

Ashcombe Primary School

Headteacher: Chris Penny

Deputy Headteacher: Kerry Evans

Assistant Headteacher: Steve Burditt

Know yourself and your world. Be part of the world. Change the world.
We Are Ashcombe



Friday 20th September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been lovely to welcome children and families back after the summer holidays. We've come to the end of week 3 and we're settling into the new rhythms of using our new building – having two halls, so many new rooms and such a large playground space has been a real blessing. Can I extend a warm welcome to our new Reception families whose children have just finished their first full week in school – it's been really lovely to see their faces settling in and making friends. They seem like a lovely cohort who will enjoy growing and learning together. As a father of two young children, I know lots of families may have some very tired children at home this week. It can take a little while to adjust to new morning routines and fitting in all the many bits and pieces of life around school. Please take some time as families to relax and recharge together this weekend. It was lovely to see so many of you in school this week for Parents and Carers evenings this week, especially as it has been the first chance for many of you to see the new building and how it connects to our existing one. We hope you liked it as much as we do!



School Car Park



Parents and Carers should only be using the school car park if they have a parking permit issued by the school office – these are only issued to disabled drivers or families in exceptional circumstances. We also have a large number of families walking in at the beginning and end of the day. We only have two disabled spaces and all parking spaces are needed for school staff or planned visitors. Please ensure that the school car park is not used for drop off to breakfast club, drop off for the start of school or collection at the end of the day.

Year group 'presentations'

Now that we have the hall space, each year group will be staging a 'presentation' – this might be a production, song/dance performance, variety act or something else entirely. I have included the dates for each year group production below in our year overview. Although we have new hall space, we still have limited room for families for each production. For that reason, we'll be holding morning and afternoon productions for each year group. Year 4 are first up this year and have only 4 weeks left to get ready! We'll write to families of year 4 children shortly about how you can reserve a ticket.



Asda Cashpot for schools



If any parents or carers shop at Asda and use the Asda Rewards app, can I please encourage you opt into the 'cashpot for schools campaign' within the app and select Ashcombe Primary School. It will mean that a percentage of your shop is donated to the school – your personal Asda rewards cash pot will be unaffected. We will use any money raised to develop the outside are of school. Please follow this link to find out more. <https://www.asda.com/cashpotforschools>

Water bottles and snacks

Can I ask parents and carers to ensure their child has a drinks bottle for water in school up to a 1 litre capacity – this should be labelled with your child's name and year group. Please do not send your child into school with anything larger than this – we do not have room in classrooms or at desks for very large capacity water bottles. These should be filled with water only and can be taken home at the end of each week to be cleaned. Children have access to sinks or water fountains to fill/refill their bottles each day. If your child eats a snack at breaktime, please ensure this is a piece of fruit or a vegetable. Highly processed or sugary snacks are likely to affect your child's behaviour and concentration during lessons.



Waterproof and warm clothing



We have been very fortunate with the weather over the last week but we are forecast to hit some more unsettled weather in the weeks ahead. **Please remember that we will be playing outside every lunchtime apart from very exceptionally poor weather. This means that all children should come into school with a warm, waterproof coat.** If you are concerned about your child getting their uniform dirty or even if you know your child likes to get involved in muddy play, it will be worth sending your child in with a spare set of clothes to change into in case they get very messy.

Attendance

We know that sometimes our pupils cannot come to school because they are really unwell - and that's the right thing to do for them and other students. Medical advice is clear however that children with mild illness will often be well enough to attend - for example if they have a cough, or cold, without a temperature. The NHS guidance [is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk) is designed to support parents in their decision making about mild illness.



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Important Dates ahead

I will endeavour to keep these dates in place but on occasion we will need to make changes if circumstances change. I'll aim to give families as much notice as possible for this though.

