



Ashford Hill Primary School

Newsletter
23 January 2026

Dear parents/carers

This week has been a shining example of our school value of **determination**, demonstrated by children across every year group. Whether taking on new challenges, supporting their peers, or pushing themselves to try something unfamiliar, our pupils have shown real grit and perseverance.

Our iRock taster sessions gave children the chance to step into the world of music-making, and determination was on full display. It was wonderful to see so many children embracing the challenge of trying something new.

Meanwhile, Year 6 children enjoyed an inspiring athletics session at The Clere School. Their determination was evident in every activity, as they pushed themselves to sprint faster, jump further, and keep going even when things felt tough. The encouragement they offered each other added to the positive, determined atmosphere of the day.

Overall, it has been a week full of effort, enthusiasm, and the kind of determination that makes our school community proud.

Warm regards

Catherine Hudson

Principal

Attendance:

Our school attendance target is **97% and above for all children**.

At Ashford Hill Primary, we are committed to:

- Promoting good attendance and reducing absence, including persistent absence
- Ensuring every pupil arrives at school on time and ready to learn
- Ensuring every pupil has access to full-time education to which they are entitled

This week's attendance:

Whole School	YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
96.2	92.7	100	98.1	94.5	98.2	94.1	97.9

Well done Y1 for 100% attendance this week.

Reminder: **The gate will now close promptly at 08:55**. If your child arrives after this time, they will need to enter via the main entrance and sign in at the office. Thank you for supporting us in ensuring every child starts their day ready to learn.

Reporting Absence:

If your child is absent, please contact the school by either calling the office and leaving a message or emailing our dedicated attendance mailbox: attendance@ashfordhill.hants.sch.uk

When reporting an absence, please remember to include the **reason** your child is away from school. If you report that your child is unwell, a member of staff will follow up to gather a little more information, in line with our attendance procedures. Thank you for helping us keep our records accurate and up to date.



OJ, our iRock band coach, led exciting taster sessions for 36 children on Wednesday. Each child had the chance to choose an instrument – guitar, keyboard, drums, or vocals – and join their very own mini rock band.

Once the bands were formed, they picked a pop or rock song and learned how to play the chorus together. With OJ's guidance, the children showed fantastic focus, determination, and teamwork, and by the end of the session they were confidently performing the chorus as a band.

It was a fantastic experience that sparked creativity, confidence, and a real sense of achievement for everyone involved.

If your child is interested in joining iRock, registration is simple. Families can sign up directly through the iRock website. <https://www.irockschool.com/>. Once enrolled, children will take part in weekly band sessions held in school during the school day. If you come across any problems, or you are told there is a waiting list, please contact the Office so I can contact iRock directly.

Y6 Athletics at The Clere



On Wednesday, 11 members of Year 6 represented our school at The Clere secondary school, taking part in the Basingstoke School Games Indoor Athletics competition. They ran, threw, jumped, and cheered for each other as their team mates put in some amazing performances. We won all four of our relay races, finished first and second in almost all the individual races and put in some fierce efforts in the field events too. We came third, narrowly missing out on the top two places who qualified for the finals, but they did a fantastic job – well done!

ParentPay & School Lunches:

Our new ParentPay system is now up and running for ordering and paying for lunches, and paying for school educational visits.

Please ensure your account is activated to enable you to order your child's lunch and to pay for any educational visits.

From Monday 26 January all school dinners will need to be pre-booked via ParentPay - this applies to all children across the school from Year R – Year 6. Just a reminder: you will not be able to book a meal on the same day as it is being served.

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.



Miss. C. Hudson
Principal

Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs. L. Burridge
Executive Headteacher

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mr. B. Dixon
Teacher

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Dates for your diary:

24 March 2026	Parents' Evening
25 March 2026	Parents' Evening
19 June 2026	Sports Day
9 July 2026	Annie Jr Haymarket Theatre – school show
23 October 2026	INSET Day – school closed to children

Community Notices:

Jiminy Cricket's
A warm and welcoming pre-school in Ashford Hill

Spaces currently available

hello@jiminycricketspreschool.com | www.jiminycricketspreschool.com

- Highly experienced and qualified staff
- Government funded hours available
- Small setting with community feel
- Excellent child-to-staff ratios
- 2 years to school age
- Creative and outdoor play

OFSTED RATED GOOD

Contact us for more info
0118 9810 333

Pop Up Ensemble FREE

Pop Up Ensemble
Lift Winton, Andover

JMST theatre, Lift Winton, London Road, Andover, Hampshire, SP10 2PS
Sunday 18 January 2026 9.15 - 13.15

Beginner to Grade 4

Back by Popular Demand!

Come and be part of a 'from scratch' orchestra!

Scan the QR code to register your place

Hampshire County Council Music Service

Parent Information Portal

Your Health Visiting and School Nursing records all in one place... at your finger tips

- View and manage your appointments with Health Visitors
- View your child's vaccination history and newborn blood spot screening results
- Search a wide range of resources about children's health
- View growth charts and add measurements
- The Ages and Stages questionnaires are available for you to complete electronically before your child's 1 year/2 year health reviews
- National Childhood Measurement Programme. Receive results of your child's height and weight measurements (Year R and Year G).

Today's health, tomorrow's future
Sign up today! Email parent.portal@nhs.net

We CARE through:
Compassion Accountability Respect Excellence



Scan the QR Code to Register


FESTIVAL OF FREE TENNIS AT BASINGSTOKE TENNIS

BACK ON COURT THIS JANUARY 2026

TENNIS TASTERS

Kickstart your fitness journey with a free group coaching taster at Basingstoke Tennis starting 20th January. Whether you're a total beginner or returning to the game, our brand-new sessions are the perfect way to get active and stay social.



OPEN DAY EVENT

The perfect chance to jump on court with taster sessions for both adults and juniors. Meet our friendly coaching team, chat about our programmes, and discover our local tennis community. Plus, enjoy exclusive discounts on coaching and memberships available only to those who attend on the day!



FREE PARKS TENNIS

Free social tennis in Basingstoke every weekend for all ages! With equipment provided and qualified selectors leading the way, just turn up, mix in, and meet new people in a fun group environment.



JOIN NOW: WWW.SEAHORSESSWIMMING.CO.UK BOOKSEAHORSES@GMAIL.COM

Seahorses Swim School

PROUD TO OFFER SMALL GROUP & PRIVATE CLASSES FOR BABIES, CHILDREN & ADULTS AT FOUR LOVELY WARM PRIVATE POOLS IN FARNHAM, HINDHEAD, BORDON & NEWBURY

About Us

At Seahorses, we are dedicated to supporting you throughout every stage of your swimming journey. We offer classes for all ages and abilities, for babies and children through to adults.

We take great pride in offering small group and private lessons, ensuring a calm, supportive, and progressive environment for our swimmers to thrive.

Our caring team undergo extensive training & qualifications & we offer unrivalled teaching quality within our personalised swimming scheme.

We swim at four warm, private pools in Farnham, Hindhead, Bordon, and Newbury, with sessions available during daytimes, evenings, and weekends. Our weekly classes are held on a term-by-term basis, with additional courses offered during school holidays.

We take great pride in ensuring a strong foundation from the very beginning. We wholeheartedly believe that it is crucial for every child to learn the proper techniques and skills necessary to become a competent, confident and safety-aware swimmer.



Farnham



Bordon



Hindhead



Newbury

TO ENQUIRE, PLEASE SEND US AN EMAIL, OR COMPLETE A BOOKING FORM ON OUR WEBSITE



WWW.SEAHORSESSWIMMING.CO.UK