

Ashcombe Primary School

Headteacher: Chris Penny

Deputy Headteacher: Kerry Evans

Assistant Headteacher: Steve Burditt

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We Are Ashcombe



Wednesday 18th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We're reached the half way point of term 4 and Spring has finally started to arrive with some false starts of more rain and cold. We had lots to get our teeth into over the last few weeks. World Book Day was a real highlight and it was lovely to see children curled up with books around school all cosy and comfortable. Year 5 have been busy preparing their production for parents and I'm really excited to see what they've put together this week. I'd like to thank everybody for their support for the table top sale where nearly £400 was raised for the legacy Defib Project. We are also getting closer to our tradition Easter celebrations led by the AFA in the next few weeks to look forward to.



Parent Survey – next steps

I'd like to say a big thank you to families who responded to our parent survey in January. As a follow up to this I met with our Chair of Governors to share outcomes and plan some next steps. I'd like to give some feedback on our overall outcomes as well as some feedback on how we've used your feedback to move things forward at school:



- **95% of you said your child feels happy in school**
- **95% of said your child feels safe in school**
- **95% of you said that you would recommend Ashcombe Primary to other parents.**

Some key things you have shared that you would like the school to work on are as follows:

Areas identified in staff survey	What we have done/are working on
More communication about learning – what children are learning and how to support children at home.	Celebration of learning meetings in between parents and carers evenings and mid-year reports. Year group pages are being created on the school website to share learning and next steps more easily.
Communication about key events – finding a balance of information.	Key events are shared on each newsletter with reminders on Ping. Ability to subscribe to school events calander has been added to the website. School is evaluating alternative message systems
More understanding of the school's approach to SEND and inclusion.	Parent Fourm meeting on Inclusion planned for Wednesday 25 th March at 9:00 am



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More information about the school's approach to behaviour and tackling bullying.	<p>Parent Forum focused on behaviour held in Term 3.</p> <p>Behaviour approach information available on website.</p> <p>Senior leaders available to discuss at the school gate.</p>
More information about who to approach for safeguarding concerns.	<p>Safeguarding and Pastoral support sections of the website have been revised.</p> <p>Safeguarding inbox available for families to refer in concerns.</p> <p>Revised position for safeguarding team information in school lobby.</p>
More information and understanding about OPAL Play	<p>Stay and Play visits are planned for summer term.</p> <p>Announcements coming soon about playground developments!</p>
More effective communication and booking systems for split parents	<p>New school messaging/booking service is being evaluated.</p>

WOW Top Ten Challenge:

February's WOW Top Ten challenge has officially come to a close and what a fantastic month it has been! Last term, pupils showed real enthusiasm by walking, wheeling, scooting and cycling their way into the daily active travel records. The increased participation across the region reflects a growing commitment to healthier journeys and greener school communities. I'm delighted to share that **Ashcombe Primary** secured an impressive **6th place** in February! This is a fantastic achievement and a testament to the hard work of pupils, staff and families supporting active travel. Well done everyone!



Red Nose Day – Friday 20th March



This Friday, we're excited to support Red Nose Day by coming together to spread kindness, have fun, and raise money for others. Whether it's wearing red noses or taking part in special activities, every contribution helps people in the UK and around the world. Thank you for helping our school community live out our values and make a positive difference. Staff and children are invited to wear something red alongside their usual uniform and make a voluntary donation to Comic Relief via Parent Pay. Please follow this link to make a payment: <https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=20463>



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Ashcombe's Got Talent

I've seen children preparing on the playground for their entries over the last few weeks and the time for auditions is now upon us. Children will be presenting their acts to their staff and children in their own year groups. Year groups will be taking part in their auditions this week on the following days:

Monday 16th March : Year 3

Tuesday 17th March : Year 4

Wednesday 18th March : Year 6

Monday 23rd March : Year 5



Staff and children will be voting on their favourite acts and the three finalists from each year group will be invited to perform in the finals . We will write invites to families of the finalist to join us in the performance.

Parent Forum: Inclusion – Wednesday 25th March

We are looking forward to welcoming families to our upcoming Inclusion Parent Forum. This session is an opportunity for parents and carers to hear about the work we are doing to support all learners at Ashcombe Primary and to share their thoughts and experiences. By working together, we can strengthen the inclusive practice across our school which is a core priority for our school. The meeting will be led by Miss Evans as our SENDCo and it is an opportunity for the school to share our approach and also listen to your feedback for the next steps we take as school. We will be meeting in Turner Hall – teas and coffees will be available.



