

Ashley Road, Walton on Thames KT12 1HX

11th September 2026

“ Love others as we
love ourselves ”

Dear Parents and Carers,

Headteacher Message

As we come to the end of Week 2, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been a fantastic start to the new academic year.

We are particularly proud of our new Reception children, who have now completed their first week at school. They have settled exceptionally well and have approached their new environment with curiosity and enthusiasm. We know that starting school is a significant milestone for both children and their families, and we would like to thank parents and carers for their support during this important transition.

Thank you also to everyone who has attended our Meet the Teacher sessions. These meetings have been very well attended and have provided a valuable opportunity for parents/carers to learn more about the curriculum, expectations and exciting opportunities planned for the year ahead. We look forward to welcoming more families to the remaining meetings taking place next week.

This week, I was particularly pleased to read the recently published [SIAMS Annual Report 2025-2026](#). Ashley was highlighted four times within the national report as an example of effective practice, including references to our Christian vision, collective worship, and the quality of Religious Education. The report recognises how our school knows, values and supports every child, celebrates the strength of our partnership with the local church, and highlights the thoughtful way our pupils engage with learning and discussion. This national recognition is a testament to the dedication, commitment and hard work of our staff, children, families, local committee and clergy. I would like to thank everyone who contributes to making Ashley such a special community.

As always, we ask that children wear their Ashley PE uniform to school on their class PE day. In warmer weather we ask that they wear black shorts/skorts and a plain yellow polo shirt and, in the colder months, black jogging bottoms, plain yellow polo shirt and a black/Ashley green sweatshirt. Please note, this is still school uniform and our school colours for PE are black and yellow – **no football kits please!**

Open Mornings

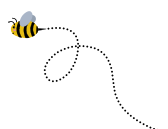
For those who want their children to start here at Ashley next September, our Open Mornings are:

- 14th October 9.15-10.30am
- 14TH October 6.15-7.30pm
- 4th November 9.15-10.30am
- 18th November 9.15-10.30am
- 25th November 9.15-10.30am

Finally, a reminder that the Friends of Ashley (FOA) Annual General Meeting will take place on **Tuesday 16th September at 7:30pm**, in the school hall. The FOA plays an important role in supporting our school community and helping to create memorable experiences for our children. Whether you are a long-standing member or new to the school, we warmly encourage you to come along, find out more about the FOA's incredible work and discover how you can become involved.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We are looking forward to another busy and successful term ahead.

Have a lovely weekend.
Mrs Ratcliff



SCHOOL REMINDERS



Ordering Lunches

If your child/ren normally has a school meal, please can we remind you to order a school meal in advance via Scopay. Ordering closes on the **FRIDAY** before and meals cannot be ordered after this time.



Personal Details

Please can we remind all parents to log in and review all your child's details to ensure we have the correct contact information such as correct mobile numbers and emergency contact details. We require at least 3 emergency contact details so please ensure these are all up to date. If you have changed address or telephone numbers recently, please ensure that you amend these details via the app as soon as possible



IMPORTANT NOTE

Please can we ask parents to be mindful when making packed lunches for your child/ren that we are a **NUT, KIWI, SESAME FREE** school.

We have children with **severe allergies** in school so it is very important that we avoid any foods with these ingredients.

Please check any bread rolls, bagels that they do not have any sesame seeds on it. Please no chocolate spread. And please check any snack bars or any pasta ingredients that they do not contain any traces of nuts or sesame before you send it in for your child's packed lunch.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

PARKING REMINDERS

Please could we ask that you are considerate and **DO NOT** park in front of driveways and block neighbours getting in and out of their houses. **DO NOT PARK** on grass verges or park on private property. May we suggest an alternative options of getting to school such as: Consider walking, cycling, or using public transport if possible Make use of available on-street parking further away from the school, and walk / scooter the remaining distance If you need to turn around, use public roads or appropriate turning points, not private property



BEE FACT

There are over 270 different kinds of bees

PERSONAL APPEARANCE

All children must have full school uniform, worn correctly, for daily attendance at school.

Parents and carers are asked to co-operate fully by providing the uniform and ensuring children wear it correctly to and from school.

Shoulder-length hair should, for safety and hygiene reasons, be tied back from the face.

Hair accessories should be plain in style and in school colours. Dyed, gelled, highlighted hair is not acceptable. Patterns should not be shaved into hair.

Nail varnish, temporary tattoos or make up may not be worn in school.

No jewellery should be worn to school. If children have pierced ears, only plain studs should be worn. Your child can only wear one earring per ear. If possible, earrings should be left at home and not worn to school on the days when they have PE.

If a child has just had their ears pierced, they should wear their earrings to school but must remove them by themselves for PE and should replace them immediately afterwards. This needs to take place for 6 weeks after piercing. Staff members at Ashley will not attempt to remove earrings. Neither school nor parents should tape up earrings.

