

ASHTON GATE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

5.12.2025



Message from Mrs Dowlman

This week you will have received a letter outlining our important work to promote an anti-racist, respectful school community. Please do make sure that you take time to talk to your child at home about this.



Messages from Teachers

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 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.

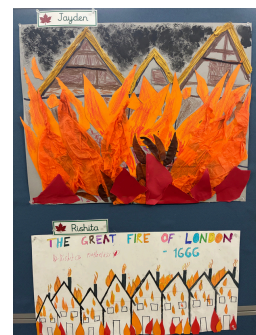
The dates are as follows:

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

Year 2 - Great Fire of London

Thank you to everyone who came and took part in our Great Fire of London exhibition. It was sizzling!!



IMPORTANT

NUT FREE SCHOOL



A reminder that we are a nut free school. Please do not send your child to school with snacks/packed lunch with items containing nuts. This includes items such as Pesto, filled crepes and chocolate spread.



Upcoming Events

- 5th December - Reception Nativities start
- 7th December 12pm-3pm Christmas Fair - Ashton Site.
- 9th December - KS1 Rock Steady Concert
- 10th December - Year 5 Concert
- 12th December - KS1 Rock Steady Concert
- 12th December - Year 6 concert
- 16th December - Ashton Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch day.
- 18th December - Upton Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch day.

Christmas Fair – It's Almost Time!

We're very excited that the Christmas Fair is finally (almost here) and even more excited to see you all there this Sunday from 12pm.

We'll have our usual selection of fun games and stalls, as well as hot food, cakes and a fully stocked bar! And of course, Santa himself! So whatever you do this weekend, make sure you come along and join in the festive fun (and don't forget you can bring your friends and family)

Class Christmas Hampers

There is still plenty of time to buy your ticket for the Christmas Raffle by following this link <https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/raffle/ashton-gate-pta-christmas-raffle-2025> You have up until 6pm on Sunday 7 th December.

Christmas Fair – Volunteers

A HUGE thank you to everyone that signed up as a volunteer for the Christmas Fair – we cannot thank you enough, as without you we wouldn't be able to run these events. These events not only help us provide fun days that help build on the school community, but they also raise much needed funds.



PAPAYA

The Power of Play

How to Set Your Children up for Success in the Digital Age

PARENT TALK WITH DR SUSIE DAVIES:

ASHTON GATE PRIMARY SCHOOL—UPTON SITE

DATE & TIME:

WEDNESDAY 14th JANUARY 2026 — 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM

Helping families to thrive in the digital age

Bringing up children in the digital age is complicated and fraught with decisions and judgement around screen time, online games, gaming consoles, and even device use for homework. Knowing how to navigate these decisions is challenging, and yet at the heart of it, all of us just want what is best for our children.

In this talk, Dr Davies unpicks some of the myths and explores the real issues around the use of screens and online games in childhood in an evidence-based way, complemented by anecdotal evidence from her patients and her experiences as a parent.

The aim is to inspire us all to connect with our children rather than default to devices. If you're looking for hope and positivity around navigating family life and screens, then this is the talk for you!

PAPAYA

Dr Susie Davies



Susie Davies is the CEO and founder of PAPAYA.

Susie Davies is a GP with a special interest in adolescent mental health. She is the founder of PAPAYA and is passionate about improving mental health outcomes for today's adolescents.

She founded PAPAYA seven years ago after recognising the link between technology use and poor mental health in students. She has given countless talks across the UK and is recognised as a national advocate and speaker on this topic. She is also the author of The Healthy Selfie: How to Like Yourself in the Digital Age.

Topics

- explores the role of play in children's development and well-being.
- examines how children's screen time is affecting play and childhood experiences.
- offers practical ideas and realistic solutions to help families find a healthy balance with screens.
- question and discussion time.

"The talk is so relevant, full of insight and eye-opening. You will walk away inspired to connect, reflect, and find out more. I highly recommend it."

— Claire Curtis, parent and SFC volunteer.



Schools Triathlon

This week we welcomed the charity Restless Development to school and they delivered an assembly telling the children all about the school triathlon which has been a huge hit in recent years. If your child is interested in taking part, please see below for further details. If you have any questions, please contact them directly on: schoolstriathlon@restlessdevelopment.org

RESTLESS DEVELOPMENT
POWERED BY YOUNG PEOPLE

You are invited to **THE SCHOOLS TRIATHLON**

Clifton College **Sunday 3rd May 2026**

Registration Deadline: **Friday 19th December 2025**

Register Here

1. Create a team of four children, then choose your team name!
2. Select one parent to register your team's interest in the event via the link above (you will need all participant names and their parent/guardian's email)
3. You will receive an email to confirm if your team has or hasn't been successful 3 weeks after the deadline date given above
4. If your team is given a place, we will email all parents within the team to invite them to register their child for the event

Fundraising & RESTLESS DEVELOPMENT

Each participant must fundraise a minimum of £60, with a target of £100. You can set up an online JustGiving page or download a sponsorship form. Your fundraising supports Restless Development: a global charity who champions the collective power of young people to create a better world. Watch this video to learn more!

