



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

ASHURST CE AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL LANE, ASHURST, WEST SUSSEX, BN44 3AY

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9th September 2025

Dear Parents and Families,

Firstly, a very warm welcome back to the new academic year to all families, especially those new to the school. We are also delighted to welcome Miss Webster as our second Teaching Assistant in Mouse Class, and Mrs Sansbury has taken on the SENDCo role in addition to her teaching duties.

We also thank all staff and those (including the Diocese and the teams from ReEnergise, Elite Renewables, Danfire, Entrust and UK Power Networks) who have worked so hard to support the required building, IT and power upgrades that have been necessary for the installation of our new air source heat pump system and prepare our school for the new academic year. It really is an amazing project that enables our school to be heated without relying on fossil fuels. We are delighted that we are now further on our journey towards decarbonisation and, working with the Net Zero project, we are looking at more ways that we can reduce our carbon footprint.

We hope that all families and children are safe and well and are looking forward to all that is planned for 2025-2026. This term in Mouse Class (EYFS/KS1) children will be answering the questions 'How have toys changed over time?' and 'How do we celebrate?'. Squirrel Class (Y3&Y4) is learning all about 'Mighty Metals', and the wise Owl Class (Y5&Y6) will be exploring 'How has conflict impacted our lives?' and 'Why is 'fair trade' fair?'.

'New Beginnings' Service

We would like to invite you to join us at our 'New Beginnings' Service this year.

School will attend a church service at St. James', Ashurst on Wednesday 17th September. The service will be from 2.45-3.30pm. If you are able to attend, you may take your children home with you at the end of the service; if you are unable to attend, we will walk back up to school in time for 3.30pm collection as usual. If the weather is unkind the service will take place in school at the same time, and you will be very welcome to join us. During the service, children will be invited to come and collect a bookmark.

Annual Sponsored Walks

At the end of last term, the YAGs and Y6s agreed to make a change to the charities we will support this year, including for our sponsored walks. Our charities will be Chestnut Tree House, The Wholesome Warehouse and The Etches Collection. Last year's Y6 children, having visited the Etches Museum in Dorset, were very keen to support the work they do.

' Achieving Together with Love, Hope and Joy '

This involves the challenging work of the excavation to rescue the remaining body of the Pliosaur. This year the Mouse class (EYFS/KS1) walk will be on Wednesday 17th September with Squirrel & Owl classes' (Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6) walk on Tuesday 16th September. Transport to and from the start and finish of the KS2 sponsored walk will be by minibus and private car. Children should wear suitable footwear and may wear home clothes. We recommend long trousers, a couple of layers in case the weather changes, a plastic bag to sit on and certainly a raincoat. All Juniors will require a packed lunch (which they will carry, so we recommend a small rucksack) for Tuesday 16th. Sponsor forms and details of how to support our chosen beneficiaries will be emailed to you.

After School Clubs

This term, thanks to the generosity of staff, parents and friends in the local community, we are delighted to be able to offer a range of afterschool clubs from 3.30-4.15. Details of the clubs and how to sign up have been sent to you ahead of this newsletter.

Tuesday	Gardening Club	Y2-Y6
Wednesday	Dance and Drama	Y3-Y6
	Puzzle Club	Y3-Y6
Thursday	Sports Club	Y1-Y6
Friday	Construction	Y1-Y4
	Watercolour Painting	Y3-Y6

Swimming Sessions

We are pleased to continue our partnership with Steyning Grammar School and 'MXT Swimming' to offer swimming sessions in the first half of the Autumn term for Y5/6 and in the second half of Autumn term for Y4. Sessions for Y3 will be in the Spring term. Please remember your child will need a verruca sock if they have a verruca and a swimming hat (they will not be permitted to swim without a hat). Those children swimming in shorts should not wear loose fitting 'beach shorts', and those children wearing an all-in-one costume should ensure that they can put them on themselves. Transport will be by minibus, and a packed lunch will be required on these days.

FAPS (Friends of Ashurst Primary School)

We hope that new families will join us for the FAPS AGM. The date for this is to be confirmed and we will let you know as soon as possible. As a Church of England Aided school, Ashurst is required to provide a contribution of 10% of the school's annual building work and maintenance costs. The Friends of Ashurst Primary School (FAPS) was set up to help provide this funding and also support the school with any additional needs. Over the past couple of years FAPS were able to buy 14 new Chrome books and provided funds for the proposed refurbishment of the playground as well as for the less glamorous, but vital, toilet refurbishment, sewage systems and windows!

Throughout the year they organise and run both small and large events and are able to not only provide the school with the extra funding it needs, but to go over and above their fundraising target whilst creating exciting events we can all enjoy.