Year updates during the past fortnight

Reception

It was wonderful meeting so many of you during our recent home visits! Now that all of our Reception children have officially started, our classrooms are buzzing with excitement. We are incredibly proud of how well the children are settling in. Their resilience and curiosity have truly blown us away! They are already working hard to learn their new daily routines and are busy making lovely new friends. We are so excited to work with you this year to support your child's journey.



Year 1

Year 1 have settled into the new school year and are enjoying exploring their new classrooms and environment. This week some of the children have helped Mrs Pearson plant spinach in our new allotment. The children will be responsible for watering and caring for the plants as they grow. We will then taste and use our spinach when we make smoothies later in the year.



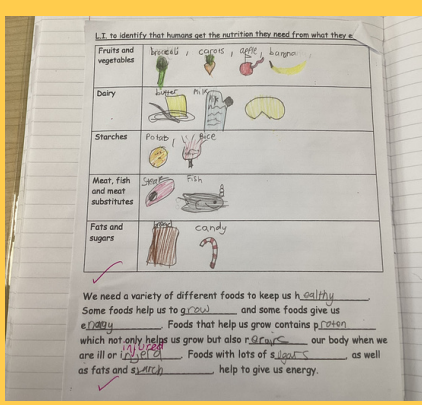
Year 2

This week year 2 have been focusing on place value and grouping numbers into tens and ones to find the total amount of objects.



Year 3

In year 3 the children have started learning about food groups and what foods are in each group. We have been discussing why it is good to have a balanced diet and how it can affect our bodies.



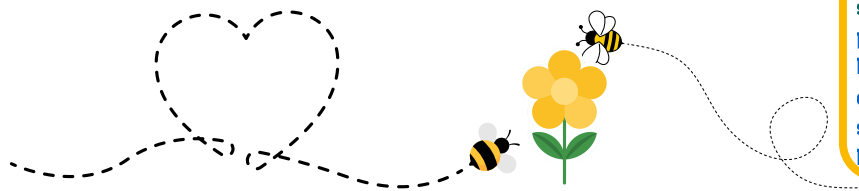
Follow Us!

Keep up to date with the amazing things our pupils are experiencing and learning by following our social media pages.

Key Email Addresses

We actively encourage parents and carers to communicate with us and sometimes there are important messages to share with key people. Urgent items should always be telephoned through to the school office but below are some of the most useful email addresses for parents to share information

parents@ashley.surrey.sch.ukvia office
head@ashley.surrey.sch.ukheadteacher
ds1@ashley.surrey.sch.uksafeguarding concerns
senco@ashley.surrey.sch.ukSEND concerns
hslw@ashley.surrey.sch.uk ...Home School Link Worker



Year updates during the past Fortnight

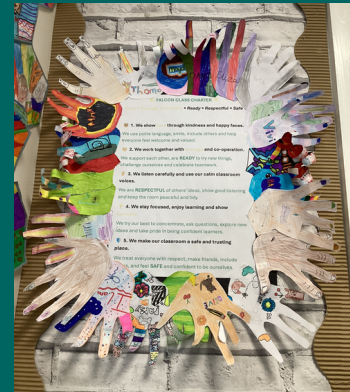
Year 4

This week, we have also begun our exciting new topic on North America. The children have already started exploring this fascinating continent but we will dig deeper into it by using atlases to locate countries, learning about its physical and human geography, and discovering some of the incredible landmarks, landscapes and biomes found there. As we move through the term, please encourage your child to share what they have been learning at school. Talking about their learning at home is a wonderful way to reinforce their understanding and build their confidence.



Year 5

Year 5 have had a great week settling into their new classes, routines and work. They have come together to create a class charter which reflects their desire for what their classrooms will look and feel like. It has been a great way to get to know one another ahead of a successful.



Year 6

It's been a really good to start the year with Year 6. We are settling in, getting used to new routines and finding out how Year 6 works. As part of our transition day in July, the children chose to illustrate values they would like to demonstrate during Year 6. We have seen so many of these displayed already. We are excited for the rest of the year!



As the weather begins to change (hopefully not too soon!), it would be helpful if children could keep a spare pair of trainers in school. These can be used on the field during breaktimes, lunchtimes, and for the Daily Mile.

Student Spotlight



A BIG WELL DONE to Jura (5) on her Endeavour award that she received. She was presented this at the horse rangers awards ceremony at the Gymkhana. Jura was selected out of her squadron to receive this for working hard, showing determination, and making notable personal progress over the last 12 months.



