

ASHTON GATE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

24.10.2025



Message from Mrs Dowlman

It's hard to believe we've reached the end of an almost eight-week term! It's been a busy and brilliant start to the school year, and we want to say a huge well done to all our wonderful children who have been amazing Ashton Gaters—embracing new teachers, new classes and new learning with such enthusiasm. A special well done to our Reception children, who have come to the end of their very first term at school—we are so proud of you all.

Our staff have worked incredibly hard to keep the curriculum fresh and exciting, providing lots of exciting lessons, activities and enrichment opportunities that have truly brought learning to life this term. Behind the scenes, the Senior Leadership Team has begun working with education consultant Talal Khan, who specialises in helping schools build truly inclusive cultures that celebrate racial and religious diversity. Although we are still at the early stages of this work, Talal has already helped us reflect deeply on our systems and begin shaping an action plan that will have a positive and lasting impact for our children, staff and community.

Thank you to all our parents and carers for your support throughout this busy term. Have a wonderful, well-deserved break together—and enjoy the crisp autumn air!

Messages from Teachers

Reception

Reception Nativity Performances

We wanted to give you plenty of notice for the Reception class performances of “Wriggly Nativity”. Please make a note in your diary - we're excited to start learning the songs after half term!

Ladybirds - Friday 5th December 2.20pm

Caterpillars - Monday 8th December 2.20pm

Dragonflies - Wednesday 10th December 2.20pm

Bumblebees - Thursday 11th December 2.20pm

Year 2 - Great Fire of London Project Exhibition!

Year 2 have been learning all about the Great Fire of London, and we're excited to announce a special exhibition to showcase an at home project!

The exhibition will be held in the school hall on December 2nd for Maple and Rowan Class and 3rd December for Sycamore and Oak Class from 9:10am to around 9:30am each day. Families are warmly invited to come along and see the children's creations!

Children are invited to make anything that represents the Great Fire of London - this could be paintings, drawings, models, collages, or even LEGO constructions. Be as creative as you like!

If you need any resources to help with your project, just let the school know. We're happy to help.

Please bring in completed work between November 24th and November 28th. We kindly ask that no projects are brought in before the 24th.

We can't wait to see all the fantastic creations and share the children's learning with you!



Year 3

Parent Readers Needed

The Year 3 Team are looking for parent volunteers to listen to our Year 3 children read. Spending just a little time each week listening to our young readers makes a huge difference in their confidence and progress. If you can spare some time to support our Year 3 students, please get in touch with your child's class teacher. Your help will be greatly appreciated by both the children and the school!

Active Travel Workshops and Assembly

We were delighted to welcome the Council's Schools Active Travel & School Streets team to our school recently. They hosted workshops for our Year 3 children and an assembly for Years 3 and 4, teaching the children all about the benefits of active travel. During the workshops, the children learnt how walking, cycling, and scooting can help the environment, improve health, and keep our streets safe. They also got creative, designing their own posters showing how to stay safe and be seen while travelling.



Year 6

Please note that the deadline for secondary school applications is Friday 31st October. If you need any assistance with this, please contact Rachael Herbert (rherbert@ashtongateprimary.org) or Carolyn Busby (cbusby@ashtongateprimary.org).



KS2 Library Club

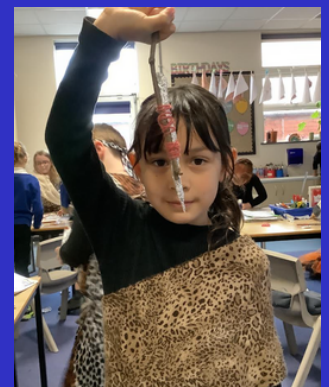
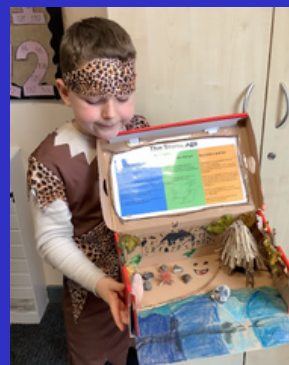
KS2 Library club will start on Monday 10th November 3:10-4:15 with Mrs Franklin in the library. If you would like your child to join this club please fill in the link below. You will be notified on Tuesday 4th November if your child has a place.

<https://forms.gle/3U2vazE9zSB2LbZd9>



Year 3 Ancient Britain Day

Year 3 had a fantastic Ancient Britain Day, bringing history to life! The children explored life in the past by making replica Neolithic tools, retelling stories about a Mesolithic family, and creating their own cave painting designs. We were also thrilled to see the children showcase their amazing home learning projects — the effort and creativity really shone through! A big thank you to all the parents and carers for your support in helping the children dress up for the day. They looked absolutely fantastic in their costumes, which made the day even more special.