Music Tuition

Mr Smith continues to give private flute and saxophone lessons in school on Monday afternoons and has spaces available. Guitar and ukulele lessons will continue this year with Mr Barrett on Tuesdays; he will be contacting parents directly. If your child is interested in having instrumental lessons and you would like more information on music tuition in school, please contact the school office.

School Website

<http://www.ashurstcofe-pri.w-sussex.sch.uk>

The school website is updated regularly (at this time of year, some areas are under review) and is where the most up-to-date information can be found including: Newsletters, OFSTED and SIAMS reports, PE/Sports Funding statements, Statutory School Policies and Pupil Premium and Local Offer statements.

Celebration Assemblies

This term we would like to invite parents and carers to our Celebration Assemblies. These are an opportunity to recognise our children's achievements both in and out of school. It is the forum for awards, certificates and birthdays and you are all very welcome to attend!

INSET Days

This year our INSET days are enabling school staff to undergo Safeguarding training, to attend locality workshops and training, including moderation of children's learning and 'Improving the Outcomes for Disadvantaged Children'. We will also be reviewing and updating our curriculum planning and assessment as well as reviewing and evaluating our progress against our School Development Plan targets.

eSchools Lite App

Did you know that a very quick and easy way to access school dates and information is by downloading the eSchools Lite App? It has links to the school calendar, latest newsletters, online safety information and school contact details.

Safeguarding

As always, should you have any concerns regarding your child/children, please contact the school as soon as possible in order that matters may be quickly and effectively resolved. Should you have any safeguarding concerns please contact the DSL team, Mrs Smith, Mrs Sansbury or Mrs Welstead direct or via DSL@ashurstcofe-pri.w-sussex.sch.uk.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Kindest regards,

Mrs S Smith
Headteacher

Uniform requirements for Academic Year 2025-2026

We ask that all children wear the Ashurst school uniform every day. The requirements have remained the same and have not changed for over 8 years. We are very proud of our school and ask for your support in maintaining the correct uniform.

If your child has a particular need which necessitates an adaptation or change to the school uniform listed below, please make an appointment to discuss this with Mrs Smith.

Please ensure that all items are named as already this term we are trying to identify the owners of several sweatshirts and hoodies. Whilst the children can sometimes identify their items by smelling them, staff do not share this skill!

Grey skirt, culottes or pinafore dress

Grey tailored trousers (long or short)

Green sweatshirt with school badge or green sweater/ cardigan (not their PE hoody).

White shirt/ blouse/polo shirt

White, black or grey socks

White, grey or green tights

Sensible shoes or sandals (not boots)

Green and white checked dress/checked 'playsuit'

PE Kit:

Green, grey or white shorts/skorts, white T-shirt with a round neck, white socks, trainers, green hoody and green joggers.

Green hoodies should not be worn during the rest of the week. Trainers are preferred footwear for PE as they are more substantial than black plimsoles. Leggings are not permitted, nor are joggers and shorts/skorts in other colours.

PE: Mouse Class - Thursday & Friday, Squirrel Class - Thursday & Friday, Owl Class - Tuesday. After-school Dance & Drama Club is on Wednesday, Sports Club is on Thursday.

Our school uniform requests that children wear sensible school shoes or sandals. It does not include boots for any children, or trainers except for PE.

Jewellery/ hair wear

Jewellery should not be worn by children with the exception of stud earrings which should be removed or covered with tape for PE.

Hairbands/scrunchies are to be green, white, grey, black, navy or brown. Children's hair should be **completely tied up once it touches their shoulders and this applies to both boys and girls**. By so doing hair is kept neat, out of children's faces and minimises the spread of head lice

May we also ask that children have a coat, a water bottle and school book bag (order via the school uniform link on the website) in school every day. These fit in the children's drawers and help letters, homework and reading books make the journey home safely!

Ashurst CE Aided Primary School Dates for your Diary 2025-2026

First Half Autumn Term	Wednesday 3 rd September - Friday 24 th October
Half term	Monday 27 th October to Friday 31 st October
Second half Autumn Term	Tuesday 4 th November - Friday 19 th December
First Half Spring Term	Monday 5 th January - Friday 13 th February
Half term	Monday 16 th February to Friday 20 th February
Second Half Spring Term	Tuesday 23 rd February - Friday 27 th March
First Half Summer Term	Tuesday 13 th April - Friday 22 nd May
Half term	Monday 26 th May to Friday 30 th May
Second Half Summer Term	Monday 1 st June - Wednesday 22 nd July
INSET DAYS	Wednesday 3 rd September, Monday 3 rd November 2025, Monday 23 rd February 2026, Monday 13 th April 2026 and Wednesday 22 nd July 2026.

