

# ASHTON GATE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

12.12.2025



## Messages from Teachers

### Reception

Headlice has been reported in Reception, please check and treat your child's hair accordingly.

### Year 3

We have recently noticed an increase in Year 3 pupils bringing toys into school. While we understand that children may feel comforted or excited to share their belongings, toys can become a distraction during learning time and may also get lost or damaged. We kindly ask parents and carers to support us by ensuring that children do not bring toys into school, unless specifically requested by a teacher. Thank you for your cooperation and continued support.

### 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

### KS2 Choir

A huge well done to KS2 choir, who have performed 4 times this week! Starting off with the school fair on Sunday and then performing on stage at Bristol Beacon on Monday- this was to a very large crowd and they represented the school with confidence. They have finished off the week performing in the Y5/6 Winter Sing in school. Thank you for all your singing efforts, choir!



## Year 3 Trip to Cheddar Gorge Caves

Year 3 had a fantastic and memorable day visiting Cheddar Gorge, where they enjoyed guided tours of Gough's Cave and Cox's Cave. The children also took part in an exciting demonstration about what life was like during the Stone Age, bringing their learning to life. They behaved brilliantly throughout the day and were a real credit to the school. A huge thank you to the parent volunteers who accompanied us and helped make the trip such a success.



## KS1 Choir

The KS1 Choir attended The Spiegeltent this week to perform along with other Bristol schools. They all performed so well and sang beautifully.



## Mrs Beckerleg

We are so excited to tell you that Mrs Beckerleg has had a baby boy called Sid. Both are doing very well.



## Upcoming Events

**12<sup>th</sup> December** - Year 6 concert

**16<sup>th</sup> December** - Ashton Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch day.

**18<sup>th</sup> December** - Upton Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch day.



## Windmill Hill City Farm's Big Give Christmas Challenge campaign

Windmill Hill City Farm are aiming to raise £13,000 in 7 days so that they can set up a new farm 'nurture' group, supporting local children going through challenging times. The funding will also be used to help take care of the farm and gardens so that the group sessions can run. They can see the great benefits of these nurture farm sessions for the children whilst they are at the farm and have been told there is also a continued positive impact in the rest of their lives.

"My son is a child that struggles at school and finds it quite difficult. The Nurture Club gives him a real boost and opportunity to shine." Parent

Now is the time to donate as every £1 will be doubled by our match funders so please click below before 19<sup>th</sup> December and help us reach our target.

<https://donate.biggive.org/campaign/a05WS00006YZj4YAG>

Windmill Hill city farm is in one of the 20% most deprived areas of England.



## 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.



Christmas Fair – Thank you!

What can we say, apart from a huge thank you to everyone that came along to the Christmas Fair. We took over £5,000 on the day, which is just incredible! An even bigger thank you to all the volunteers who helped to make the fair the success it was. We couldn't do it without you all. We hope you enjoyed being part of it. If you did, and this has made you want to be more involved in the PTA, please drop us an email at: ashtongatepta@gmail.com

Another thank you to all the classes for putting together such brilliant hampers, we raised an amazing £3000 and the lucky winners are named below.

- |                   |                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Aimee Arscott     | Alice Cooper          |
| Alice Hammond     | Andrea Hazlehurst     |
| Anja Haubold      | Barbara Reeve         |
| Carole Stevenson  | Dawn May              |
| Fiona Sansom      | Freyja Ruddock        |
| Henry Humphreys   | Jade Bartley          |
| Katherine Showler | Laura Noble           |
| Maria Dragojevic  | Marta Salva Cifuentes |
| Miss Reid         | Paul Usher            |
| Phil Stevens      | Ruth Attride          |
| Sarah Almond      | Siobhan Lewkowicz     |
| Suzannah Neill    | Tia Tucker            |

And the winner of the volunteer raffle was Kate Steel Jardel.

We will be working with the school after Christmas to decide how best to put the money raised to use and we will share this with you all as soon as we can.

Thanks again, from your very grateful PTA!

**Bristol Family Hubs**  
**Bristol Parenting Groups**

Are you pregnant or a parent of a 0 - 8 year old?  
 Would you like to add ideas and skills to your parenting toolbox?  
 Would you like to develop more confidence in your parenting?  
 Would you like to understand your child better?

Free groups for adults run by Bristol Children's Centres

Scan here to find out more and register your interest!

Your parenting toolbox:  
 Listening, Play, Nurture, Empathy, Praise, Connection

For more information please call: 07721 311 497 or email: pss@bristol.gov.uk  
 Once you have registered your interest via: [www.bit.ly/BristolParentingGroups](http://www.bit.ly/BristolParentingGroups) we will be in touch to find the best group option for you.

