ASHLYNS SCHOOL

ASPIRE & ACHIEVE

e - Bulletin

Number 09

Week ending 06 Nov 2026

Next week- Week 2/B

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 two informative links here and here, to support parents with the subject of self harm.

Year 11 Raising Achievement Programme

With the Trial Exams approaching fast it is great to see so many students making the commitment to attending Session 6 alongside other sessions taking place around the school. Flash cards, mind maps and past paper practice can be seen across the LRC each evening, with students committing to a focused hour of study. However, it is important now that students realise their commitment needs to increase to at least two hours a night during the school week with more at the weekends.

As parents you can help by taking a keen interest in what they have been working on and asking them to talk to you about it. In doing this, they are revising and checking their knowledge as they speak - you don't need to be experts, just a listening and encouraging ear.

Students are working on revision during form time and their revision schedule should be well underway. If they haven't started on a revision timetable, please use the template sent home before half term to help get them started.

Extended Learning Day

Please find below, the activities set for our ELD next Thursday 12 November:

Year 7	Inclusivity
Year 8	Work Shadowing Day
Year 9	PSHE - Inspiring Social Change
Year 10	Careers Day
Year 11	Macbeth and ACC Study Day
Year 12	Museum Visits
Year 13	Options Day in school (UCAS)

LRC Great British Book Bake-Off Competition

The popular Year 7 Great British Book Bake-Off competition is taking place on Monday 9 November 2026. Cake creations can be in the form of a favourite book, character or scene. Any cake form such as tray-bakes, biscuits, cupcakes etc. are allowed, but all entries must be nut-free please. Students should deliver their cakes to the LRC before registration on Monday morning with the prize-giving ceremony taking place at lunchtime at 1.40pm. Amazing prizes and House Points to be won. *Ready, Steady, Bake!*

Key Dates

- 12 Nov:Extended Learning Day
- 27 Nov: Occasional Day - School Closed
- 30 Nov: Inset Day - School Closed

Next Week New Winter Menu: Week 2

Communications

- Y7 Science Museum Trip
- Y10 Careers Programme
- Y12 MFL Journalism Trip
- Y12 Higher Education Convention
- Y12 Duke of Edinburgh Gold Launch

Vacancies

- Business and Economics Teacher

House Points

Current house points

Bourne	Coram	Handel	Raven
4635	5051	4695	5530
4th	2nd	3rd	1st

06/11/2026

Student Achievement

Congratulations to the House Drama winners. We saw some absolutely excellent acting!
Year 7 - Bourne
Year 8 - Handle
Year 9 - Raven

ASA News

It's crunch time & we're ready for your help!

ASHLYNS CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR - 15th November: just 1 week to go and we need more volunteers! There's still time to sign up to help at the Craft Fair (via this link) - lots of positions still need filling, so if you can volunteer your time, we'd be very grateful.

Cake donations needed: We're looking for homemade or shop bought cakes to sell at the fair (no nuts, list of ingredients required - and gluten free options welcome!)

Drop off at the main school reception on Friday 13th November, or school on the morning of Sunday 15th November.

And don't forget to join us on the day! This wonderful community event is a great way to kick the festive period off, with **60+ stalls** of handcrafted gifts, decorations, jewellery, artwork and more. We have our café serving hot food, drinks and homemade cakes, plus we have the Christmas eco-craft workshop for children, run by a local crafting business, Growing Bright. No pre-booking required, just £3 per child.

Follow us on Facebook / Instagram for a look at our stallholders: like & share our posts to help build awareness.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE TICKETS can now be purchased via parentpay! Tickets are £5 for 3 numbers, £10 for 6 numbers etc. You can buy as many tickets as you wish in multiples of £5. The draw is Monday 14th December.

See the flyer here with more details.

Other donations needed (see further down for drop off points):

Beyond cakes for the Craft Fair, we're also collecting:

- Bottles and chocolates for the Festival of Light tombola 22nd November (donation deadline 20th November)
- Mince pies for the Carol Concert 13th December (donation deadline 11th December)
- Christmas hampers goodies - draw date Monday 14th December (donation deadline Monday 7th December); think Christmas treats, decorations, bottles, chocolates, nuts & crackers, festive candles, seasonal luxuries, and anything that will make these hampers truly special.

