



TUESDAY 13TH JANUARY

NEWSLETTER

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Teamwork

This week's RESPECT value champions are:

RB	Lucas M
RG	Sonny M-M
1D	Margot Y
1S	Alys R
2C	Alice H
2G	Ted W
3B	Jacob S
3W	Daniel S
4C	Emily B
4EM	Rosie D
5B	Dario B
5AC	Seb A
6HG	Bay W
6R	Spencer D



Excellence: everyone, everywhere, every day.

Celebrating Ashdene's Outstanding National Success



We are incredibly proud to share further fantastic news about Ashdene Primary School's recent performance in national Key Stage 2 data.

In the Department for Education's Compare School Performance tables, Ashdene has achieved exceptional results when measured against schools across England. For the percentage of pupils meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and maths, Ashdene is ranked 422 out of 21,087 primary schools nationally. Even more impressively, for the percentage of pupils achieving the higher standard in reading, writing and maths, Ashdene ranks 52 out of 21,087 schools – placing us in the top 0.2% nationally.

This data looks specifically at the proportion of children who meet key benchmarks by the end of Year 6, as well as those who go beyond the expected level and demonstrate deeper understanding and mastery. While this measure is different from the Sunday Times league table we celebrated previously – which focused on average scores across reading, maths and spelling, punctuation and grammar – being recognised so strongly in both sets of measures highlights the depth, consistency and quality of learning at Ashdene.

What is particularly striking in this latest data is just how high the percentage of Ashdene pupils achieving the higher standard is. This reflects not only strong teaching and learning, but also the ambition, confidence and resilience of our pupils, many of whom are exceeding national expectations by a significant margin.

Ashdene remains a place where children are supported to aim high and achieve their very best.

<https://www.knutsfordguardian.co.uk/news/25708130.top-performing-primary-schools-knutsford-wilmslow/>



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Christmas Week

The final week of school was filled with festive fun, including Christmas films, merit shop, a delicious Christmas dinner and even a whole-school conga to celebrate the season!



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Pupil Leadership

Mental Health Ambassadors

On the last day of term, Ashdene's Mental Health Ambassadors brought festive cheer to The Hawthorns Care Home. They shared Christmas cracker jokes, handed out cards and decorated the home with colourful paper chains crafted with help from the Playground Leader team.

A real highlight was meeting England's oldest man—soon to celebrate his 106th birthday! A huge thank you to all the children who made a Christmas card for this occasion; they were very gratefully received.



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Mental Health Ambassadors

The seven winners of the HT2 Kindness Award were presented with a coveted gold badge in assembly this morning.

Congratulations to Grace Doyle (RB), Reynold Monks (1S), Elle Bewley (2C), Oscar Finch (3W), Haleh Bell (4C), Elias Zetterqvist (5AC) and Lucy Jones (6R) for demonstrating exceptional kindness and making Ashdene a wonderful place to learn.

Yet again, we had well over 100 nominations, so it was a difficult task to choose the winners. A huge thank you to the Mental Health Ambassadors for helping to compile a shortlist.

It's wonderful to see how the award inspires children to practise kindness and recognise it in others.



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Reading Ambassadors

The National Year of Reading 2026 is a campaign to address the steep decline in reading amongst children, young people and adults. It is a Department for Education initiative, in collaboration with the National Literacy Trust aimed at encouraging a passion for reading in both children and adults.

We are excited to be part of this campaign, and throughout the year we will be:

- Implementing new reading initiatives
- Partaking in National Year of Reading events including live webinars and competitions
- Continuing to put reading at the heart of our curriculum and promoting a love of reading in children and adults

If you wish to find out more about this campaign and how you can get involved at home, please visit the following websites:

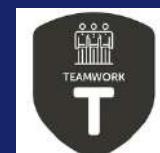
[National Year of Reading 2026 | National Literacy Trust](#)

[National Year of Reading 2026 | Go All In](#)

Our fantastic Reading Ambassador pupil team will be meeting this week to plan out the months ahead. Keep an eye on this newsletter to see what they get up to!

In the meantime, take note of these key upcoming dates:

- National Storytelling Week – 2nd-6th February 2026
- World Book Day - Thursday 5th March 2026
- Scholastic Book Fair in School – Friday 20th, Monday 23rd and Wednesday 25th March



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Finance Team

A huge thank you to all the parents who purchased artwork at Christmas. £1 from each purchase contributed to raising £159 for Ashdene. Well done Finance Team!