What do you think?

What do you think of our new style newsletter?

Use the link below to let us know.

<https://forms.gle/BBNRdPUuu8v9f28N6>

PARKING

We have noticed that there have been an increased number of vehicles being parked at the end of Greenway Bush Lane, near the Upton Road Site, at drop off and pick up. Some of these vehicles have either blocked resident's driveways or have been parked on pavements. We have also seen several vehicles performing potentially dangerous maneuvers at these very busy times of the day. Please can you make sure that your vehicle is driven and parked safely to ensure the safety of all pedestrians, but particularly the children who are not always fully aware of their surroundings. If you are a Blue Badge user and need to park near the Upton Site, please ask a member of staff to move the temporary road barrier. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

The Senior Leadership Team.



Parents Evening

EY & KS1 11th & 13th November 2025

KS2 10th & 12th November 2025

Bookings will be made via Arbor 'Guardian Consultation' and will be available to book from 7am 20th October 2025



Poppy Appeal

We will have various items for sale for the Poppy Appeal.

This will be available from Tuesday 4th November at both sites



Free online & in person support sessions

Peer Support
Greenway Centre
Southmead, BS10

Thurs 13th Nov
9:15AM-10:30AM



Family Voices
St Werburgh's
Community Centre, BS2

Thurs 13th Nov
10AM-12PM



Peer & EBSA Support
Fishponds Old Library
Fishponds, BS16

Thurs 13th Nov
9AM-11AM



EBSA Support
Greenway Centre
Southmead, BS10

Thurs 13th Nov
11AM-12:30PM



Scan here for
details on these
sessions and more



Peer Support
Online

Tues 18th Nov
7PM-8PM



Direct Payments &
Personal Budgets
St Werburgh's, BS2

Weds 19th Nov
10AM-12PM



Peer Support
Inns Court
Knowle, BS4

Thurs 20th Nov
10:30AM-12:30PM



Autism and
Christmas Change
Online

Mon 1st Dec
6:30PM-8:30PM




ROAD SAFETY WEEK COMPETITION

Yunex Traffic is looking for school children to design, create & submit entries for a road safety sticker, which will be displayed on their fleet vehicles around the UK during Road Safety Week which is 16th-22nd November 2025.

This is in support of BRAKE's Road Safety Week Campaign, with the focus this year on "Road Safety".

Be Bright and be Bold! How might Yunex Traffic products and services help?

- 
- For Primary and Preschool children only Closing date for entries is Wednesday 22nd October
 - Judging and schools notified of the winning entry during **Road Safety Week.**
 - Collect your template from your teacher or the office.
 - Submission of entry grants permission to take the design and create stickers for Yunex Traffic fleet vehicles, and use for sales & marketing purposes

PRIZES:

Voucher for the winning entry designer and a copy of your sticker!
Equipment for schools.
The winning entry will be transformed into a vehicle sticker!





GIVE A GIFT THIS FESTIVE SEASON

THERE ARE
**800 CARE EXPERIENCED
YOUNG PEOPLE** FROM BRISTOL.

SOME OF THEM WILL HAVE NOTHING
TO OPEN THIS YEAR.

HELP US BRIGHTEN THEIR DAY BY
GIVING THEM A GIFT THIS WINTER.



PLEASE **CHOOSE A TAG** FROM THE TREE.
THIS IS WHO THE GIFT IS FOR.



PURCHASE THE GIFT ON THE TAG.
PLACE IT IN A GIFT BAG, WITH THE TAG.
PLEASE DON'T WRAP THE GIFT
(HEALTH & SAFETY)



RETURN THE GIFT TO THE
'GIVING TREE'.
COLLECTIONS FROM 5TH-29TH NOV.



PTA News

PTA Film Night



Don't forget our Family Film Night is coming up on **Friday 14 th November!**

Come along with your kids and enjoy a film night at the Upton site. Doors open at 6pm, with the film starting at 6.30pm and should be finished by 8:30pm.

The film will be picked by the kids, so for now it's a surprise! If you're looking for the ultimate film night, then PJs and onesies and blankets welcome (we mean for the kids, but we won't judge!)

The PTA will be running a bar with popcorn, snacks and soft drinks, plus some beers, wines and bubbles for the parents.

Tickets are for sale on the PTA website – you can buy them online by following this link: <https://www.ashtongatepta.co.uk/event-details-registration/film-night-2>

It's £1 for adults but kids go for free and as always, every penny raised goes directly back to the school – be quick as these events always sell out.