Logos: nbcc, Wellspring Settlement, Central Bristol Children's Centres, EBCC, South Bristol Children's Centres

**PAPAYA**  
**The Power of Play**  
 How to Set Your Children up for Success in the Digital Age

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!

PARENT TALK WITH DR SUSIE DAVIES:  
 ASHTON GATE PRIMARY SCHOOL—UPTON SITE

DATE & TIME:  
 WEDNESDAY 14<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2026 — 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM

**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.

### WEEK 1

w/c – 05/01/26, 26/01/26, 23/02/26, 16/03/26

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Margherita Pizza on a wholemeal base. (V) (H)	Chicken Fajita (H) Vegetable Fajita (V)	Toad in the Hole Vegan Sausages (V) (H)	Macaroni Cheese (H) Tomato and Basil Pasta (V)	Fish Fingers (H) or Salmon Fishcake (H) Frittata with peppers, peas and sweetcorn (V)
Served with oven baked potato wedges and fresh, seasonal vegetables	Served with couscous and fresh, seasonal vegetables	Served with new potatoes and fresh seasonal vegetables	Served with garlic bread and fresh, seasonal vegetables	Served with chips or new potatoes and beans or peas
Chocolate Cherry Cake	Apple and Vanilla Cake	Jam Sponge and Custard	Banana Bread	Oat Biscuits

### WEEK 2

w/c – 12/01/26, 02/02/26, 02/03/26, 23/03/26

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Margherita Pizza on a wholemeal base (V) (H) Served with oven baked potato wedges and fresh, seasonal vegetables	Chicken Curry (H) Vegetable Curry (V)	Roast Chicken and Stuffing (H) Cauliflower and Broccoli Bake (V) Served with roast potatoes, fresh seasonal vegetables and gravy	Spaghetti Bolognese Ratatouille (V) (H)	Fish Fingers (H) Vegan Sausages (V)
	Served with rice, naan bread and fresh, seasonal vegetables		Served with garlic bread and fresh, seasonal vegetables	Served with chips and beans or peas
Apricot Flapjack	Vanilla School Cake	Apple Crumble and Custard	Carrot Cake	Shortbread

### WEEK 3

w/c – 19/01/26, 09/02/26, 09/03/26, 30/03/26

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Ham and Pineapple Pizza on a wholemeal base Margherita Pizza on a wholemeal base (V) (H)	Chilli Con Carne Vegetable Chilli (V) (H)	Sausage Roll Vegan Roll (V) (H)	Cajun Chicken Pasta (H) Roasted Vegetable Pasta (V)	Chicken Nuggets (H) Veggie Nuggets (V)
Served with oven baked potato wedges and fresh, seasonal vegetables	Served with a tortilla chips, rice and fresh, seasonal vegetables	Served with oven baked wedges and beans or peas	Served with garlic bread and fresh seasonal vegetables	Served with chips or new potatoes and beans or peas
Cherry Shortbread	Fruity Flapjack	Chocolate Brownie	Lemon Drizzle Cake	Ice-Cream

### SERVED DAILY

Jacket Potatowith cheese, beans or tuna

Upton Road only – Salad Bar with Chicken, Cheese or Tuna

Ashton only – Salad Bowl with Chicken, Cheese or Tuna

Freshly baked bread, organic yoghurts, fresh fruit, sugar-free fruity jelly. Drinking Water or fresh organic milk.