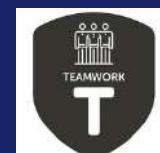


Sport

Active Ambassadors



Well done to 5AC for being the KS2 Active Classes of the Week with 72 extra active minutes.



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Attendance		
	RB	99.3%
	RG	99%
	1D	95.8%
Equates to:	1S	99.7%
100%	2C	93.9%
98%	2G	98.7%
96%	3B	98.1%
95%	3W	99.7%
94%	4C	98.3%
90%	4EM	99.7%
85%	5AC	97.8%
	5B	95.9%
	6R	96.3%
	6HG	91.7%

Attendance Update

Our attendance target is 97%. We all need to work together on ensuring children are in school EVERY day and not missing any learning.

Our attendance for the week is:

97%

Our attendance for the year to date is

97%



Well done 1S, 3W and 4EM on their impressive attendance last week!



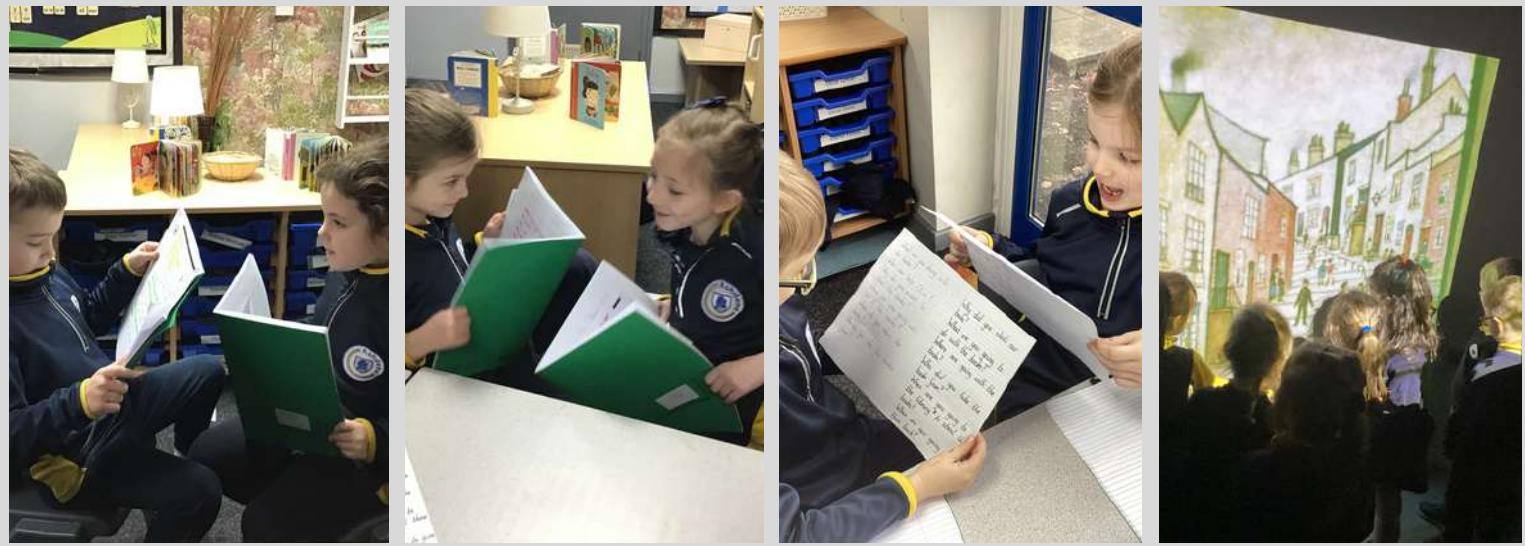
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This Week In Pictures

Reception



Year 1



Year 2



Excellence: everyone, everywhere, every day.

This Week In Pictures

Year 3



Year 4



Year 5



Year 6



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Reading Leaderboard



Asya D
Renzo H
Daniel S
Cooper B
Harry H
Isobel M
Jacob McG
Max M
Alara W
Douglas A
Seb B
Rory C
Oscar F
Saskia G
Alice K
Phoebe L
Daniel S
Dexter VDB
Poppy S
Hendrix S
Nia B
Daniel T
Elle F
Lucy C
Sienna D
Jasmine S
Charlotte P
James F
Rash H
Rex H
Charlotte S
Phoebe McG
Ava P
Nia R
Theo S
Ella W
Leonard C
Rosie D
Sophia D
Percy O
Sophia P
Ruby R
Alice
Daisy
Henry G