Save the Date

SAVE THE DATES

PTA meeting - Our next PTA meeting will be on **Thursday 13th November** (time and place TBC) where we'll be doing some more planning for our upcoming events. It will be another fantastic opportunity for anyone interested in finding out more and getting involved to come meet us and say hi.

Christmas Fair – the big event will be on **Sunday 7th December**. As usual this will be full of games, food, drinks and we will even arrange a visit from Father Christmas himself! Please put the date in your diary we will be asking for volunteers to help us make the event a success and raise as much money as possible.

Christmas cards - 7 November

Christmas is coming! Each child's beautiful custom Christmas card design has gone home in their bag this week, ready for you to order to be printed on cards, wrapping paper and more.

It also includes instructions on how to order:

- Visit the Class Fundraising website
- Enter the school code (C8C707)
- Enter the design code and your child's details
- Approve the design and start shopping



The deadline for ordering is 23:59 on 7 November

We'll confirm the final delivery date as soon as we can; though everything will arrive in good time for Christmas.

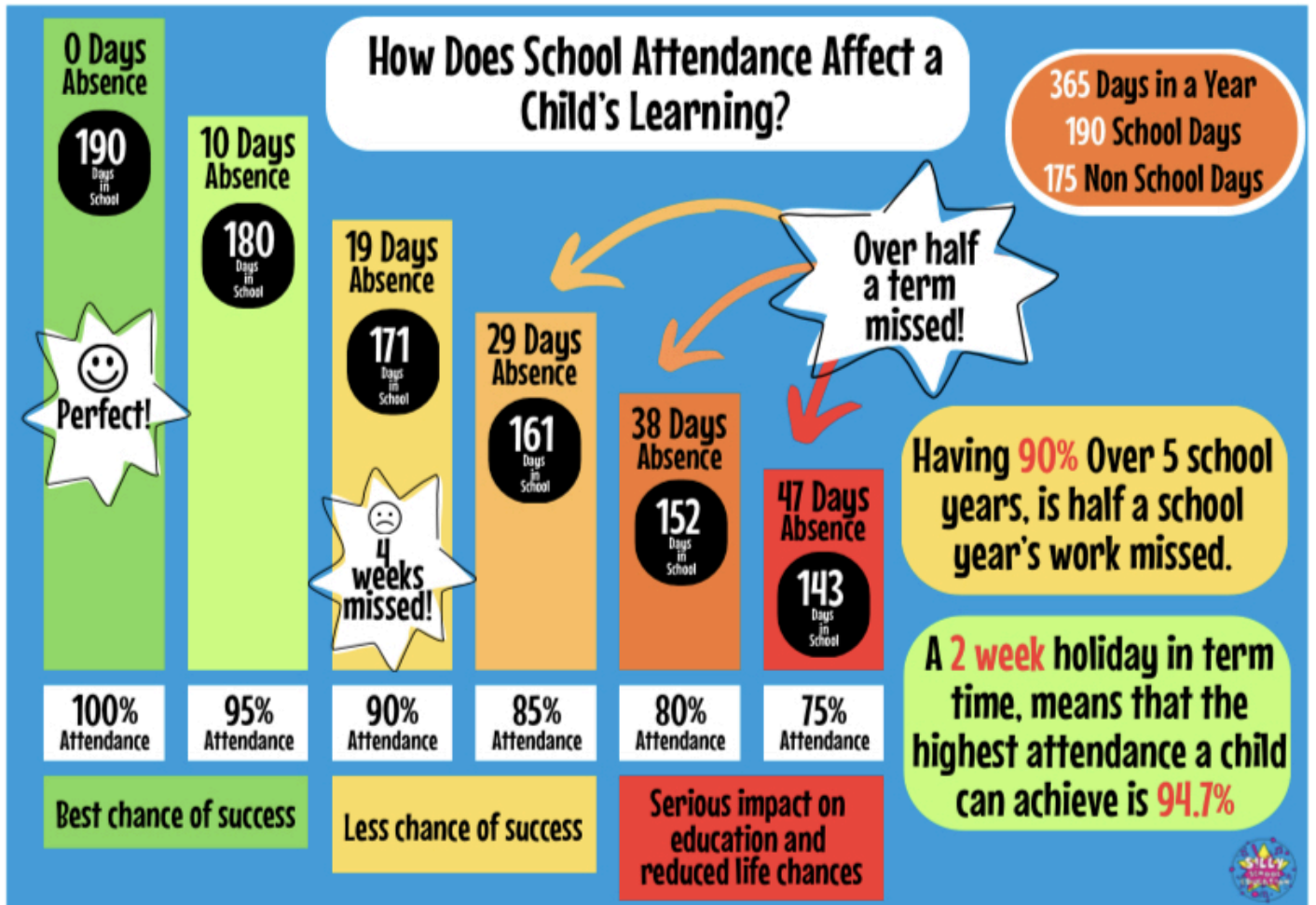
We will remind you after half term but please note, because of how tricky it is to print and deliver all of these cards on time, unfortunately Class Fundraising can't offer any extensions or rescans. Please contact Class Fundraising directly with any ordering issues.



