

ASHTON HIGHLIGHTS

ISSUE

21

18 September
2020

INTRODUCING THE NEW QUAD



Over the lockdown a group of staff have given up their time to re-generate the indoor quad area in school. The aim of the project was to create a peaceful space for staff and students to use in their spare time and to give everyone time to reflect on the wonderful acts of kindness many people have shown to each other during the coronavirus crisis.

This project has certainly been a labour of love and I would like to thank all our volunteer workforce for their contribution – it would have been impossible without the collective community spirit Ashton staff have shown.



In addition to this, we owe a great debt to two local firms – Buildbase and Northwest Roofing Suppliers who donated tools, paint and building supplies to get this project off the ground. Their generous donations were so much more than we could have hoped for and I hope they feel we have put their gifts to good use!

I hope we have achieved what we set out to achieve - which was to provide our students with a space of their own, with an opportunity to take some quiet time from their busy days, and with an opportunity to reflect and remember the extra-ordinary impact that ordinary people can have on the lives of others. We are hoping that in time our students will take ownership of the area and we are on the look-out for a future ground-force team to take over where staff will leave off!

So, if you can see yourself – weeding, planting, seeding, brushing, sweeping, building, painting, varnishing, power-washing, designing, creating, re-freshing or just popping by with a friendly smile, we would love to welcome you on board. Hope to see many of you there!



ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Our core aim as a school is to raise standards of attainment through the provision of high quality teaching and learning experiences. We believe that every young person is entitled to an education and every absence from school is a lost learning opportunity.

We aim for all students to have 100% attendance. We recognise that sometimes absence is unavoidable, but when a student's absence falls below 96% it gives us concern and you should expect us to be talking to the student and possibly yourself about the absence.

Good attendance at school is not just beneficial, it's essential. Attending school is directly linked to improved exam performance which should in turn lead to further learning opportunities and better job prospects.

As well as this, going to school helps to develop:

Friendship and Social skills

- Team values
- Core Life skills
- Cultural Awareness
- Career pathways and Adult life opportunities for employment and earnings.

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Mrs Walsh

My name is Mrs Walsh, I have been the Attendance Officer at Ashton for four years. My role in school is to maintain daily registers, identify absent students and liaise with parents and Progress Leaders to establish the reasons for any absences or why pupils maybe late or reluctant to attend school. I will liaise with other members of the Attendance Team to help support the students and resolve issues .



Mr Hesketh

I'm Mr Hesketh and I have been attached to Ashton CSC for over thirty years. Initially I served the school as an Education Welfare Officer on a part time basis. However, I have been full time for the last fifteen years supporting and encouraging our students to attain their best possible attendance.

Mrs Bradshaw

My name is Mrs Bradshaw and I have over 20 years of experience working in schools, my role within ACSC is to support the school in raising attendance, investigating persistent absences and improving punctuality. I meet with school staff, students and parents to identify individual problems and possible solutions.

I am also Deputy DSL (designated safeguarding Lead), I liaise and work closely with other professionals including Police, Social Services, Housing, Health and any other agencies to give families and students the opportunity for further support and guidance.

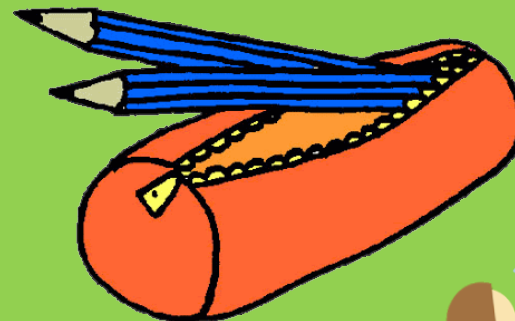


Punctuality

Punctuality will be closely monitored and any student who arrives late for morning or afternoon registration should expect to receive a detention.

Help your child:

- Try to make sure they go to bed at a reasonable time.
- Get him/her up early enough to get ready and travel to school.
- Arrive with the right equipment.
- By showing interest in what they have done when they get home.
- Take action if you have concerns that there may be a problem in the School.



Leave of Absence

Holidays are not authorised in school time. If a pupil is absent for holidays this will result in an unauthorised absence on their school record. Holiday patterns change from year to year, if you are in doubt about the holiday dates please refer to the school website or below.



School Term Dates

Autumn Term Begins: Wednesday 2 September 2020
HALF TERM: Monday 26 October - Friday 30 October 2020
Autumn Term Ends: Friday 18 December 2020

Spring Term Begins: 4 January 2021
HALF TERM: Monday 15 February – Friday 19 February 2021
Spring Term Ends: Friday 26 March 2021

Summer Term Begins: Monday 12 April 2021
HALF TERM: Mon 31 May – Friday 4 June 2021
Summer Term Ends: Friday 16 July

School Closures

Tuesday 1 September – Staff Inset
Friday 27 November – Staff Inset
Monday 30 November – Staff Inset

Monday 3 May – May Day
Monday 19 July – Inset
Tuesday 20 July - Inset

An 'application for a leave of absence form' should be requested from school as early as possible. Leave during term time will not be agreed by us at any time unless circumstances surrounding the request can be evidenced, by parents, to be exceptional. Please contact the school to discuss this further should you wish to apply.

