



Ashford Hill Primary School

Newsletter
17 April 2026

Dear Families

Welcome back.

We hope you all had a lovely Easter break. It's hard to believe that we are already two-thirds of the way through the school year. As we move into the summer term, there is still so much to look forward to, including the school production of *Annie*, KS1 and KS2 SATs, curriculum-enhancing visits, and welcoming more new families to Ashford Hill.

Guided by our values of determination, community and integrity, the children have returned to school full of energy and have already begun their new learning journeys with the positivity and enthusiasm we expect from Ashford Hill children.

We are very proud to launch our new Head's Award, and I cannot wait to celebrate the first children who will receive this award for truly shining at Ashford Hill.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Warm regards

Catherine Hudson

Principal

Attendance

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

This week's attendance:

Whole School	YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
96.8	98.6	100	98.1	98	88.3	100	97.9

Well done to Y1 and Y5 on 100% attendance this week

Pupil Success



Stacey attends Popley Fields boxing club in Basingstoke. She has won trophies before but is very proud of this one because it is a new trophy to the club and only a handful have won it so far. She received this because of her skilled body punch. To win the trophy she had to show she listens well, and because she listened so well she only made one mistake. She had to perform the skill once on each of the instructors and they were watching to see if she moved her head and ducked her shoulder whilst performing the skill in case of a counter attack. Well done Stacey for your discipline and dedication.

Edward is a keen baker and, during the Easter holidays, used his historical knowledge of the Iron Age to create a cake depicting an imaginary theme park called *Iron Park*. Iron Park is similar to *Jurassic Park*, but instead of dinosaurs, visitors are transported back to the Iron Age. The roundhouse was made from chocolate cake, and the trees were crafted from chocolate modelling paste.

According to his family, the cake was not only imaginative but also very tasty.



If your child has had a success outside of school, we would love to celebrate it. Please send a photo and a short description to admin@ashfordhill.hants.sch.uk and we will share it here.

Afterschool Care

Following the disappointing news regarding JAG and after-school care, I would like to share an update.

We will continue to run the following clubs for the next half term: Construction/Games Club on Tuesdays and Drawing/Colouring Club on Thursdays. Sign-ups for these clubs will be sent out on Monday.

Please be aware that parents may need to make alternative after-school arrangements for Summer 2 whilst we explore options for future provision.

If you know anyone who may be suitable and interested in joining our team to run after-school care, or if you are aware of other providers operating in local schools, please contact the school office.

Smartphone Free Childhood

Episode 4 – April 26

Proudly Supporting the Smartphone Free Childhood Movement

We are proud to support the **Smartphone Free Childhood** initiative— a parent-led movement focused on giving children more time to grow, play and thrive before the pressures of smartphones and social media begin. This isn't about judgement, but about helping families make informed and confident choices.

Why now?

Concerns about the impact of early smartphone and social media use have grown nationwide. In January 2026, families sent a record-breaking **250,000 letters to MPs**, bringing the issue to the forefront and leading to a new Government consultation on proposed protections for children online. All families are welcome to share their views.

[Growing up in the online world: a national consultation - GOV.UK](#)

[Click here for a 1 minute video explaining the Government Consultation.](#)

Parent Guides & Practical Advice

Every family's needs are different. Many parents tell us they're unsure about when a child should have a smartphone or how to safely use it if they already have one. Our aim is simply to share helpful information so choices feel less pressured and more supported.

Here are some resources you may find useful:

- [How can I reduce my child's screen time without battles?](#)
- [How should I talk to my child about smartphones?](#)
- [Are smartphones really that bad for kids?](#)
- [Can't I just give my child an old locked-down smartphone?](#)
- [Is my child smartphone-ready?](#)

You can find more resources and practical guidance here:

<https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/resources-for-parents>

Looking ahead

We'll continue sharing updates and resources as this conversation evolves. We would love to hear from parents who would like to become parent champions for this initiative. If you'd like more information or want to get involved, please get in touch.

If you would like to join Smartphone Free Childhood SFC North Hampshire chat here is the WhatsApp link

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/EBY62eSvJcM912HusmBR2u?mode=join>

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.

