to Try



Supporting Your Child to Step Away From and Challenge Harmful Talk in Their Peer Group

Article 5 minute read



Raising a Positive Bystander or 'Upstander': Five Things Parents Need to Know

Tips to Try 4 minute read

**Bullying can be difficult for children and young people to talk about, whether they are experiencing it, seeing it happen to someone else, or becoming involved in behaviour that hurts others.** For parents and carers, knowing what to say or do can be challenging, particularly as friendships and peer relationships become increasingly important as children grow.

Tooled Up has a range of resources to help you talk to your child about bullying, friendships and positive relationships, including some of the challenges that can arise.

**Friendships naturally have their ups and downs**, and a simple disagreement can occasionally develop into something more serious. Our resource [Unkindness, Conflict and Bullying: What is the Difference?](#) helps parents understand the differences between unkindness, conflict and bullying, with age-appropriate tips for children at every stage.

**If your child encounters harmful or prejudiced talk among their peers**, [Supporting Your Child to Step Away From and Challenge Harmful Talk](#) offers practical advice to help children recognise and challenge it, or step away from it when needed. It also helps parents understand how to respond if their child has joined in with, or used language that puts others down.

[Raising a Positive Bystander or 'Upstander': Five Things Parents Need to Know](#) looks at how family life can encourage children to stand up for others. It explores how values, everyday conversations and gentle encouragement can help young people speak up when they see something that doesn't feel right, while recognising that doing so can take courage.