Colouring competition

We are pleased to share that Ashcombe Estate Agents have invited Ashcombe Primary School pupils to take part in a fun colouring competition. Your child will be coming home with a colouring sheet, which can be completed and then **returned directly to Ashcombe Estate Agents** to enter the competition. The closing date is Wednesday 1st April. All entries will be judged by the Ashcombe Estate Agents team, and the winner will be announced at the spring fayre on Thursday 2nd April and receive a £25 book voucher.



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Defib Legacy Programme



We are still raising funds to help launch our Defib Legacy Programme, created in loving memory of Liam Shepherd and Austin Newcombe. This important initiative will support our school community by increasing access to lifesaving equipment and raising awareness of emergency response.

The total amount to be raised to get a legacy defibrillator installed on the school gates for community emergency use is £1705. So far we have raised £280 with online donations and a further £378 from our table top sale.

If you would like to contribute, donations can be made by scanning the QR code or going to: <https://greatwesternairambulance.enthuse.com/pf/ashcombe-primary-school---defib-legacy>.

We still have plenty of nearly new gifts, toys, books and sweet bags to sell, which we are hoping to do after school one day next week. We appreciate your support with this life saving fundraiser in memory of 'Liam and Austin'.

AFA Spring Fayre

Join us for the AFA Spring Fayre on Thursday 2nd April, where there will be lots of fun and games for everyone to enjoy with prizes and goodies to be won!

The AFA have a non-uniform day on Friday 27th March in exchange for donations of easter eggs / bags of sweets for the Spring Fayre.

They will also be holding their usual competitions: Easter Bonnets (Years R-2), Easter Scenes (Years 3-5) and Easter Bakes (all Years), with prizes awarded to the winner in each year group. Please see the AFA upcoming dates poster, further details will be shared shortly.

Parents are invited into school early on Thursday 2nd April to watch the Easter Bonnet parades will be held at 2:30pm for Reception, 2:40pm for Year 1 and 2:50pm for Year 2. The Easter Fayre will commence shortly after the parades.

We hope you can join us for a fantastic afternoon and help us raise money for the children of Ashcombe school.



EASTER @ ASHCOMBE MARCH / APRIL 2026

FRI
27
MARCH

NON SCHOOL UNIFORM

IN EXCHANGE FOR A DONATION FOR THE SPRING FAYRE, KS1: BAG OF SWEETS / KS2: EASTER EGG

MON
30
MARCH

EASTER SCENES (YEAR 3-6)

GET YOUR IMAGINATIONS GOING AND CREATE AN EASTER / SPRINGTIME SCENE

THURS
02
APRIL

EASTER BONNETS (YEAR R-2)

DECORATE AN EASTER HAT IN ANY WAY YOU LIKE!

EASTER BAKES (ALL YEARS)

BAKE SOME EASTER / SPRINGTIME THEMED CUPCAKES OR BISCUITS (PARENT BAKES ALSO WELCOME)

EASTER BONNET PARADES

RECEPTION @ 2:30, YEAR 1 @ 2:40, & YEAR 2 @ 2:50 PM

SPRING FAYRE

FUN & GAMES FROM 3:30 - 5:00PM

PRIZES FOR THE WINNERS IN EACH YEAR GROUP FOR SCENES, BONNETS AND BAKES



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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:

Red Nose Day – Friday 20th March (Children wear something red. Donation to be made via ParentPay)

Ashcombe's Got Talent Finals – Wednesday 1st April

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

AFA Easter Fayre – Thursday 2nd April

End of Term 4 – Thursday 2nd April

Term 5:

Term 5 begins: Monday 20th April 2026

Y2 Egyptian workshop – Wednesday 22nd April

Class Photos YR and Y6 – Thursday 23rd April

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

Rock Steady Parent Concert – Thursday 23rd April

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 can 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

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

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

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 – 2:40pm Wednesday 22nd July

End of Term 6 – Wednesday 22nd July

Forever proud to serve you.

#We Are Ashcombe.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Penny
Headteacher

