

# ASHTON GATE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

14.11.2025



### Messages from Teachers

#### Year 3 DT Castle Construction Days

A reminder that as part of our Design and Technology topic this term, the children will be designing and constructing castles on the following dates: 3O and 3T on Wednesday 26th November and 3CH and 3R Thursday 11th December. Thank you to those who have been sending in any packaging ready for the children to use. Please continue to send in any old packaging that would be suitable for junk modelling. Ideally, simple 3D shapes - toilet/kitchen roll tubes, cereal boxes, Pringles tubes etc. Please also contact your child's class teacher if you are able to volunteer your time to help during these sessions which will run from 9:30-11:30. Thank you for your support with this.

#### Year 4

This term in DT, Year 4 will be sewing their own book sleeves. We will be doing this over the course of a day and would be very grateful for some extra pairs of hands to help with needle threading etc. If you are available to help out, please contact your child's class teacher.

**Monday 15th December 12.30 - 3.00: 4G and 4L**

**Tuesday 16th December 12.30-3.00: 4D and 4A**



#### Year 5

Headlice has been reported in year 5. Please check and treat your child's hair accordingly

#### Year 6

Homework - WW1 project

The dates for the WW1 project are as set out on the newsletter and not on the homework sheet that has been sent home - we had to make some date changes. Apologies for any confusion.

The dates are as follows:

**Monday 15th December** – Children bring in their WW1 projects into school

**Wednesday 17th December**- Parents are welcome into school to see our WW1 'Museum' - 9.15 in the main hall

**The Ashton site would really appreciate any donations of pants, socks and tights for changing children with wet clothes.**

#### Reminder

We are a nut free school, this includes items such as pesto, chocolate spread pre filled crepes.



**IMPORTANT**

## School Communications

In an attempt to streamline communication as much as possible we will now start to communicate with you via the Arbor app from **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November**.

Correspondence such as newsletters, absence messages, club information will now all come to you via Arbor, **please ensure you have your notifications switched on so you are up to date with everything.**

We will continue to use parentpay for booking meals and any payment items.

If you need help with logging into Arbor or to set up your account please contact the school office.

### RECEPTION WALL REPAIRS COMPLETED!

After 2 long years the beautiful gable wall on the Reception building is finally repaired and free from scaffolding! The stonemasons have been working on it since August and brought back to its former glory.

We hope that next week the Upton scaffolding will also be removed- watch this space!



### A message from KS2 School Council

With the Christmas Season approaching, KS2 School Council are asking parents for donations of Christmas Decorations to help teachers make their classrooms feel more festive. Many years of classes reusing worn decorations has left our classrooms feeling sparse and tired and we would really appreciate any donations you can spare to help bring some Christmas cheer. We are primarily hoping for the following: Tinsel, Battery operated fairy lights, Mini Trees, Baubles

**We kindly ask that you pass on any donations to your child's class teacher. Please note that we are currently only asking for donations to the Upton site.**



### Children In Need

It was lovely to see so many spots today. If you want to donate please use the link below:  
<https://www.justgiving.com/page/ashton-gate-primary-cin2025>



**PAPAYA**

## The Power of Play

Rediscovering Childhood in the Digital Age

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2025

8:00 PM - 9:30 PM

ONLINE VIA TEAMS

TICKETS £3 AVAILABLE [HERE](#)

Exploring the importance of play in childhood development and wellbeing, and the impact that screens are having on children.

Designed for KS1 and KS2 parents and carers. Non-judgemental, informative and with practical solutions for your family.



Dr Susie Davies is a GP with a special interest in adolescent mental health. She is the founder and CEO of PAPAYA and is passionate about improving mental health outcomes for today's adolescents. Dr Davies founded PAPAYA seven years ago after recognising the link between technology use and poor mental health in students. She is the author of *The Healthy Selfie: How to Like Yourself in the Digital Age*.



Emily Jennings is a Play Champion, Childhood Advocate, and Playful Places Design Consultant with a background in Psychology. She is a mother of four with over 20 years of lived experience in parenting. Emily is passionate about the power of play in supporting children's development and wellbeing. She has campaigned for better playgrounds, advised on the design of playful public spaces, and shared her insights in a TEDx talk.

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/papaya/1914663>



### **Christmas Fair – Volunteers Needed**

Last week we were excited to announce that this year's Christmas Fair will be held on Sunday the 7th December, so we hope you all have that date saved in your diaries.

We wouldn't be able to run our Christmas Fair without our amazing volunteers, and as we also mentioned last week, this year each class will be given a stall to manage and arrange volunteers for.

Parents can sign up by following this link <https://signup.com/go/XnXtpTH> and then by selecting their class and timeslot. Each slot has space for 2 volunteers so you can team up with another parent, or bring along a partner, grandparent or one of your kids.

The fair will run from 12pm – 3pm, so each class will have 3 slots to cover, plus a final slot between 3pm – 3:30pm to help with the clean-up (you know what they say, many hands make light work!).

Your class reps may reach out to you, but slots are issued first come first served, so if you have a time in mind you can do, please feel free to sign up (and let your class rep know).

### **Class Christmas Hampers**

The Christmas Fair wouldn't be the same without all the amazing class hampers, so we wanted to send out a quick reminder that the deadline for submitting them to the school is Friday 28 th November.

We're sure you're all in full planning mode so we'll leave it all with you and look forward to seeing all your amazing hampers over the coming weeks.

### **Christmas Trees Are Back!**

This year your PTA will be offering its usual range of low drop Super Premium Nordman Firs Christmas Trees.

Trees are on sale now and can be bought directly from your PTA by following this link: <https://www.ashtongatepta.co.uk/event-details-registration/trees>

Prices range from £44 - £56 pounds with 3 sizes available but be quick as we only have a limited stock – once they are gone, they are gone. As always, all profits from the sale of the Christmas Trees (like all the money we raise) goes directly to the school.

All trees ordered will be available for collection between 7.30am and 10:00am on Saturday the 29 th from the carpark behind Upton Site Playground, off Greenway Bush Lane.





# GIVE A GIFT THIS FESTIVE SEASON

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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.**

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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.



## 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.

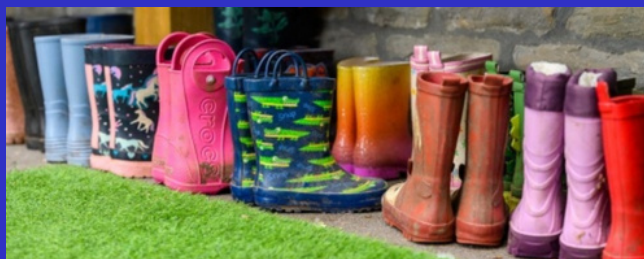
## Recording Absences



### 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 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

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2026

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2026