Year 4
Emily B
Hari C
Ella L
Neve M

Year 5
Edward A
Violet F
Dario B
Felix C
Teddy G
Oliver E-C
George G
Francesca M-S
Rose E
Ralph M
Reeva P
Henry D
Darcie B
Morgan S
Nathan H
Oliver R
Huw V
Sophia B
Kingston H
Maxxee S
Annie B
Harry H
Lucas M

Year 6
Maddie A
Connie L
Olivia B
Florence E
Emily H
Georgia L
Zac G
Libby K
Austin S
Jasmine G
Mia H
Fox T-G
Lia T
Marco W
Lucia F
Arselia D
Robin H
Nicolas S
Blake B
Tilly D
Lucy J
Emily P

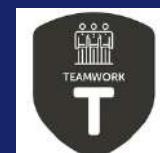
Primary School Admissions

The primary school admissions deadline for the academic year is **15th January 2026**.

Parents must apply online through the Cheshire East website to secure their child's place at primary school for September 2026.

If the deadline is missed, late applications may not be considered until all other applications are processed, potentially limiting the number of available places.

Parents will find out about their child's place on **16th April 2026**.



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Sickness Reminder

We would like to remind you of our school's 48-hour sickness rule. Any child who has been sick must remain at home for **48 hours** after the last episode of vomiting or diarrhoea before returning to school.

Please do not send children into school if you know they have been sick.

Please be aware that children will be sent home and parents/carers will be contacted to collect them if they are sick in school, even if the sickness is believed to be caused by reflux. Unfortunately, staff are unable to determine whether sickness is reflux-related or due to illness.

Only children who have formal medical documentation confirming reflux will be exempt from this rule.

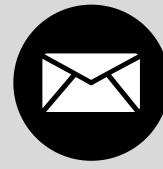


Contact Changes

Parents/carers are responsible for ensuring that the school is kept fully-informed of any changes to their contact details, including home address, email address, and telephone numbers.

Where parents/carers live separately, each parent must notify the school directly of any updates.

The school cannot be held responsible for communication issues arising from outdated or incorrect contact information that has not been provided by the parent/carer.



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Labelling Uniform

Can we remind parents of the importance of clearly labelling all uniform items with your child's full name. This greatly increases the chances of misplaced items being returned promptly.

Lost property is available for viewing outside the KS1 and KS2 playground doors. Please check these areas regularly if your child has misplaced any belongings.



(KS1 Playground Door)



(KS2 Playground Door)

Year 2 Parent Lunch

If you would like to attend the Year 2 parent lunch on **Thursday 5th February** at 11.30am, please complete the booking form using the link below.

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/xGP9jLATuP>



(Please note this is an invite for parents to experience the new school meal provision; there is no charge).

The deadline for booking a place (1 parent per pupil) is **Wednesday 21st January 2026 4pm** - no orders can be accepted after this date.

As detailed seating plans are arranged in advance, please do not attend without a booking ,even if you're not dining.



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Supporting Children's Digital Lives

We know that navigating the online world with your child can feel overwhelming at times. To help, the Children's Commissioner has published a brand-new guide designed specifically for parents and carers.

What is the guide about?

The guide aims to demystify some of the challenges around managing children's digital lives. It provides practical advice on how to set healthy boundaries and start conversations about online safety and wellbeing. Importantly, it encourages parents to make these discussions regular and ongoing, rather than a one-off chat.

Why is it useful?

Helps you talk to your child about tricky topics like screen time, social media, and online risks.

Offers tips for creating a balanced approach to technology at home.

Includes ideas for building trust and keeping communication open.

Where can you find it?

You can read the full guide and access supporting resources here:

Main guide: What I Wish My Parents or Carers Knew- 'What I wish my parents or carers knew...':

A guide for parents and carers on managing children's digital lives | Children's Commissioner for England

Download the Guide (PDF): Parent Guide- [cc-what-i-wish-parent-guide.pdf](#)

Activity Pack: Activity Pack PDF- [cc-what-i-wish-activity-pack.pdf](#)

We encourage all parents to take a look and use these resources to support positive, safe digital experiences for your child.



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TAKE HOME



Can famous people help others make good choices?

In the news this week

Famous online creators have come together at the 1 Billion Followers Summit in Dubai to talk about how their influence affects people around the world. Influencers at the event use their fame to share kindness, as part of the '1 Billion Acts of Kindness' campaign. One of the most well-known creators, MrBeast, has encouraged millions of people to take part, using his videos and social media to inspire positive actions.

Things to talk about at home ...

