

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



Headteacher: Mrs S Smith BA (Hons) RE & English, PGCE, CNPQH

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15<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Dear Parents and Families,

Firstly, welcome back after the Easter break - we hope you were able to enjoy some good weather and that you and your children have had the opportunity to rest and to spend time together. As usual we have a busy term ahead of us and we are very much looking forward to all that has been planned.

### Community Involvement

We have received a lovely card thanking us for the Easter cards which the children designed and signed for residents of local care homes as well as for local people in Ashurst. If you were unaware, each Christmas and Easter, our children design a card in school for a competition. The winning cards are then printed, signed by the children and delivered to local care homes. It is only a small thing for us to do, but it brings great joy to those who receive them, especially when they may not have very many visitors. We are looking to extend our delivery service so if you have any personal contact with a local care home, and you think that they would like to receive Christmas and Easter cards from the children, please do let Mrs Smith know and she will contact them directly.

### FAPS News

I would like to extend a huge thank you to our FAPS team for arranging the splendid Easter Egg Hunt on the last day of the Spring term; the sun was glimpsed, exercises were exercised, stamps were stamped, entries handed in and eggs were gleefully received and, I think, rather quickly eaten! If you would be kind enough to check that you have paid for your child's participation, I know FAPS would be very grateful, as there remain a few payments outstanding

In case you were not aware, as a Church Aided School, 10% of the Devolved Formula Capital Grant allocation is not provided by state funds; FAPS therefore raise and provide this amount to the school's Governing Body. We are very fortunate to have such an enthusiastic and committed FAPS team who fundraise to support our school in this way. If any of you missed the announcement regarding 'Easyfundraising', please support us if you can by registering today at <http://efraising.org/WtYquPNypZ>. There is even a handy reminder that can be set each time you visit one of the relevant sites!

### Governor News

Mr Garnett was recently re-appointed as a Foundation Governor, and we thank him for his interest and commitment to further supporting our school with his expertise.

### 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. Mr Barrett continues to give guitar, ukulele and piano lessons in school on Tuesday mornings; if you would like more information, please contact West Sussex Music or the office.

### Website and eSchools Lite App

We have recently updated our website and are aware that it no longer reliably supports the eSchools Lite App. Technical support have not been able to rectify this, so please do delete your eSchools Lite App if you have one.

### Attendance Reminder

At Ashurst, we firmly believe that regular school attendance is vital for children to thrive both educationally and personally. The benefits are unmistakable - being in school helps our children learn how to make friendships, to practise kindness, to become confident, to work together happily, and to feel proud of their school.

Whilst we do request that children should stay at home if they have experienced sickness or diarrhoea (they should only return to school 48 hours after their last episode), we have a growing number of children being kept off school with minor symptoms such as coughs or runny noses. We recognise these are common childhood ailments, but know that these absences are beginning to affect some children's overall attendance. We want to reassure you that we are well-equipped to manage these minor symptoms at school, with plenty of tissues and paper towels available for children who need them.

Being on time to school is also important, as late arrivals can add up and affect attendance. Our school day starts at 9:00 am, and arriving on time helps children settle in, enjoy a smooth start, and make the most of their learning. It also ensures the class is not disrupted, creating a positive experience for everyone.

We do 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).

### After school Clubs

Once again, I would like to thank you for signing up to and supporting your children to attend the two afterschool clubs on offer this term.

The after-school gardening and sports clubs do not run in the first or last week of each full term but continue to run to the end of each half term and the start of each half term (see dates below).

Mrs Double's new choir starts next Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April at 8.30am. Thank you to those who have already signed up.

#### Parents' Consultations and reports

This term parents' consultations are on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July for those children completing EYFS and Y6 SATs. Sign up will be available in due course.

As was the case last year, we will be sending children's annual reports home via email. If you would prefer a paper copy, please do contact the office and we will arrange this for you.

#### Y6 Leaver's Service at Christs' Hospital

This year our Y6 Diocesan Leaver's Service will be at Christ's Hospital on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July at 10.45. Y6 parents are warmly invited to attend and to join us for lunch afterwards, hopefully, at 'Stooks Restaurant', Newbridge Garden Centre, Billingshurst Rd, Broadbridge Heath, Horsham RH12 3LN.

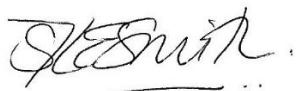
If you are unable to attend the service, please bring your child into school as normal and we will arrange transport to the service and lunch in staff cars. Similarly, if you are only able to attend the service, we will arrange to transport them to their lunch. Menus and more information will be available shortly.

#### 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](mailto:DSL@ashurstcofe-pri.w-sussex.sch.uk).

We would like to thank you for your continued support and hope that this information proves helpful.

