



Ashley Junior School

Ready • Respectful • Responsible

Bulletin 21 Friday 14th February 2025



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...2024/25

NEW EVENTS /PTA EVENTS /FUNDRAISING EVENTS



Spring Term 2—2025

24th February	INSET day
25th February	Pupils return to school
26th February	3.40—4.40pm (please note change of time) PTA Meeting– planning for the next events!
28th February	Jack and the Bean Stalk - Theatre visit - Whole school
MONDAY 3rd March	AJS World Book Day (Please note date is different to National WBD celebration)-
5-7th March	Osmington Bay Residential—Year 5
11th March	Year 5 Science morning —Arnewood school (Details to follow)
12th March	Book Look—Parents welcome 3:30pm—4:00pm (Details to follow)
14th March	Non-uniform day in exchange for Boxed Easter Egg for PTA raffle
26th March	PE day - <u>all pupils</u> in PE kit today
28th March	Easter Bingo and Raffle Evening 6-8pm (Details to follow)
2nd April	Year 4 Anglo Saxon Day(details to follow)
3rd April	Year 3 Easter Celebration—Parents /carers welcome (9:15am : details to follow)
4th April	School finishes 1:30pm
7-18th April	Easter Break
21st April	Bank Holiday

Summer Term 2025

22nd April	SUMMER TERM STARTS
2nd May	Freddo Friday sale after school 3:30pm—4:00pm (Details to follow)
w.b.12th May	YEAR 6 SATs week
3rd June	Year 6 Marwell Trip (Details to follow)
26th—30th May	Half term
26th June	Treehouse Theatre Workshop— Year 5 (Details to follow)
2nd June	INSET day
22nd July	School close 1.30pm - end of school year
23rd July - 2nd September	Summer Holidays

Next year: 2025/26

3rd September	INSET day
4th September	AUTUMN TERM STARTS 2025
3rd November	Inset day
5th January	Inset day
23rd February	Inset day
1st June	Inset day



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'Letters home' link:

All letters sent home are available on our school website:

<https://www.ashleyjuniorschool.co.uk/page/?title=Letters+Home&pid=71>

NEW Third Party

Communications:

<https://www.ashleyjuniorschool.co.uk/page/?title=Third+Party+Communications&pid=98>



As of today, we are officially halfway through this school year- where has the time gone?!?

We will be launching our new **INSTAGRAM** and **FACEBOOK** profiles very soon —look out for more information *after* half term.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you and the children a happy, safe and enjoyable February half term...

...SEE YOU ON TUESDAY 25th FEBRUARY!

Parent Questionnaire - Spring 2025

Thanks to all those parents who attended this week's Parent- Teacher Consultations. It was great to see so many families celebrating their children's successes to date.



We are always seeking ways to improve the provision in our school.

It would be very helpful if you could offer your views by completing and submitting this term's questionnaire - **THANK YOU**



ONLINE SAFETY NEWSLETTER

Please click on the link below to see our latest online safety newsletter, with **very** useful guidance:



<https://www.ashleyjuniorschool.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=835&type=pdf>



We are aware that lots of AJS families may be struggling financially at the moment; we have a small grant allocated to us to support those in need for things such as energy bills, warm clothing and bedding.

Eligibility is not restricted to just those in receipt of benefits. If you feel we might be able to support you, or would like further details, please contact Mrs Cheesman by email:

adminoffice@ajs.hants.sch.uk



BE ON TIME FOR SCHOOL!

Our school gates are opened between 8.45—8.55am, and then they close.



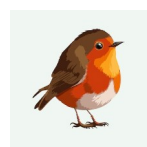


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Dodgeball @ PRIESTLANDS SCHOOL

Another exciting sporting event at Priestlands this week, this time it was dodgeball. Eight schools competed and our team of year 5 and 6 pupils represented our school tremendously, working so hard during each tiring match to win themselves a bronze medal. Well done everyone.



Guide Dog visit to AJS – REGGIE!

As part of Robin class' 'All Creatures Great and Small' topic, they welcomed Reggie, a Guide Dog, to meet our children.

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On Wednesday, Robin class had a very special visitor! Reggie the Guide Dog came to see us and he very kindly brought his partially sighted owner, Lyn and her sighted friend Sharon with him. He was very friendly and clever and the Robins learned a great deal about a working dog. We know that we mustn't pet a Guide Dog when it is wearing it's harness as this means it is working but once it takes the harness off it is just like any other dog and enjoys ear scritchies and a belly rub. The Robins tried wearing a blindfold to see what it felt like to be blind. We learned just how clever a Guide Dog is, how much training they have to have and how much trust there is between the dog and the owner. We had a fab time with Reggie.



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1. THANK YOU! Last week's 'Cookies and Doughnuts Sale raised £122.51!

Thank you also to those who helped supply these delicious treats:

- ◆ *Morrisons, New Milton Community Champion*
- ◆ *An AJS grandparent who donated money towards supplies.*



3. Friday 28th February

Our PTA will be funding four performances of **JACK AND THE BEANSTALK**, by the Forest Forge Theatre Company, for all AJS children! *Thank you to you all for your fundraising contributions over this past year.*



3. Friday 14th March 2025

Non-School Uniform Day in exchange for boxed Easter Egg donation

This year the PTA would like to hold a Non-School Uniform day in exchange for a **donation of a boxed Easter egg** - any size welcome. These will be put towards the Easter Raffle!