Head to our FAQs for more info and to find out what's included!

Year Group	Swim	Cycle	Run
Year 3 & 4	50m	1000m	750m
Year 5 & 6	50m	1000m	750m
Year 7 & 8	50m	2000m	750m

As a relay, each participant completes these distances.



Christmas Lunch

Please remember to go into Parentpay to check your meal choices before Wednesday 10th December



Merry Christmas

There will be a change of menu week beginning 15th December.

Please be aware that there jacket potatoes, salad bowl/bar will only be available on Monday and Friday.

If you have already booked your child's meals for this week and want to change them, you are able to do this on Parentpay until Wednesday 10th December.

Monday 15th December

Margherita Pizza (V) (H)

Jacket Potato

Salad Bar/Bowl

Tuesday 16th December

Ashton Site

Christmas Lunch

Upton Site

Hot Dog

Vegetarian Hot Dog (V) (H)

Wednesday 17th December

Sausage Roll

Vegan Sausage Roll (V) (H)

Thursday 18th December

Ashton Site

Hot Dog

Vegetarian Hot Dog (V) (H)

Upton Site

Christmas Lunch

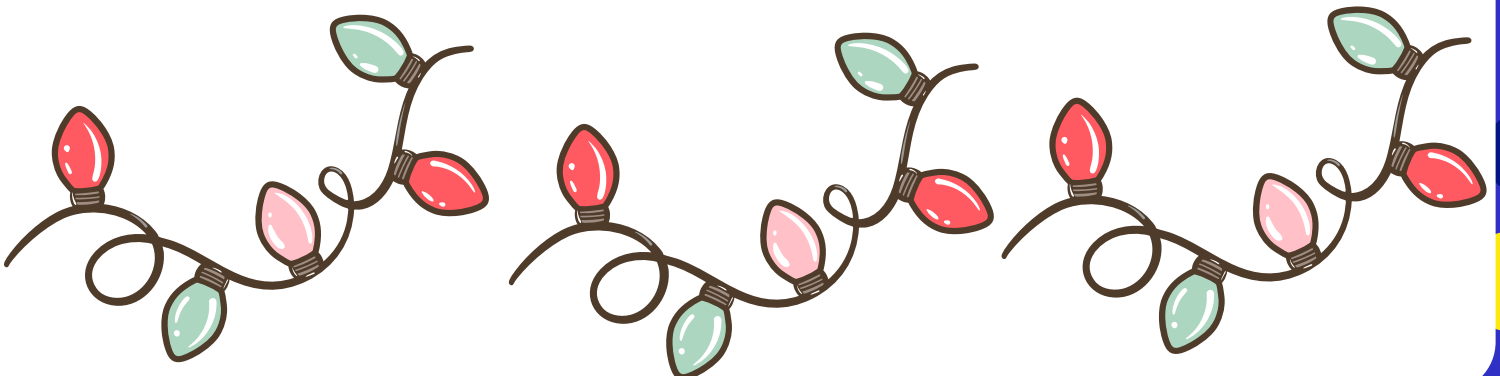
Friday 19th December

Fish Fingers/Salmon Fishcake (H)

Cheese and Onion Quiche (V)