Y5&Y6 Swimming packed Lunch required	Friday 12 th September
Family Service St James' Church Ashurst, 10.30	Sunday 14 th September
Squirrel and Owl (Y3-Y6) Sponsored Walk	Tuesday 16 th September
Mouse Class (EYFS Y1/Y2) Sponsored Walk	Wednesday 17 th September
New Beginnings Service in St James', Ashurst 2.45-3.30	Wednesday 17 th September
Y6 SGS Taster Morning	Thursday 18 th September
Full Governing Body Business Meeting 5.30	Thursday 18 th September
Y5&Y6 Swimming packed Lunch required	Friday 19 th September
Y5&Y6 Swimming packed Lunch required	Friday 26 th September
Y5&Y6 Swimming packed Lunch required	Friday 3 rd October
Wellbeing Day 1	Monday 6 th October
Y5&Y6 Swimming packed Lunch required	Friday 10 th October
Family Service St James' 10.30	Sunday 12 th October
Bikeability Sessions for Y6	W/B Monday 13 th October
Y5Y6 Trip to Glyndebourne - A Midsummer Night's Dream	Wednesday 15 th October
Astracolour individual and sibling photos	Monday 20 th October
Open Afternoon 2.30-4.00	Monday 20 th October
Parent consultations YR-Y4	Tuesday 21 st October
Parent consultations all year groups	Thursday 23 rd October
Flu Vaccines 11.00am	Thursday 23 rd October
Celebration Assembly 3.00pm	Friday 24 th October
HALF TERM	
INSET DAY	Monday 3 rd November

Y5Y6 trip to Glyndebourne - The Railway Children	Tuesday 4 th November
Family Service St James' 10.30	Sunday 9 th November
Remembrance Day Service in school	Tuesday 11 th November
Y3Y4 trip to Ford Recycling	Thursday 13 th November
Y4 Swimming packed lunch required	Friday 14 th November
Children in Need Day- please bring in a jar or a tin of food for The Wholesome Warehouse as your donation	Friday 14 th November
Y4 Swimming packed Lunch required	Friday 21 st November
Full Governing Body Meeting	Thursday 27 th November
Y4 Swimming packed Lunch required	Friday 28 th November
Y4 Swimming packed Lunch required	Friday 5 th December
KS2 Christmas productions:	1.30pm Tuesday 10 th December
	5pm Wednesday 11 th December
Y4 Swimming packed Lunch required	Friday 12 th December
Celebration Assembly 3.00pm	Friday 12 th December
Family Service St James' 10.30	Sunday 14 th December
Open afternoon	Monday 15 th December
Y5Y6 Christmas Bazaar 2.30-4.00	Tuesday 16 th December
Mouse Class Nativity dress rehearsal 9.15	Wednesday 17 th December
Mouse Class Nativity 9.15	Thursday 18 th December
Children's Christmas Party 1.00	Thursday 18 th December
Talent Show am	Friday 19 th December
Last day of term	Friday 19 th December

Extra-Curricular Activities

' Achieving Together with Love, Hope and Joy '

<u>Gardening Y2-Y6 Tuesday 3.30-4.15pm</u>	
9 th , 16 th , 23 rd , 30 th	September
7 th , 14 th 21 st	October

<u>After half term there will be a Tuesday Textile Club for Y2-Y6 3.30-4.15pm</u>	
4 th 11 th , 18 th , 25 th	November
2 nd 9 th	December

<u>Dance/Drama Club Y3-Y6 Wednesday 3.30-4.15pm</u>	
10 th 17 th 24 th	September
1 st 8 th 15 th 22 nd	October
5 th 12 th 19 th 26 th	November
3 rd	December

<u>Puzzle Club Y3-Y6 Wednesday 3.30-4.15pm</u>	
10 th 17 th 24 th	September
1 st 8 th 15 th 22 nd	October
5 th 12 th 19 th 26 th	November
3 rd	December

<u>Sports Club Y1-Y6 Thursday 3.30-4.15pm</u>	
11 th 18 th 25 th	September
2 nd 9 th 16 th 23 rd	October
6 th 13 th 20 th 27 th	November
4 th	December

<u>Construction Club Y1-Y4 Friday 3.30-4.15pm</u>	
12 th 19 th 26 th	September
3 rd 10 th 17 th 24 th	October
<u>Construction Club becomes Christmas Craft after half term 3.30-4.15pm</u>	
7 th 14 th 21 st 28 th	November
5 th 12 th	December

<u>Watercolour Painting Club Y3-Y6 Friday 3.30-4.15pm</u>	
12 th 19 th 26 th	September
3 rd 10 th 17 th 24 th	October
7 th 14 th 21 st 28 th	November
5 th 12 th	December