



## Happy Easter!

Dear all,

Walking around the school the last couple of weeks has been an absolute pleasure. I have shown several visitors around and they have all been extremely impressed with the calm and hardworking learning environments in each classroom.

The weather has been lovely and the children now have full use of the meadow which is always super to see. Our year 5 play leaders have enjoyed running games and activities for the younger children.

We come to the end of another term, it really has flown by. We have had a huge number of enrichment activities take place this term, workshops in school, trips and visits and ending with a fantastic extravaganza from our talented year 3 and 4 children.

We have an action packed summer term in front of us. A reminder to parents that term begins for children on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a lovely Easter break and thank you all for your continued support this term.

Yours Sincerely

Mr S England  
Headteacher

*Happy Easter!*



### Green Tree School Award

We are pleased to be able to share with you that we have now achieved the Silver award for the Green Tree school scheme. Our school council have been busy carrying out activities that have earned points towards this scheme. Well done all.



**Red Nose Day Total: £ 666.52**

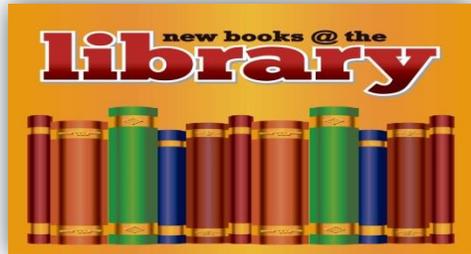
**Some of our Upcoming Events -  
please see our website for a full list**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> April - Year 3&4 Production (1:45pm)
- 4<sup>th</sup> April - Year 3&4 Production (6:30pm)
- 5<sup>th</sup> April - End of Term (1pm)
- 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> April - Premier Camps Holiday Club
- 23<sup>rd</sup> April - INSET DAY
- 24<sup>th</sup> April - First Day of Summer Term
- 7<sup>th</sup> May - Year 4 Trip Parent meeting
- 10<sup>th</sup> May - Year 1 Class assembly
- 12<sup>th</sup> May - Ashwell @ Home
- 13<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> May - Key Stage 2 SATs Week
- 16<sup>th</sup> May - Ashwell Music Festival (Choir)
- 20<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> May - Walk To School Week
- 20<sup>th</sup> May - Year 6 Harry Potter Studio
- 21<sup>st</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> May - Year 6 Bikeability
- 21<sup>st</sup> May - Class Photos
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> May - Year 4 Residential
- 24<sup>th</sup> May - Break up for Half Term

## Donate a Book to our Library

Book donations continue to come into the school from our wish list. A huge thank you to everyone who has already purchased a new book for the school library.

To see our children's wish list and to donate a new book please see: <http://amzn.eu/OR6HXLA>



## Netball

On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March, our Year 5/6 Netball team competed in the North Herts Netball competition at Hitchin Girls School. Ashwell did fantastically well and it was lovely to see how much they have progressed this year. Congratulations to those children who took part and a huge thank you to Mrs McCallion and Mrs Pritchard for their support in running the team this year.



## Children's achievements

Congratulations to:  
Laura M - Grade 1 Piano  
Thomas M - Grade 3 Piano

## Staffing

As you will no doubt be aware, it is the time of year where we are aiming to finalise our staffing arrangements for the next academic year. We will endeavour to share this with you as soon as it is final however in the mean time I would like to share the following:

- We will be saying a huge thank you and goodbye to Dr Shackleton and Miss Blofield at the end of this academic year and wish them both well with their future ventures!
- Mr Maddox has now joined the school on a permanent contract

We are currently recruiting for one more full time class teacher and I will let you all know when we have successfully appointed.

## World Book Day

We again had a wonderful world book day celebration.

Children had a workshop with an illustrator which they thoroughly enjoyed and they visited the book fair which is always a highlight of their week.

A huge thank you to Mrs Furr for organising the week.



## Holiday Club

Following feedback from parents, we are delighted to be able to inform you that Premier Camps will be running a Holiday Club at Ashwell School. The first one will be during the first week of the Easter Holidays, Monday - Thursday (Friday has been cancelled). This will be open to children aged 4-12 and more information is available at <https://www.premier-education.com/camps/>



## Important Reminders

A number of parents and members of staff have complained that people are leaving dogs tied to the school vehicle gates or the wooden posts by the alley way. This has resulted in people scratching their cars when entering the car park trying to avoid the dogs. We have also been informed of an incident at another local school where a child was bitten by a dog tied to a school gate. Dogs **MUST NOT** be left unattended or tied to any school gates etc. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

## Parking Enforcement Changes - Double Yellow Lines and Zig-Zags

I have been informed by Councillor Steve Jarvis that the agreed new road markings will be painted over the Easter Holidays. We are hoping that this will also include re-painting of the school zig-zag lines. Please be aware that we suspect this will have quite a significant impact on parking on the roads in the close proximity of the school, however we fully support this to ensure dangerous parking is prevented, ensuring the safety of our children.

**Fit Bits** - We have noticed an increase in the number of children wearing fit bits to school. We appreciate the benefits of these however want to remind parents that they are brought to school at the children's own risk.

## Herts Maths Challenge

Congratulations to our year 5 maths challenge team: Freddie S, Felix H, Lucy B and Thomas M.

Our team visited Hertfordshire Development Centre on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March. We are hugely proud of their efforts.

A total of 150 schools entered. Ashwell finished 15<sup>th</sup> - an amazing achievement.



## Year 4 Nene Valley Trip

On Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March, Year 4 visited Nene Valley railway. This term they have been learning about the industrial revolution. During the day they took a trip on a steam train, visited the signal box and took part in a range of activity workshops. On their return to school the children have completed a fantastic piece of writing about their visit.



## Science Week

Children across the school enjoyed a wonderful week of science workshops covering a range of topics. This resulted in a sharing assembly where each class had the opportunity to share with the rest of the school the activities that they took part in.

Year 5 were fortunate enough to visit the Sartorius site in Royston. Year 4 visited Princess Helena College and other year groups were treated to visitors talking to them about their line of work in industry.

Thank you to Ms Docking for organising the week and to all of the parents who gave up their time to support the workshops. We are very grateful.

## School & Class Attendance

Attendance at Ashwell continues to be good with our whole school figure currently at 97.0%

May I remind parents to avoid booking holidays or medical appointments during school times wherever possible.

### School Matters!



Class	%
Year 3	97.7
Year 1	97.7
Year 5	97.5
Year 6	97.1
Year 2	96.8
Year 4	96.3
Oak (Reception)	96.1
Acorn (Nursery)	95.7

Well done to Year 1 & 3 who finish top of the attendance table this term!

## HCL School Meal Price Increase

We have been informed by our school meal provider, Herts Catering Ltd, that from 1<sup>st</sup> April the price of a school meal has increased to £2.60 per meal.

## PTA

Our next big event will be the Summer Fete on **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July**.

Thank you to the PTA and all who supported the Mother's Day shop. A huge thank you also to those who supported our recent Race Night - we raised a total of £890.

The PTA will be doing the aquathan again this year which is being held on 19th May at Royston leisure centre.

To support them please use the following link to: <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/ashwellpta>

Remember you can support us using: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ashwellschool/>

## Road Safety - Pedestrian Training

Year 4 children welcomed a visitor who taught them about various aspects of road safety. This is linked to our work on keeping children safe when travelling to and from school. Children were taken out around the local roads and discussed safe ways of crossing and navigating potential dangers.

## Knex Challenge

Our year 5 & 6 children recently competed in the 'Knex Challenge'. They spent a half-day session building their models in teams.