AUTUMN 1 2026-27

Dates

Stay in the loop with the details of the below dates on our school website calendar. We also share further information in our bi-weekly newsletter, our weekly year group emails and our social media platforms @ashleyschoolUK

Week 1: 1/9/26

1/9 - INSET (no pupils)
2/9 - INSET (no pupils)
3/9 - CHILDREN RETURN!
YR Home Visits
4/9 - YR Home Visits
5/9 - YR Home Visits

Week 2: 7/9/26

7/9 - Y2 Meet the Teacher PM
8/9 - Reception Start (Summer born)
9/9 - Y1 Meet the Teacher AM
9/9 - Reception Start (Spring born)
10/9 - Reception Start (Autumn born)
11/9 - All Reception Start

Week 3: 14/9/26

14/9 - Y6 Henley Fort
14/9 - Open the Book Play
15/9 - Y6 Henley Fort
15/9 - Y5 Meet the Teacher AM
16/9 - Y6 Henley Fort
16/9 - Y3 Meet the Teacher AM
17/9 - Y4 Meet the Teacher AM

Week 4: 21/9/26

22/9 - Reception Meet the Teacher PM
23/9 - Y1 Reading Cafe PM
24/9 - CONKER COMPETITION
24/9 - Y2 Reading Cafe PM
25/9 - SLT Coffee Morning AM

Week 5: 28/9/26

28/9 - Y6 Bikeability
28/9 - Open the Book Play
29/9 - Y6 Bikeability
29/9 - Y5 River Walk
30/9 - Y6 Bikeability
01/10 - Y6 Bikeability
01/10 - Church Harvest Festival
02/10 - Y6 Bikeability

Week 6: 05/10/26

5/10 - Y6 Bikeability
6/10 - Harvest Festival
6/10 - Y6 Bikeability
7/10 - Y6 Bikeability
7/10 - Y4 Sayers croft
8/10 - Y6 Bikeability
8/10 - Y4 Sayers croft
9/10 - Y6 Bikeability
9/10 - Y4 Sayers croft
9/10 - Y5 Great works PM

Week 7: 14/10/24

13/10 - Y3 Great Work PM
13/10 - Parent Consultations (Virtual)
14/10 - Prospective Parent Tour (AM)
14/10 - Y6 Evacuee Day & Y6 Great Work PM
14/10 - Prospective Parent Tour (PM)
15/10 - Parent Consultations (Virtual)
16/10 - SLT Coffee Morning AM
16/10 - Tree Day- Wear Green
16/10 - Y4 Great Works PM
16/10 - Whole School VIP EVENT

Meet the Teacher: Parents are welcomed for a 45min meeting with teachers from the year group to find out about expectations for the year and answer any questions. Slides shared after.
AM: 9.15 - 10am. PM: 2.30 - 3.15pm

Conker Competition: Children are invited to bring in a conker (horse chestnut) on a string to play as a whole school in the afternoon. Reception roll their conkers throughout the day!

Harvest Festival: Y2-Y6 visit St Mary's Church for Harvest Festival. Parent walkers will be needed across all classes.

YR Introduction to Phonics: Parents invited to hear about how we begin the reading journey and support all pupils to learn to read.

Y1 Phonics & Reading Cafe: Parents invited to hear about how we continue support reading through phonics plus time in the classroom, reading!

Our Reading Approach: A parent workshop about our approach to reading across the school Aimed at Y2+.

Prospective Parent Tours: Sign up online via our website. Current parents welcome for tours too!

VIP Event: After school until 4pm. Come and see your child's classroom and their learning so far.

Parent Consultations: Virtual and info on how to sign up emailed via office.

Great Works: At the end of a learning theme, children are able to pass on what they know to others - students become the masters - or they make a change to our community or environment. Be prepared to take part! Not all year groups will perform to parents each half term.

Leadership Coffee Meet: Presentation and coffee with the leadership team.

CARE CHALLENGE EXPLORE



ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

UPDATED TERM DATES 2026 – 2027



Children do not attend school on INSET days

AUTUMN TERM 2026

Term starts – Children return	Thursday 3 rd September 2026
Half term	Monday 19 th October 2026 – Friday 30 th October 2026
Children return	Monday 2 nd November
Term ends	Friday 18 th December 2026 - School finishes at 1.30pm
Christmas holidays	Monday 21 st December 2025 – Friday 1 st January 2027
SCHOOL CLOSED	Tuesday 1 st September (INSET DAY) Wednesday 2 nd September (INSET DAY)

SPRING TERM 2027

Term starts – Children return	Tuesday 5 th January 2027
Half term	Monday 15 th February – Friday 19 th February 2027
Children return	24 th February 2027
Term ends	Thursday 25 th March 2027 - School finishes at 1.30pm
Easter holiday	Monday 29 th March 2027 – Friday 9 th April 2027
SCHOOL CLOSED	Monday 4 th January (INSET DAY) Monday 22 nd and Tuesday 23 rd February (GST INSET DAYS)

SUMMER TERM 2027

Term starts – Children return	Monday 12 th April 2027
Half term	Monday 31 st May – Friday 4 ^h June 2027
Children return	7 th June 2027
Term ends	Friday 23 rd July 2027 – School finishes at 1.30pm
SCHOOL CLOSED	Monday 26 th July (INSET), Tuesday 27 th July (INSET), Wednesday 28 th July 2027 (INSET)