Issue 26

19th December 2025







Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of another wonderfully busy autumn term, I would like to thank everyone for their energy, enthusiasm and support. The children have embraced a term full of exciting learning, from our Wild One outdoor experiences to the Reception class's magical Illuminations trip. We have shared many special moments together, including joyful carol singing, festive bingo, Christmas parties and lots of seasonal fun that has truly captured the spirit of this time of year. It has been a pleasure to see our school community come together so warmly. I would like to wish all our families a relaxing and happy Christmas break, with our very best wishes for a healthy and joyful 2026. We look forward to welcoming everyone back when school reopens on Monday 5th January.

Warm regards,



Mr. Matthews and the entire Ashleigh Staff

















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#### KS1 CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION - WHOOPS-A-DAISY ANGEL

What a magical run of performances! We are delighted to say that every show was a sell-out, and the children were simply amazing — true superstars who shone on stage with confidence, enthusiasm and big smiles throughout.



A huge thank you to all the parents, carers and family members who came along to support the children. Your encouragement means so much and helped make each performance extra special. We hope you all enjoyed the show as much as we did — it was a joy to watch and a wonderful celebration of the children's hard work and talent!



### SELECTION BOX BINGO



A huge thank you to everyone who supported the Selection Box Bingo! Whether you donated presents and raffle prizes or came along and had fun at bingo, we are so grateful for your support.

A special thank you to the staff who helped organise and run the event, giving up their own time — your support and hard work are truly appreciated.



Thank you also goes to Farnsworth's Fresh Food, Clitheroe for the donation of sausages.

Thanks to your generosity and enthusiasm, we raised an amazing £568 for school funds

Events like this wouldn't be possible without our wonderful school community — thank you for making it such a success!





www.ashleighdarwen.co.uk





















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#### DRESS DOWN AND DONATE

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Raffle: Dress Down & Donate. Your generosity and kindness helped make this event such a wonderful success.

Thanks to your donations, 23 amazing hampers were put together and won by delighted families.



We are thrilled to share that this event raised an incredible £533 for school funds.



Thank you to everyone who took part and supported us — we truly appreciate it!







#### SPORTING NEWS

#### Boys' Football Team Shine in Crucial League Matches!



Our boys' football team have been in fantastic form as we move into a decisive stage of the season. First up, we faced Holy Trinity, who were just behind us in the league table—and what a game it was! From the very first whistle, the boys were outstanding and dominated throughout. We could have scored more, but it took a dramatic last-minute winner to seal a 2-1 victory in controversial circumstances. It was a fully deserved win and a testament to the team's determination.

Building on that strong performance, we then took on Darwen St James—and this time, the result was never in doubt. The boys played with confidence and control, securing a comfortable 3-0 win.

These two incredible performances guarantee second place for Ashleigh Primary going into the Christmas break. After the holidays, we face Avondale in the final game of the season—a win there could see us crowned league champions! Whatever happens, we are immensely proud of the boys. They have represented Ashleigh Primary with superb sportsmanship, courage, and determination throughout the season. Well done, team!













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### **CHOIR**

As we approach the end of the term, we couldn't be prouder of our wonderful school choir, who have been busy spreading festive cheer throughout our local community.

Last Friday, the choir took to the Market Place in Darwen town centre to perform a beautiful selection of Christmas songs and carols. It was wonderful to see such a fantastic turnout, with many parents, friends of the school, and local shoppers stopping to listen and support the children. We received numerous lovely comments from the public about the children's talent and their festive spirit. Thank you to everyone who came along to cheer them on!

On Tuesday, the choir travelled to a local care home to perform for the residents. These intergenerational visits are incredibly meaningful, and the children represented school brilliantly.

It was lovely to receive a letter from a visitor, who was at the home with her young grandson at the time. She noted that many residents who are usually quiet or reserved were suddenly singing along and dancing in their seats. She shared:

"I visit regularly, and some of these residents rarely speak or even look up, so it was incredibly special to see the spark your wonderful choir brought to them... They made a lasting impression and brought so much happiness to everyone there."

The festive celebrations continued at school this morning for our Carols Around the Tree. The choir did a magnificent job leading all of our Junior children. It was the perfect way to round off this year's festive singing!

We would like to say a huge well done to all the children involved. Your voices and your kindness have truly captured the spirit of Christmas this year.













Ross Street, Darwen















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School Re-opens	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	8.45am
Dry Swimming week for Year 4	Monday 5th January	
Vision Screening for Reception Class	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	AM
Outdoor learning - Year 6	Wednesday 14th January	AM
Outdoor learning - Year 5	Wednesday 14th January	PM
Outdoor learning - Year 4	Wednesday 21st January	AM
Outdoor learning - Year 3	Wednesday 21st January	PM
Recycling Sessions for Years 2,4,5 and 6	Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	
Outdoor learning - Year 2	Wednesday 28th January	AM
Outdoor learning - Year 1	Wednesday 28th January	PM





