The PTA team will be at the reception gates on the morning of **Friday 14th March** to collect in all donations. **THANK YOU!**





Thank you to those parents and carers who attended our EMERGENCY GENERAL MEETING on Monday 3rd February.

Here are the updates from the meeting: PTA COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. CHAIR: Hazel has confirmed that she will continue as Chairperson for the rest of this school year, as planned. At the next AGM(Annual General Meeting) in September, she will be stepping down from her role as Chairperson, after many years of commitment to our school community.

If there is anyone who might be interested in taking on this commitment to our school, please email Mrs Bartolomeo (via adminoffice@ajs.hants.sch.uk) with your 'Declaration of Interest' by Friday 4th April, 9.00am.

Only people who express their interest in this way will be invited to 'shadow' our current Chair, Hazel, for the whole of the Summer term (whilst supporting all of the PTA team's work and events), and be eligible to take part in the 'VOTE FOR A NEW CHAIR' at the September AGM.

No 'Declaration of interest' = no opportunity to shadow and therefore no eligibility to stand in the AGM for the voting of a new CHAIR.

2. TREASURER: We are very pleased to announce that we have a new Treasurer joining the PTA team - thank you to Anouska for volunteering to take on this role for the rest of this academic year, in the first instance. Anouska will be shadowing our out-going Treasurer, Kelly, so that the handover of financial information is as smooth as possible. *We are so pleased to have Anouska's support, enthusiasm and commitment to the PTA team, thank you!*

3. SECRETARY: The PTA still does not have one this year! If you would be interested in taking up this position, please get in contact with the Chair via the AJS PTA Facebook page.

Support us



What are the main roles and responsibilities of a PTA committee?



PTA chair

To lead the committee, ensuring the PTA is run in line with its constitution and according to the wishes of all members.

The chair's responsibilities

- Chairs and facilitates meetings in a manner that encourages everyone to contribute
- Sets the date and agenda for meetings and keeps the discussion on track
- Delegates tasks to committee members
- Ensures decisions are implemented
- Liaises with the school about fundraising priorities
- Welcomes and motivates new volunteers
- Is a designated signatory on the PTA bank account

At the AGM

- Writes the annual report

Suits people who are...

- Strong leaders
- Diplomatic and fair
- Enthusiastic

PTA treasurer

The treasurer controls the PTA funds in line with the committee's decisions. They make sure upcoming events are affordable and profitable, and report financial information to the rest of the team.

The treasurer's responsibilities

- Manages the day-to-day finances
- Keeps a detailed and accurate record of the PTA's financial activity
- Reports on the finances at meetings in a clear, concise way
- Arranges floats for events
- Ensures money is kept safely before and during events
- Banks the takings from events and fundraisers
- Implements procedures for making payments and claiming expenses

At the AGM

- Prepares the financial report

Suits people who are...

- Confident at handling money and budgets
- Good with numbers

PTA secretary

The secretary ensures that the PTA's activities run smoothly. They use their excellent communication and organisational skills to arrange meetings, take minutes and keep records.

The secretary's responsibilities

- Communicates with the school and committee members, including circulating the agenda before PTA meetings
- Takes minutes at meetings, recording the key points, decisions made and relevant action points
- Manages communication between the committee, volunteers, school and school community
- Prepares the publicity for events, including flyers, posters and tickets
- Ensures meetings have enough attendees to form a quorum and keeps records
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At the AGM

- Helps the chair prepare for the meeting and takes minutes on the day

Suits people who are...

- Great communicators and Accurate writers

Support us





All schools are required to consider a fine when a child has missed 10 or more sessions (5 days) for unauthorised reasons.

If your child is absent and you have not received advance permission from Mrs Bartolomeo to take your child out of AJS, the school and Hampshire County Council may take action.

These measures can include:

- ⇒ **Issuing a fixed penalty notice***, otherwise known as a 'fine' – the Local Authority, Hampshire County Council, can give each parent a fine;
- ⇒ From August 2024, the fine for school absences across the country will be **£80 if paid within 21 days**, or **£160 if paid within 28 days**. This rate is in line with inflation and is the first increase since 2012;
- ⇒ **If you do not pay the fine after 28 days you may be prosecuted by the Local Authority for your child's absence from AJS;**
- ⇒ In the case of repeated fines, if a parent receives a second fine for the same child within any three-year period, this will be charged at the higher rate of £160;
- ⇒ Fines per parent will be capped to two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, other action like a parenting order or prosecution will be considered by HCC.



***Please note that fixed penalty notices can be issued to AJS parents in these circumstances:**

- **Holiday taken during term time; we cannot make any allowances for the comparative high cost of travel during school holiday weeks themselves**
- **Children who are persistently late for school**
- **Children who are persistently late after registration closes.**

Please note: If your child misses school due to medical or dental appointments, please provide evidence of the appointment to the school office team for our records– thank you.

STAR READER

Wren
Rafe

Kestrel
Jasmine

Kingfisher
Max

Skylark
Sophia

Barn Owl
Amber

Eagle
Luca

Osprey
Tannah-Mae

Merlin
Olivia

Robin
Damon



TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

Wren
Jude

Kestrel
Lyla

Kingfisher
Nicholas

Skylark
Sophie

Barn Owl
Theadora

Eagle
Iris

Osprey
Aaliyah

Merlin
Thomas



HIGH FLYER



Wren
Tilly

Kestrel
Ivy

Kingfisher
Leticia

Skylark
Louis

Barn Owl
Leonardo

Eagle
Mason

Osprey
Ava

Merlin
Marley

Robin
Otis