



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL
ASHURST CE AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL
SCHOOL LANE, ASHURST, WEST SUSSEX, BN44 3AY



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Monday 8th December 2025

Dear Parents and Families,

As we come to the end of a very busy term, we would like to thank you for all your support. We are so proud that our children have been so willing to engage in new things, including our first Wellbeing Day back in October, and our first Spirituality Day at the start of December. As part of our new plans to develop an outside learning environment for Mouse class, the children in Squirrel and Mouse class helped with the classroom swaps and report that they like their new 'homes'!

Worship Warriors

Following an online webinar aimed at KS2 children, our Worship Warriors are certainly making the best of their gifts and talents. Not only have they grown in numbers, with more waiting in the wings to join next year, they have taken over the Picture News Collective Worship on a Wednesday. It is an absolute joy to see how they organise themselves, share out the responsibilities and present the children (and adults!) with interactive quizzes at the end so they can see, as one Worship Warrior put it, 'who has been listening and remembered the main points'!

Pupil Admissions for YR September 2026

The deadline for admission documentation to WSCC is 11.59 pm on 15 January 2026. If you have not yet applied for your child, may we politely remind you to do so and to complete a supplementary form. The supplementary form is available from the school office, or on our website and should be returned to the school office. This form allows us to confirm with WSCC admissions which category you are applying under and if, where applicable, we have received a supporting letter confirming church attendance from a member of the clergy at your place of worship.

' Achieving Together with Love, Hope and Joy '

Music Tuition

Mr Smith continues to give private flute and saxophone lessons in school on Monday afternoons and has spaces available; if you would like more information please contact the school office.

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.

After school clubs

Thank you to those of you who have already signed up; for the spring term we are offering Textile club on Tuesdays, Dance & Drama club and Puzzle club on Wednesdays, Sports club on Thursday and Construction club and Watercolour/Art club on Friday. All of these run from 3.30-4.15 and we appreciate your prompt collection afterwards. **The after-school clubs do not run the first week of term.**

Swimming Sessions

We are pleased to continue our partnership with Steyning Grammar School and 'MXT Swimming' to offer a number of water safety sessions for Y5/6 and swimming sessions for Y3 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). Transport will be provided by minibus, and a packed lunch will be required on these days.

Requests for Absence from School

Thank you for ensuring that your recent requests for absence from school, including late arrivals and early departures due to medical/ dental appointments have been accompanied by an absence request form (These are available to download from our website or paper copies are available from the school office.).

Fire and Emergency Lockdown Procedures

We are delighted to report that our Fire and Emergency Lockdown Procedures practices have gone very smoothly and all children responded promptly and calmly.

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 Welstead and Mrs Sansbury direct or via DSL@ashurstcofe-pri.w-sussex.sch.uk.

Dates for your diary

As we approach the end of term, we thought it would be helpful to explain for all families what the Christmas traditions are at Ashurst CE Aided Primary School. We have this year already enjoyed our Spirituality Day, which included our Advent service at St. James', and Christingle making with members of the local community.

Christmas Post Box 1.12.25

Our Christmas post box is in the library; children can put Christmas cards in here for friends and staff. It is emptied regularly and the contents distributed by children in Y6.

KS2 Christmas Production 10-11.12.25

Children in Squirrel and Owl class will be entertaining us at two performances: The matinee will be at 1.30pm on Wednesday 10th December and an evening performance at 5.00pm on Thursday 11th December.

Coproduction Meetings w/b 15.12.25

For children and families involved in coproduction meetings, these will take place in the last week of term. Mr Julian will be in contact with you shortly to arrange your appointment.

Open Afternoon 15.12.25 2.30-4.00pm

This is when we open the classrooms for you to come and look through your children's work and books. We would also like you to kindly complete the comments form - these provide us with valuable feedback from you and help us shape what we plan for the coming year. You are very welcome to take one away with you and ask that you return it by the end of term so we can collate the responses and comments.

If you would like to take your child/ren home early when you have seen their work, please notify a member of staff before doing so.

Santa Dash/ Santa Stroll 16.12.25

Children are invited to wear a Christmas themed jumper or top and/or a crazy Christmas hat for our Santa Dash/Stroll. This takes place around the field or on the playground, and children can choose which one they would like to participate in.

Christmas Bazaar 16.12.25 2.30-4.00pm

The Christmas Bazaar is run by children in Owl class (Y5&Y6); it is an enterprise initiative with funds raised going to the charities chosen by our YAGs (Young Ashurst Governors).

Games, refreshments, stalls, competitions as well as produce from Gardening Club are set up in what is now Squirrel class. The Owls look forward to welcoming you with your children (and your spending credits!) during the afternoon to come and enjoy the goods and games on offer.

Christmas Lunch 17.12.25

All the children, whether they have a hot lunch or a packed lunch, eat their Christmas Lunch together.

Mouse Class (EYFS and KS1) Nativity 17.12.25 and 18.12.25 9.15am

The Mouse Class Nativity performance is on Thursday 18th December at 9.15am. There is also a full dress rehearsal on Wednesday 17th and families with younger children are warmly invited to this performance.

Christmas Party 18.12.25 1pm

Owl class creates a list of desired party food which will be available the week prior to the party. We would really appreciate it if you could tick off a couple of items that you are able to provide.

Fresh food can be brought into school on Tuesday morning; crisps, biscuits, drinks and cakes can be brought in from Wednesday 17th December.

Please do not provide food which requires cooking; we do not have the capacity to do this.

Children can bring their party clothes in a named bag with them in the morning; they will change into these after lunch.

They do still need a lunch as the party food is at the end of the party. We are hoping everyone is well behaved and that Father Christmas may join us during the afternoon!

Children's Talent Show Friday 19.12.25

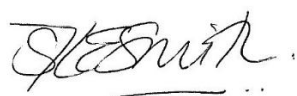
Children can sign up to perform in front of their friends and school staff (either individually, or in small groups) the week before so that a programme can be put together. Children may bring small props and changes of clothes to support their act. Previous acts have included music, singing, dancing, acting, puppetry, jokes and magic tricks to name but a few!

Last Day of Term Friday 19th December.

On this day children may bring in table games and activities to play with their friends in the afternoon.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful new year and we look forward to seeing you on Monday 5th January 2026.

Kindest regards,



Mrs S Smith
Headteacher