Please dig deep where you can for us - both with volunteering & donations. Drop off locations are below.

Last call for BAGS2SCHOOL - Monday 9th November (lunchtime)

Please drop any adults' or children's clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts, scarves, ties, bras, socks, jewellery by lunchtime on Monday to 15 Swing Gate Lane, HP4 2LJ

Save the Date:

Burns Night is back! Friday 29th January - tickets coming shortly.

Right now, we're looking for any Scots / wannabe Scots / those with Scottish connections who might like to be involved helping to organise the evening; please email: asaburnsnight@gmail.com.

We're also looking for a couple of speakers for the night, and welcome any suggestions…

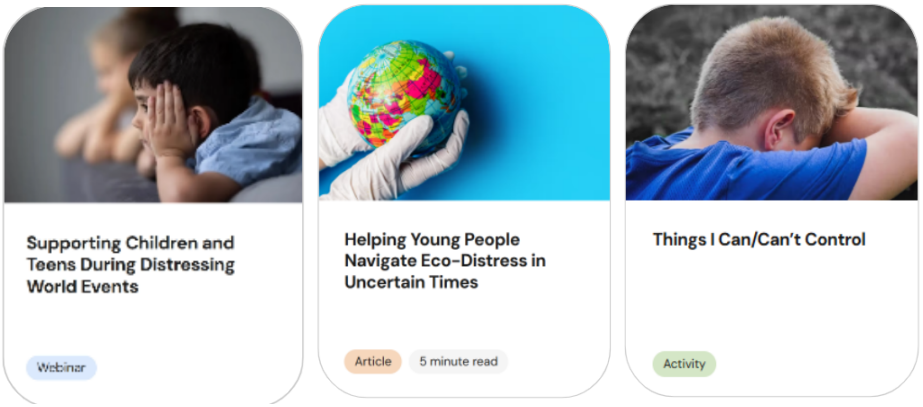
DONATIONS can be dropped off at the school office, or at the following addresses:

1. 1 Upper Hall Park, HP4 2NW
2. 15 Swing Gate Lane, HP4 2LJ
3. 33 Bridgewater Road, HP4 1HP
4. 14 Haynes Mead, HP4 1BU
5. 7 Moore Road, HP4 3PX
6. 17 Marlin Close, HP4 3JX
7. 32 Shrublands Avenue, HP4 3JQ
8. Post Hill Cottage, Chesham Road, HP4 2SZ
9. 27 Granville Dene, Bovingdon, HP3 0JE

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 and 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

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



Whether it's distressing world events, climate change or everyday school pressures, children can feel anxious and overwhelmed by things beyond their control.

Although we can't eliminate every worry, we can help them feel heard, build skills to manage their emotions and recognise where they can make a positive difference.

Tooled Up has a range of expert-led resources that equip parents and carers with practical skills and strategies to help families navigate uncertainty, manage worries and feel more prepared to face life's challenges together.

How can we talk to children about unsettling world events without adding to their worries? Our **Supporting Children and Teens During Distressing World Events** webinar **offers guidance on** having **sensitive, age appropriate** conversations that **acknowledge feelings**, and provide **reassurance** and **emotional safety**.

Children and teenagers may feel anxious, frustrated or helpless about climate change and the future. Our article, **Helping Young People Navigate Eco-Distress in Uncertain Times**, **explains how eco distress can manifest in different ways** depending on a child's experiences, and how parents and carers can **validate these feelings** while encouraging **constructive action**.

Sometimes, a simple activity can help put worries into perspective. Our **Things I Can/Can't Control** exercise encourages children to distinguish between **what they can't control**, such as world events or other people's behaviour, and **what they can influence**, such as their responses, choices and daily habits. It's a useful tool for building confidence and a greater sense of control over their own lives.