

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



Monday 23rd February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

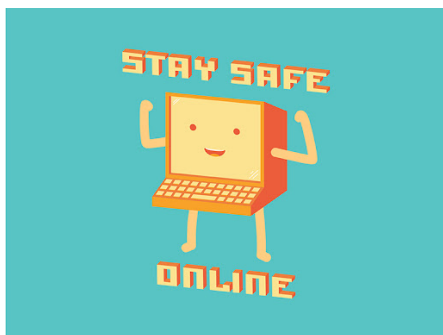
I hope that everyone has managed a restful and relaxing half term break – we're looking forward to welcoming children back for term 4. Despite the terrible weather in January and early February, we've had a really lovely term 3. Highlights included some inter-school sports events where some of our year 5s and 6s represented Ashcombe in the local swimming gala and our year 1s taking part in a multi-sports event against our Trust partner schools. At both events, the children really impressed organisers and our own staff team with their efforts and positive attitude on display. Pappadoms & Aishah's food Charity very kindly provided children and staff with a delicious lunch free of charge to celebrate Ramadan. The AFA organised an amazing school disco run by Disco Queen and it was lovely to see so many children enjoying themselves.



We also had a brilliant final day of term where we celebrated Austin's life by holding a superhero day. Children and staff dressed up and we were lucky enough to have several real-life superheroes join us to talk to the children about their jobs. We had paramedics, nurses, midwives, firemen and police officers. Year 5 and 6 took part in a CPR and defibrillator workshop run by one of our ex pupils and North Somerset Council workers led assemblies for the children on how to help the environment through recycling.

We're looking forward to a fantastic term 4.

Support for managing online safety workshop



Several parents and carers have reached out for support in managing online safety for their children. We're pleased to share we have some support coming in from the Avon and Somerset Cyber team. They will be running assemblies for children this week at school and they will also be hosting a webinar for parents and carers later this term.

Knowing where to start when thinking about online and cyber safety can feel overwhelming, especially when almost every part of our lives now has a digital element. Maybe your child has started gaming online, or has their first mobile phone, and you're worried about what they're being exposed to. We know it can be a bit daunting, so let us help put you in the best possible position to support your children online. Join Avon and Somerset Police for a one hour session that will help you understand what issues and concerns children are facing online, and how you can mitigate them at home.





This session will discuss the following:

- How children are engaging with technology
- What issues or threats they might encounter
- How to mitigate these threats at home, through both technical and non-technical measures
- What resources are available for you to use at home
- Along with much more!

This webinar will be delivered via MS Teams, with the opportunity to ask questions throughout.

It will take place at 5pm on Thursday 5th March, you can register for this webinar by going to:

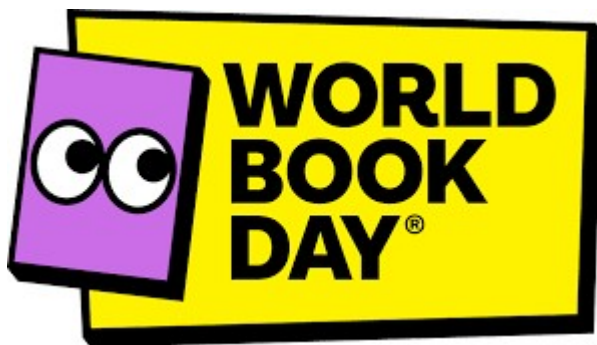
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Mid-year Reports

We will be sending out our mid-year reports on Friday 6th March. These reports give a detailed picture of how your child is progressing with their learning at this point in the year, including their strengths, the progress they have made since September, and key areas we will continue to focus on throughout the rest of the year. Teachers have spent time reviewing each child's work, classroom engagement, and assessment information to ensure the report reflects a rounded view of their learning. We hope the reports help you gain a clear understanding of how your child is getting on and how we can continue working together to support their next steps. Following reports being handed out, if you have questions for your child's teacher about supporting them further with their learning you can speak with them directly.



World Book Day – Friday 6th March



A love of reading starts with a feeling—the smell of a book, a favourite page, a story you never want to end. This year's World Book Day theme is Reading for Pleasure, and at Ashcombe we're celebrating and sharing our love of reading with: "Get comfy, get reading!" On Thursday 5th March, children are invited to come in comfy clothing (pyjamas, onesies, and dressing gowns— anything cosy), bring their favourite book, and optionally a small cosy item such as a teddy or blanket. Throughout the day,

classes will enjoy sharing books, listening to staff read their favourite stories, and getting comfy with a good book. We can't wait to celebrate the joy of stories together!

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PE Days – Term 4

Children will be having their PE sessions on the following days this term. Please ensure children come into school in their PE kits on these days.