Jacket Potato

Salad Bar/Bowl

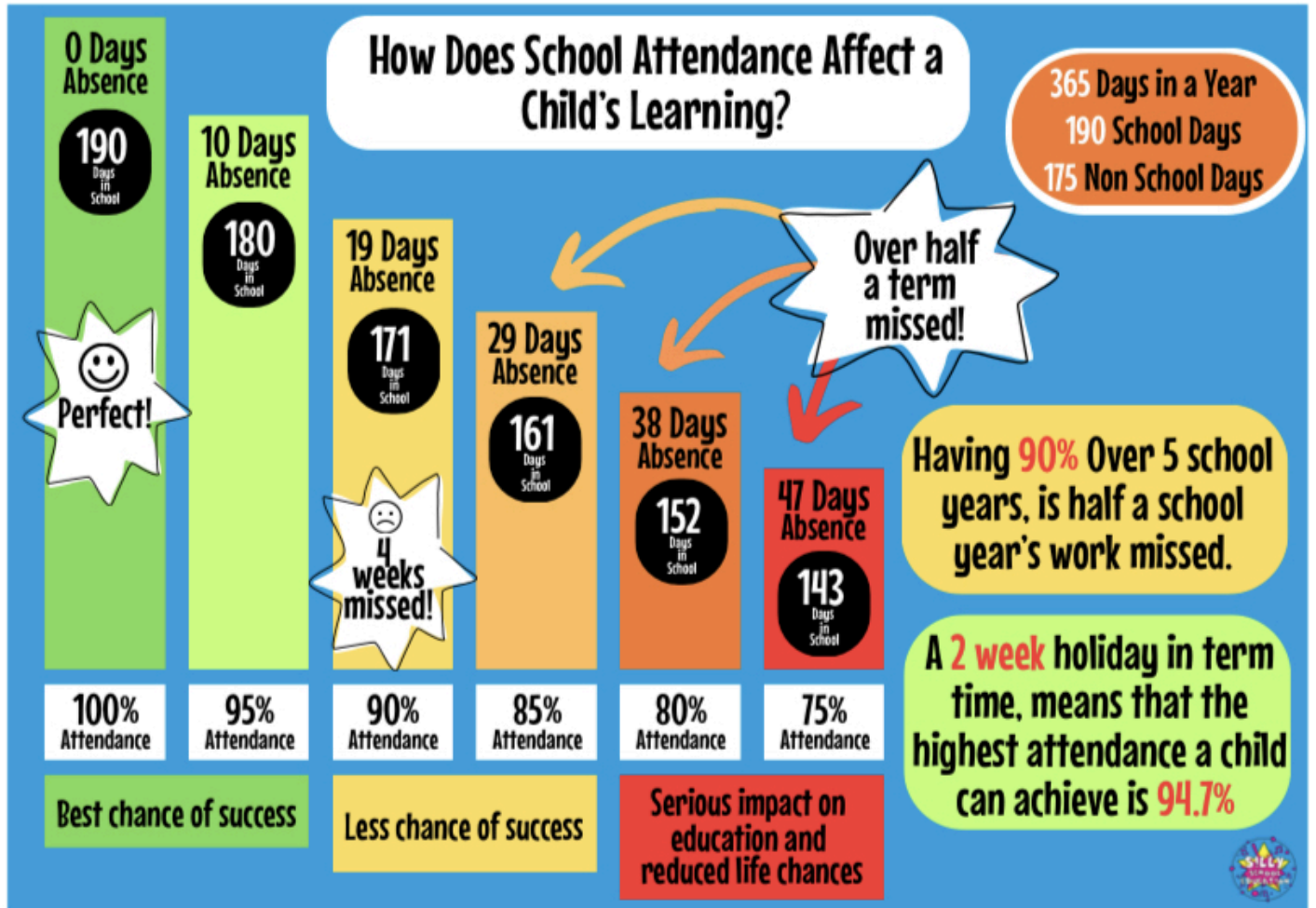




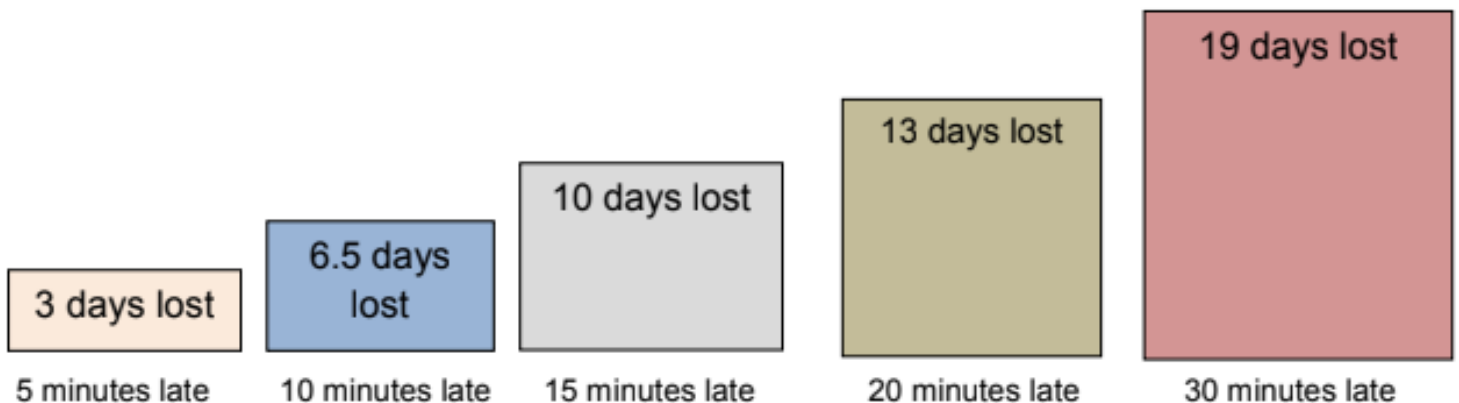
Attendance at Ashton Gate Primary School



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 10pm 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 5th January 2026

Monday 2nd February 2026

Monday 29th June 2026

Wednesday 22nd July 2026