- Talk to someone at home about the summit and the campaign. Do you think lots of people will choose to take part? Why?
- Share who influences you. Talk about how some of the people we admire or look up to are well-known or famous, and others may be family or friends.
- Ask someone at home about who influenced them when they were younger. What impact did they have?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss



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Key Dates

Monday 5th January - School reopens HT3

Thursday 22nd January - Year 3 Parent Lunch 11.30am

Thursday 5th February - Year 2 Parent Lunch 11.30am

Friday 13th February - School closed for Half Term

Monday 23rd February - School reopens HT4

Wednesday 4th March - Parents' Evening online

Thursday 5th March - Parents' Evening online

Friday 13th March - Parent Open Session

Tuesday 17th March - 3B Music Concert 9am

Thursday 19th March - 4C Music Concert 9am

Thursday 19th March - Year 1 Parent Lunch 11.30am

Tuesday 24th March - 3W Music Concert 9am

Thursday 26th March - 4EM Music Concert 9am

Friday 27th March - School Closes Easter Holidays



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Manchester Football Development



In association with First Kick Football

WE HAVE TWO SEPARATE VENUES RUNNING IN YOUR AREA.

PLEASE CHOOSE ONE:

Fridays @ St Paul's High (M23 2YS)

Starting 30th January (Sports Hall)

School years Rec & Y1 5:30pm - 6:15pm

School years Year 2&3 6:15pm - 7:00pm

School years Year 4,5,6 7:00pm - 8:00pm

OR

Mondays @ St Ambrose College (WA15 0HE)

Starting 26th January (Sports Hall)

School years Rec & Y1 5:30pm - 6:15pm

School years Year 2&3 6:15pm - 7:00pm

School years Year 4,5,6 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Dear parents,

Places are now available to join a new 12-week football course at either St Paul's Catholic High School on Friday evenings or St Ambrose College on Monday evenings, which is open to both boys and girls.

Our courses teach children correct football techniques by FA qualified coaches who have full DBS (CRB) clearance to work with children. The structure for the course is 'FUN through Football,' building confidence for total beginners and moving onto more complex sessions for experienced players.

We provide a **ball per player** for the majority of our drills ensuring children get more touches of the ball and improve quicker than conventional coaching where children are waiting around to have a turn. The sessions are held **inside the fantastic sports hall** so **trainers should be worn**. Players are also advised to bring a still drink for the session.

The club has links to local junior teams of which players will be able to play for at the weekend. Players who show advanced ability on the course will be recommended for trials at professional academies. Players who have previously attended courses are currently playing for Blackburn Rovers, Preston North End, Manchester United, Liverpool, Blackpool, Everton, Burnley, Bolton, Oldham, Rochdale and Wigan.

The cost of the course is just £6.25 per week, which is payable in two instalments. The first payment of £25 is due when booking your child on and the second payment of £50 due at the first session. Parents are encouraged to watch the sessions but are welcome to leave children, as every session is fully supervised.

NEW TOURNAMENT FORMAT

Every four weeks we have a tournament in order for the children to put their new-found skills into practice with medals and trophies awarded at the end of the course for various categories.

ALL PLAYERS WILL RECEIVE A TROPHY at the presentation, which is held on the final week of the course. Additional trophies will also be awarded in each group from categories including; Best Attitude, Star Player, Most Improved Player, Most Promising Player and Hardest Working Player.

To book a place for your child please telephone:

Arya

0161 302 2510 or 07514 316 534

www.firstkick.co.uk

We cannot guarantee that the course will run in consecutive weeks
Please note we have a strict no refund policy once the course has been booked



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HOLIDAY ZONE

PUTTING THE KIDS FIRST

WHERE?

Wilmslow Prep,
Wilmslow

WHEN?

Wilmslow Prep
16th – 20th Feb

BRING?

A PACKED LUNCH.
CLOTHES YOU DONT
MIND GETTING MESSY
IN, COMFY SHOES & A
WATER BOTTLE



COSTS

£35 FULL DAY
8am-6pm

We accept childcare
vouchers

WHAT TO EXPECT

FUN FILLED DAYS PACKED WITH CRAFTS, GAMES,
NEW SPORTS ZONE DAILY, NEW SCIENCE ZONE DAILY,
CATCH-UP WITH CURRENT FRIENDS WHILST MAKING
NEW ONES, DISCOS, BOUNCY CASTLES, COOKING
GARDENING, SEWING, SLIME MAKING, DRAMA
WORKSHOP, FOREST WORKSHOP &
MUCH MUCH MORE.
FULL ITINERARY CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE.

To book online www.holidayzone.org.uk
HAF bookings and info e: manager@holidayzone.org.uk

[holidayzone](#)



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Contact Us



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