Reception - **Wednesday** (ALL Reception classes)

Year 1 - **Wednesday & Friday** (ALL Year 1 classes)

Year 2 - **Monday & Friday** (ALL Year 2 classes)

Year 3 - **Monday & Wednesday** (3RH), **Monday & Tuesday** (3SB), **Wednesday & Thursday** (3SD)

Year 4 - **Monday & Tuesday** (ALL Year 4 classes)

Year 5 - **Thursday & Friday** (5LP), **Tuesday & Thursday** (5KN & 5SH)

Year 6 – **Friday** (ALL Year 6 classes)

Ashcombe's Got Talent

We are excited to announce the return of Ashcombe's Got Talent, a long standing Ashcombe tradition for children in years 3-6. Pupils are invited to audition either as individuals or in groups, sharing any talent they are proud of—whether it's singing, dancing, comedy, magic, music, or something completely unique! I have seen many unusual talents in the last decade and I can't wait to see what this year brings us. Auditions will take place within year groups, who will then select three finalists to represent them in the whole-school final during the last week of this term. Finalists will be able to invite parents and carers to watch them during their final performance.



Parking & Traffic difficulties

I regularly receive messages from families and local residents complaining about the traffic situation at drop off and collection times for children. Unfortunately, there are no easy answers or solutions to this issue due to the size of our school and where we are based. Before half term, I met with Councillor Gibbons and Luke from North Somerset Council to discuss the issues that we experience. There are a number of measures which can be taken which are under consideration by the council. We all discussed the

need to consult families and residents about the possible actions and how these may support families. The plan is for a survey and consultation meeting to be held in the near future in the school. I will be in touch as soon as we have more details about this. In the meantime, can I thank families who are making efforts reduce traffic and who are parking considerately around the school.

Staffing Update

I'd like to give a warm welcome back to Mrs Penn who has returned to school following her maternity leave. She'll be taking over from Miss Walcot in year 1. Miss Penney will be reducing her hours in school by one day a week this term and on Fridays her class will be led by Miss Walcot.



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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 4:

INSET Day – Monday 23rd February 2026

Term 4 begins: Tuesday 24th February 2026

KS1 Workshops with Perform – Wednesday 25th February

World Book Day – Thursday 5th March

Mid-year School Reports sent out – Friday 6th March

Year 5 Parent Presentation 1 – Tuesday 17th March pm

Year 5 Parent presentation 2 – Wednesday 18th March am

Red Nose Day – Friday 20th March (Children wear something red. Suggested donation of £1 made via ParentPay)

Morfa Bay Parent/Carers Meeting – Monday 23rd March (2:30pm)

Parent Forum Meeting 3 – Wednesday 25th March (9:00-10:00am) – Inclusion

Ashcombe's Got Talent Finals – Wednesday 1st April

AFA Easter Fayre – Thursday 2nd April

End of Term 4 – Thursday 2nd April

Term 5:

Term 5 begins: Monday 20th April 2026

Class Photos YR and Y6 – Thursday 23rd April

Y5 Morfa Bay residential – Monday 27th April to Friday 1st May

Parent Forum Meeting 4 (2:00-3:00pm) – Tuesday 5th May – Transition

KS2 Test week – Monday 11th May to Thursday 14th May

Year 1 Parent Event/Performance 1 – Wednesday 20th May pm

Year 1 Parent Event/Performance 2 – Thursday 21st May am

Day of Sport and Kindness for Liam Shepherd Foundation - Friday 22nd May (Children come into school in sports kit)

End of Term 5 – Friday 22nd May

Term 6

INSET Day – Monday 1st June 2026

Term 6 begins: Tuesday 2nd June 2026

Y4 Multiplication Check Window Opens – Tuesday 2nd June to Friday 12th June

Y1 Phonics Screening Check week – Monday 8th June to Friday 12th June

Reception and Year 1 sports day – Wednesday 17th June (reserve day Friday 19th)

Parent Forum Meeting 5 – Friday 26th June (9:00-10:00am) - Community

AFA Summer Fayre – Saturday 4th July

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

Year 4, 5 & 6 sports day – Wednesday 8th July (reserve day Friday 10th)

Parents' Evening 2 – Thursday 9th July 3:30-6:00pm

Year 2 & Year 3 sports day – Wednesday 15th July (reserve day Friday 17th)

Y6 Leavers Show, Parents Lunch and Service – Thursday 16th July am and pm

Y6 Guard of Honour Goodbye – Wednesday 22nd July (2:40pm)

End of Term 6 – Wednesday 22nd July

Forever proud to serve you. #We Are Ashcombe.

Yours sincerely, Chris Penny, *Headteacher*

✉ Earlham Grove, Weston-super-Mare, Somerset, BS23 3JW

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