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 7 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 and would benefit from an adaptation or change to the school uniform listed below, please make an appointment to discuss this with Mrs Smith. We understand that for some families this is a daily battle and we would always want to support you in making the transition from home to school an easier one and that children are comfortable in school.

**Please ensure that all items are named, particularly those that have been acquired from our pre-loved school uniform stock available through the office.**

Whilst the children can sometimes identify their items by smelling them, staff do not share this skill! Lost property items are kept in a box in the library.

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  
Green and white checked dress/checked 'playsuit'  
Wellies for the field when it is muddy. These, like all other uniform, should be named.

### PE Kit:

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

Trainers are the preferred footwear as they are more substantial than black plimsoles. Leggings, joggers and shorts/skorts in other colours are not permitted unless this has been previously discussed and agreed with Mrs Smith. We continue to ask that PE kits be worn to school on days that your child has PE or is attending the after-school sports club. May we also suggest that they have a spare pair of socks as sometimes children's feet get damp earlier in the day, especially in the autumn and spring terms when the grass is dewy.

Sports Club is on Thursday.

PE: Mouse Class - Thursday & Friday, Squirrel Class - Thursday & Friday, Owl Class - Tuesday

### 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 is long enough to do so and this applies to both boys and girls.

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 Summer 2024-2025

First Half Summer Term	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> April - Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May
Half term	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May to Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May
Second Half Summer Term	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June - Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July
INSET DAYS	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2026.

Y6 SATS presentation 3pm	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> April
Mouse Class visit to Steyning Library	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> April
Mouse class parents Bake Off	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April 3.30
Mouse Clas trip to Arundel Castle	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> April
Y5 taster day SGS	Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> April
Squirrel class trip to Wakehurst	Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> April
BANK HOLIDAY	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May
Y5Y6 Tennis tournament by invitation	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May
Family Service @ St James'	Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> May
Y6 KS2 SATS WEEK	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> - Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May
Wellbeing Day	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> May
Chanctonbury Music Festival for Y5Y6 @ 5.30 SGS	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May
Eucharist in school 9.15 all welcome to attend	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May
HALF TERM	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May to Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May
Y4 Multiplication Check week	1st June - 5 <sup>th</sup> June
Whole school photograph 1pm	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June
Y3Y4 Tennis Tournament by invitation TBC	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June
Y5Y6 Stoolball tournament	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June
Y3Y4 Dodgeball tournament	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 4-6pm
Phonics Screening Check week	8 <sup>th</sup> June - 12 <sup>th</sup> June
Y5 & Y6 RESIDENTIAL VISIT TO SWANAGE with Mrs Smith and Mrs Welstead	8 <sup>th</sup> June - 12 <sup>th</sup> June
Family Service St James' Church Ashurst 10.30am	Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> June
SGS Transfer Day and YR 'Move up Taster Day' for APS	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July
Y6 Leavers' Diocesan Service @ Christs Hospital 10.45	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> July
Y5Y6 trip to Adur and Shoreham	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July
Y6 SATs and EYFS parents' consultations	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July
Y5Y6 Cricket tournament	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July
Full Governing Body Meet @ 5:00pm with Y6 and YAGS 5:30pm start of Full Governing Body Meeting	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July
Family Service St James' Church Ashurst 10.30am	Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> July

Y5Y6 Trip to the Houses of Parliament	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July
Leavers Service in St James' Church 2.45pm all welcome	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July or Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July TBC
WHOLE SCHOOL SPORTS DAY (AFTERNOON)	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July
Y6 ROUNDERS TEA PARTY 1.30pm	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July
Y6 Leavers Performance in school 9.15am Last day of term for children	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July
INSET DAY # 5	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July

### Extra-Curricular Activities Summer Term 2026

<u>Gardening Y1-Y6 Tuesday 3.30-4.15pm</u>	
21 <sup>st</sup> 28 <sup>th</sup>	April
5 <sup>th</sup> 12 <sup>th</sup> 19 <sup>th</sup>	May
2 <sup>nd</sup> 9 <sup>th</sup> 16 <sup>th</sup> 23 <sup>rd</sup> 30 <sup>th</sup>	June
7 <sup>th</sup> 14 <sup>th</sup>	July

<u>Sports Club YR-Y6 Thursday 3.30-4.15pm</u>	
23 <sup>rd</sup> 30 <sup>th</sup>	April
7 <sup>th</sup> 14 <sup>th</sup> 21 <sup>st</sup>	May
4 <sup>th</sup> 11 <sup>th</sup> 18 <sup>th</sup> 25 <sup>th</sup>	June
2 <sup>nd</sup> 9 <sup>th</sup> 16 <sup>th</sup>	July