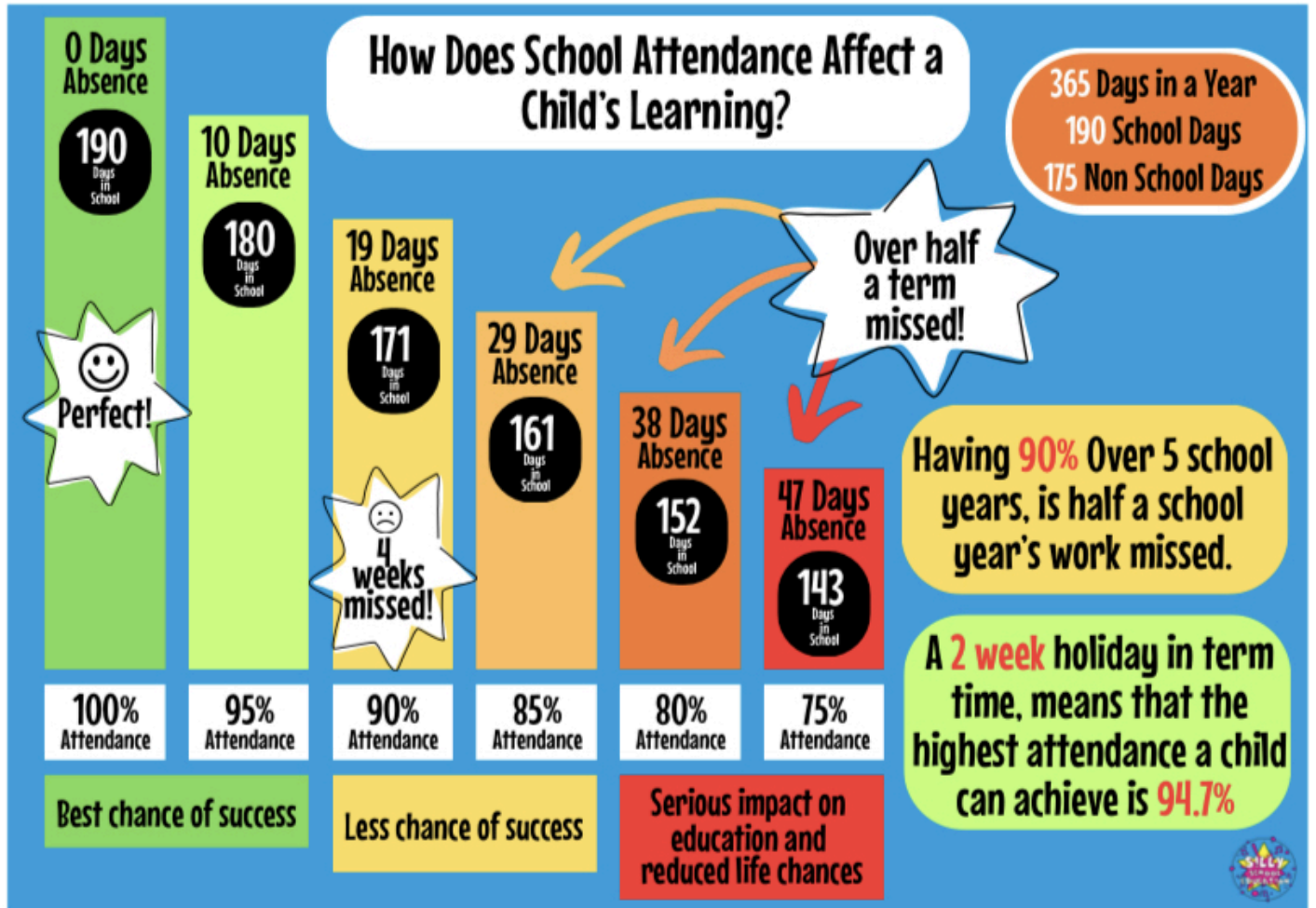




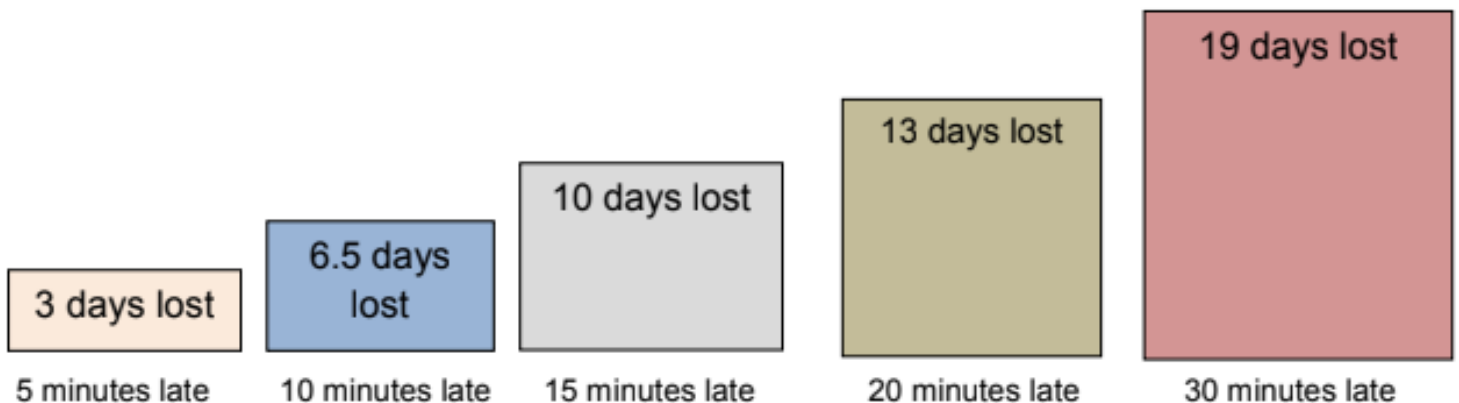
# Attendance at Ashton Gate Primary School



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 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