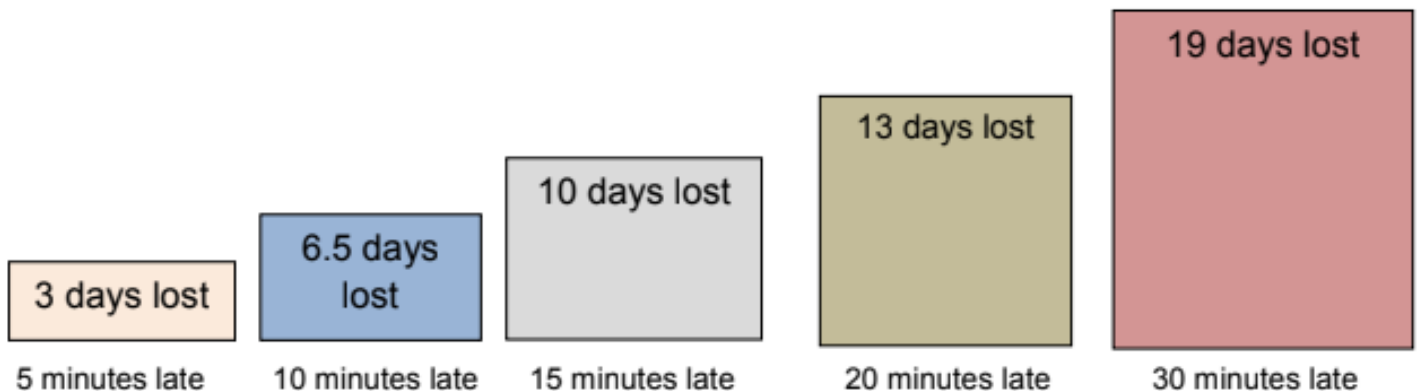
Attendance at Ashton Gate Primary School



Regular school attendance is one of the best ways to help your child succeed. When children come to school every day, they keep up with their learning, build confidence in their skills, and develop good routines that set them up for the future. Every day at school matters—it helps your child stay on track and get the most out of their education.



It is also important to arrive at school on time. If a child arrives late to school every day, their learning begins to suffer. Below is a graph showing how being late to school every day over a school year adds up to lost learning time over one academic year.



Lunch Ordering

Please remember to order your child's lunch before 10pm on a Wednesday. If your child only has a meal once a week, you will still need to book this.

We are still having a lot of children who do not have a lunch booked with no packed lunch. Please remember the default meal is always salad bar. No other option will be available.

Please remember not to order a school lunch if your child is on a school trip, where a packed lunch is required. If you have already booked a meal for this date, the meal can be cancelled by the payer until midnight on a Wednesday for the following week. As all food is pre-ordered there will be no refunds issued for non-cancelled meals.

Recording Absences



Studybugs is no longer in use

Please record any illnesses/medical appointments using the Arbor parent portal app.

For planned absences please complete the online form on the attendance page of our website.



Social Media



We are now on Facebook. Please like our page, we will be using this page to celebrate events and learning moments taking place across the school. We encourage you to invite other parents and family members to join as well, so that too can be part of our vibrant school network.

Rest assured, our Facebook page will prioritise the privacy and security of our children. We will follow all the necessary precautions and guidelines to protect identities and ensure a safe online environment.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100092199529256>

Term Dates and Inset Days 2025 to 2026

Term Dates 2025 to 2026

Term 1: 2 September 2025 to 24th October 2025

Term 2: 3 November 2025 to 19 December 2025

Term 3: 5 January 2026 to 13 February 2026

Term 4: 23 February 2026 to 2 April 2026

Term 5: 20 April 2026 to 22 May 2026

Term 6: 1 June 2026 to 22 July 2026

Inset Days 2025 to 2026

Tuesday 2nd September 2025

Wednesday 3rd September 2025

Friday 26th September 2025

Monday 3rd November 2025

Monday 5th January 2026

Monday 2nd February 2026

Monday 29th June 2026

Wednesday 22nd July 2026