Term 1:

Moving in Days – September 2nd and 3rd
INSET Day – Wednesday September 4th
Harvest Assembly – Monday 30th September
Food Bank Collection Friday 4th
Parents Evening 1 – Tuesday 17th September 4:00-7pm
Parents Evening 2 – Thursday 19th September 3:30-6:00pm
International Languages Day 26th September
Year 4 Parent Presentation 1 – Wednesday 23rd October pm
Year 4 Parent Presentation 2 – Thursday 24th October am
End of Term 1 – Thursday 24th October
INSET – Friday 25th October

Term 2:

Term 2 Begins: Monday 4th November
Photos
Remembrance Day – Monday 11th November (Children who attend a scouting group can wear their scout uniform)
Flu Immunisations – Wednesday 13th November
Individual Photos – Thursday 14th November
Children in Need – (Bring in £1 donation) - Friday 15th November (Children can wear a yellow or spotty item of clothing)
AFA Shop and Drop - Thursday 28th November
Reception Nativity - Tuesday 3rd December pm (More details to follow)
AFA Shop and Drop Tuesday 3rd December
Reception Nativity - Wednesday 4th December am (More details to follow)
Christmas Dinner – Wednesday 11th December
Christmas Jumper Day – Thursday 12th December
Year 2 Christmas Presentation 1 – Monday 9th December pm
Year 2 Christmas Presentation 2 – Tuesday 10th December pm
AFA Christmas Fayre – Friday 13th December
Christmas Parties – Children can wear party clothes into school for these days
Reception, Years 1 and 2: Tuesday 17th December
Years 3 and 4: Wednesday 18th December
Years 5 and 6: Thursday 19th December
End of term 2 – Friday 20th December

Term 3:

Term 3 begins 6th January



INSET Monday 6th January**INSET Tuesday 7th January**

Year 3 Presentation Wednesday 12th February pm

Year 3 Presentation Thursday 13th February am

End of Term 3: Friday 14th February

Term 4:

Term 4 Begins: Monday 24th February

Mid-year School Reports sent out – Friday 28th February

World Book Day – Thursday 6th March – (More details to follow)

Year 5 – Parent Presentation Wednesday 12th March pm

Year 5 – Parent presentation Thursday 13th March am

Red Nose Day Friday 21st March – Children to bring in a suggested £1 donation – Children wear a red item of clothing.

Ashcombe's Got Talent Finals – Wednesday 2nd April

AFA Easter Fayre - Friday 4th April

End of Term 4 – 4th April

Term 5:

Term 5 Begins 22nd April

Class Photos – YR and Y6 24th April

Y5 Morfa Bay residential Monday 28th April to Friday 2nd May

KS2 Test week – 12th May – 15th May

Year 1 Parent Event/Performance – Wednesday 21st May pm

Year 1 Parent Event/Performance – Wednesday 22nd May am

Day of Sport and Kindness for Liam Shepherd Foundation - Friday 23rd May (Children can come into school wearing unusual trousers, shorts or skirts)

End of Term 5 – 23rd May

Term 6

Term Begins: Monday 2nd June

INSET Monday 2nd June

Y4 Multiplication Check Window Opens - Monday 2nd June to Friday 13th June

Y1 Phonics Screening Check week – Monday 9th June to Friday 13th June

Reception and Year 1 sports day - Wednesday 18th June (reserve day Friday 20th)

AFA Summer Fayre – Saturday 5th July.

Year 4, 5 & 6 sports day Wednesday 9th July (reserve day Friday 11th)

Year 2 & Year 3– Wednesday 16th July (reserve day Friday 18th)

Parents' Evening 1 – Tuesday 8th July 4:00-7pm

Parents' Evening 2 – Thursday 10th July September 3:30-6:00pm

Y6 Leavers Show, Parents Lunch and Leavers' Service Thursday 17th July am and pm

Wrong Trousers Day for Grand Appeal – Monday 21st July – Children wear sport clothes to school

End of Term 6 Tuesday 22nd July

Forever proud to serve you.

We Are Ashcombe.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Penny
Headteacher