



# Ashford Hill Primary School Newsletter

March 14th 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Another week has flown by at Ashford Hill and it is so lovely to see the sun shining brightly.

This week, our show has been cast!! Scripts have been sent home for children with several lines to start highlighting with an accompanying letter for parents. Children in smaller roles will receive their lines nearer the time. We will start rehearsing after the SATS. Congratulations to all of our children for auditioning!! A fantastic achievement.

Red nose day follows on the 21<sup>st</sup> March and we have to buy noses in advance. We will need to know how many to order – so if you would like your child to have a Red Nose for the day and donate to the cause – **please complete the payment of £2 on the parent pay app before Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March.** We can then buy the noses ready for the day itself and distribute them on the day.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend and we will see you on the gate on Monday morning.

Kirsty Kingham  
Principal

## Attendance

Attendance % (whole school target 97%)							
Whole School	YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
97.8	100	98	98.8	95.9	97.5	96.1	100
Well done YR and Y6 with 100% attendance this week							

Unfortunately, our whole school attendance has been decreasing. There are a number of children who are currently classed as persistently absent and have attendance below 90%. That means they have missed 10% of their time in school already this year. Absence has a huge effect on both children's academic and social and emotional development. Research consistently shows a strong link between regular attendance and higher academic achievement, particularly in KS2.

There are also an increasing number of children who are attending routine dental appointments during the school day. These appointments should be made outside of school time.

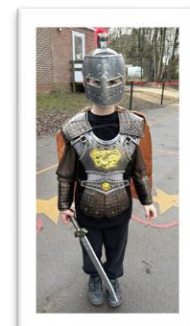
Attendance measure	Percentage	Ranking ☺
Overall attendance	97.0%	You are ranked 16th out of 423 schools
Overall absence	3.0%	You are ranked 16th out of 423 schools
Authorised absence	2.6%	You are ranked 28th out of 423 schools
Unauthorised absence	0.4%	You are ranked 43rd out of 423 schools
Persistently absent	7.9%	You are ranked 123rd out of 423 schools
Severely absent	0.0%	You are ranked 1st out of 423 schools

## INSET day's for 2025-2026

Thank you for your feedback regarding the INSET days for next year. Due to families already having booked holidays from our published dates, we will keep the published INSET dates on the website. Thank you for getting back to us so quickly. A nice long October half term to look forward to!

## World Book Day – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March

World book day brought much fun on Thursday as we discussed books and our favourite characters. The children spent time decoding clues for character book islands. There was also a competition launched for the best book Islands. The winners from each year group will be taken to choose their very own book and have a hot chocolate in Starbucks with Mrs Kingham. One of our children even became an author and wrote a book about Mr Dixon. He then came dressed as the main character from his book! We even had a dedicated parent come dressed as a super hero for drop off! Competition entries are due back before Wednesday next week.





### Red Nose Day – Friday 21st March



Comic Relief turns 40 this year and Ashford Hill will be helping celebrate. We will be selling Red Noses in the run up to the day, which can be paid for using parent pay. Children and staff are invited to wear something funny for money and we will be holding The Big 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bake Sale at break time. Please look out for further communication in the coming days.

### After School Wrap Around Care Provision

We are currently in the final stages of organising this to begin after Easter. It has been a very involved task and there will be a final parent survey that we will need to do next week. Please look out for this and even if you do not intend to use the afterschool provision, please complete the survey as this will help us to ensure the provision is just right for the needs of our school community.

### Requests for Willow outdoors

We are currently in the process of revamping our outdoor space in EYFS and wondered if any parents/carers have any of the following they would like to donate, please:

- Trellis
- Small plant pots (pot or plastic)
- Larger plant pots (pot or plastic)
- Stainless steel pots/cutlery/utensils
- Small tiered greenhouse/greenhouse
- Baskets
- Buckets of differing sizes
- Weighing scales
- Cake tins
- Measuring tapes

If you have any of these, please bring them to the office for the attention of Miss Hudson. Thank you.

### Moment to Share and Egg Hunt Event – 4<sup>th</sup> April from 2.45pm

There will be the termly curriculum showcase/moment to share at 2.45pm on the last day of term. This will be followed by the famous PTA Egg Hunt. There will be more information on how to buy tickets nearer the time.

### Parents' Evenings - Virtual

There will be a virtual Parents' Evenings for the spring term. This will be held on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> March- details of bookable slots will be sent the week after half term.

This will be followed by the curriculum showcase to view your children's work on 4<sup>th</sup> April at 2.45pm.

### Safeguarding:

Safeguarding is our number one priority. Together we want to ensure that all children are safe, happy and secure at all times. If you have any concerns about another child or your own, please do not hesitate to contact one of our Safeguarding Leads.

Our Designated Safeguarding Leads are as follows:

Mrs Kirsty Kingham	Miss C Hudson	Mr B Dixon
Principal and Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	Vice Principal and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)	Class Teacher and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)

### Dates for your diary

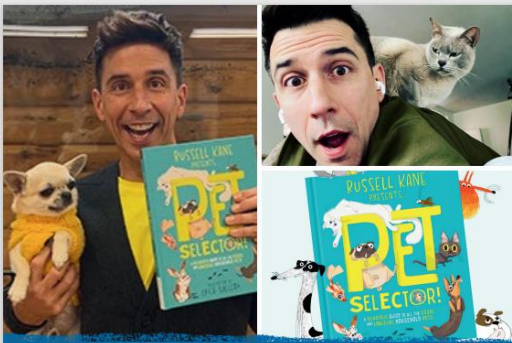
21<sup>st</sup> March – Red Nose Day

4<sup>th</sup> April – Moment to Share and PTA Egg Hunt

20<sup>th</sup> June- Sports' Day

Summer Fayre and Car Show – 6<sup>th</sup> July 2025

3<sup>rd</sup> July – Performance at the Haymarket Theatre (year 2-6)



## Russell Kane: Pet Selector! at NAWT Berkshire

Saturday 22nd March 2025 at 2pm

Every £15 ticket includes a copy of Russell's 112 page fully illustrated book, which he will happily sign for you at the end of the show.

Additional tickets £7.50 GBP

Please note there is very limited onsite parking.  
Access will only be permitted with a non-purchased parking ticket

To book tickets call 01488 638584, purchase at our Berkshire centre or visit our website



[www.nawt.org.uk](http://www.nawt.org.uk)

Scan to buy tickets



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