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

11 May 2026	KS2 SATs week
19 June 2026	Sports Day
9 July 2026	Annie Jr Haymarket Theatre – school show
14 July 2026	Whole school summer disco
23 October 2026	Extra-ordinary INSET Day- School closed to children

FACE April 2026 Timetable
 All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom, 90 minutes long
E24 each or FREE with School Membership
 Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk
 Recordings available for 48 hours

Understanding Anger	6 April 10am
School Anxiety	6 April 7pm
Facing Defiance	7 April 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	7 April 7pm
Anxiety Explained	13 April 10am
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	13 April 7pm
Introduction to OCD	14 April 10am
What is ACT?	14 April 7pm
Decreasing Depression	20 April 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	20 April 7pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	21 April 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	21 April 7pm
FREE Decreasing Depression	23 April 7-8pm
Improving Family Communication	27 April 10am
Autism: Improving Communication	27 April 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	28 April 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	28 April 7pm

Breast Walk Ever Hampshire
AG-INS! breast cancer
Sunday 14th June 2026
 IBM Hursley, Winchester, SO21 2JA
MARATHON
HALF-MARATHON
10K
 Refreshments provided at regular stops along the routes.
 Scan Here to Sign-up

North Hampshire
Sport In Mind (FREE)
Youth Activities for Mental Wellbeing
 Sport In Mind provides free sport and physical activity opportunities for children and young people to help build confidence and self-esteem, meet new people and support low mood and other mental health challenges.

Day	Time	Activity	Age	Venue
Tue	4:30-5:30pm	Sport & Games	10-14 years	The Link, Newnham Road, TADLEY RG24 4NH
Wed	4-5pm	Sport & Games	10-14 years	Sports Hall, Evesham Community Academy, Colford Way BADINGDON RG24 5UP
Thurs	4:30-5:30pm	Sport & Games	10-14 years	Sports Hall, Andover Leisure Centre, York Street, ANDOVER SP10 1GP

Session runs weekly (excluding school holidays)
 New joiners must first sign up
 Scan the QR code above & email youth@sportinmind.org

Holiday Activities
Summer 2026 GET MUSICAL!
 Five Days of Musical Theatre Magic - Western Style!
 The Royal Theatre, Batten Parent Centre, Eastleigh
 Mon: 10 - Fri: 14 August 2026
 10:00am - 4:00pm
 Performance Friday at 5:00pm
 Suitable for Year 4 - Year 13
 £185 (includes 12 transportable tickets), including lunch
 Breakfast Club available each morning from 9:30am at a cost of £5 per day
 Saddle up for an unforgettable week of singing, dancing, and acting as we bring the Wild West to the stage! Learn iconic show tunes, master bow-tapping choreography, and perform a spectacular musical at the end of the week.
 Click here for the sign up form
 Whether you're a seasoned performer or trying musical theatre for the first time, this is your chance to shine!
 For more information
music.servicing@hants.gov.uk
hantsmusicclub.org.uk/holidayactivities/
SAVE THE DATE - MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW
 Our Rock 2 the Beat and Music Production enrichment days will run on Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th August 2026.

Basingstoke Area Rock and Pop Choir - Open Evening
 LOVE SINGING!
 MAKE NEW FRIENDS!
 ENJOY PERFORMING!
 Do you love singing?
 Are you aged between 9 and 18?
 The Basingstoke Area Youth Choir would love to welcome you to our Open Evening on Thursday 8th March at QMC.
 We sing a wide range of contemporary music, including rock and pop, and perform regularly throughout the year at exciting venues such as The Anvil, Basingstoke.
 Rehearsals take place every Thursday evening from 6.45-8.45pm in the Claude Butler Building at QMC.
 If you're thinking about joining us, come along to our Open Evening - no audition required!

FREE online talk by Jane Keyworth
 FACE Family Advice Lead Facilitator
Decreasing Depression
 23rd April 7-8pm

Book online
www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk
 Parents - Live Talks page

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FREE Getting a Good Nights Sleep	28 May 7-8pm

SPRING FÊTE

WATERMILL THEATRE
Sun 3 May, 10am - 4pm