Rewards

Ashton Community Science College endeavours to ensure all students recognise the value of good attendance and punctuality. This will be promoted through the school through curriculum time, form time, tutorials and assemblies. Students who choose to do well will continue to receive praise, certificates, take part in reward events and trips, but most of all the students who attend and learn well will no doubt be rewarded with wonderful exam results and a positive reference from the school that they will use in applications for employment and further education.



HAVE WE GOT YOUR CORRECT NUMBERS?

Please ensure the school has a current up to date contact number for you and that other emergency numbers are correct, just encase you are not available. Please be advised that it is your responsibility to inform the school office if your contact details change.

Remember to write/call

Your child needs a reason to be away from school. Always contact us if your child is going to be absent from school. Ring us on: 01772 513002 option 1 absence line. In periods of high calls please leave a message.

Remember you are responsible: If you fail to ensure regular school attendance for your child you will be at risk of legal action.

This could take the form of:

Penalty notices - one for each child and each parent/carer.

Education Supervision Order made on your child, with directions that you will have to follow.

Court prosecution: with fines up to £2500 or imprisonment.

Remember to contact: We will always aim to support you as your child’s learning is important to us. If you are concerned about absence, please get in touch and we will try and help you.

Every school day counts

It may seem like 90% is an acceptable level of attendance but this is equivalent to missing half a school day each week or 19 days of school during the school year – that’s nearly 4 weeks of school!

At Ashton Community Science College we define our key levels of attendance as:

Attendance %	Description	Approx days lost per year	Approx weeks lost per year
98% - 100%	Excellent	0-5 days	Less than 1 week
95% - 97.9%	Good	6-9 days	1 – 2 weeks
93% - 94.9%	Satisfactory	10-13 days	Less than 2 weeks
91% - 92.9%	Unsatisfactory	14-17 days	2 – 3 weeks
Below 90%	Persistent Absence	More than 18 days	More than 3 weeks

DOES ATTENDANCE MATTER?

OVER A SCHOOL YEAR THIS IS WHAT ABSENCE AND LATES MEAN.....

100%	0 Days Off	0 Lessons Missed
99%	1 Day Off	5 Lessons Missed
98%	3 Days Off	15 Lessons Missed
97%	1 Week Off	25 Lessons Missed
96%	1.5 Weeks Off	35 Lessons Missed
94%	2 Weeks Off	50 Lessons Missed
93%	2.5 Weeks Off	65 Lessons Missed
92%	3 Weeks Off	75 Lessons Missed
90%	3.5 Weeks Off	90 Lessons Missed

LOST LEARNING

5 MINUTES LATE EACH DAY = 3 DAYS LOST
10 MINUTES LATE EACH DAY = 6.5 DAYS LOST
15 MINUTES LATE EACH DAY = 10 DAYS LOST
20 MINUTES LATE EACH DAY = 13 DAYS LOST
30 MINUTES LATE EACH DAY = 19 DAYS LOST

MAXIMISE YOUR POTENTIAL

MATHS CHALLENGE

Benji goes to the garden centre and buys a lawn mower, a garden table and four garden chairs. He spends £403 in total. The lawn mower costs £150. The garden table costs £99. What is the cost of one chair?

Take your answer to Mr Fern in Room 25 for a smiley.

The solution to last week's puzzle – Fraction: $\frac{1}{9}$

Well done if you got it right!



WORD OF THE WEEK

Homophones: words that sound the same but are spelt differently and have different meanings.

two= Two is used as a number. (2)

Eg 'I bought two apples from the green grocer.'

too= Too is an adverb that can mean 'excessively' or 'also'.

Eg 'I am too tired to walk home.' or 'The coffee is too hot; it will burn you.'

to= to is used as a connection word in a sentence.

Eg it's time to go home.



STAR READER

Students in year 7 started their accelerated reader lessons last week. Year 8 and 9 continue to show progress and their results show that lockdown hasn't stopped them from reading and improving.

Well done!

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Lola H	Faith O	Martha M
Millie V	Jack N	Jasper B

THE BIG QUESTION



This week we have been busy appointing our Form Captains, who will respectively be attending their year group meetings on Monday 21st September after school. At the year group meetings Form Captains will be sharing their forms views and ideas on the "Big Question" for this half term.

"Is the current Ashton uniform fit for a 21st Century Student?"

The Big Question is decided by the School Council with the aim of identifying future areas of development to assist in whole school improvements.

In next week's newsletter we will provide you with some feedback from the meetings.



YEAR 7 CAT TESTS

This week year 7 students have been doing their CAT tests which are an assessment of their verbal, non-verbal, quantitative and spatial reasoning abilities. They also provide an objective perspective on potential student achievement which will be particularly useful given the absence of national data this year.



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MEET THE STAFF

What job do you do at Ashton?

Food and Nutrition teacher

What did you do before you started at Ashton?

My last job was teaching Food and Textiles at Balshaw's in Leyland, but in the past I've run my own business, taken a career break to bring up my 3 sons, been a Purchasing Manager at Dr Oetker and taught English in Japan

What are your first impressions of Ashton?

Very friendly

How do you hope to help Ashton be an even better school?

By inspiring and enabling our students to lead healthy lifestyles through their food choices, and link learning with the outside world whenever possible

What book are you reading at the moment?

Jimmy Anderson's autobiography (borrowed from my cricket mad son)

Mrs Bromley



Mr Darbyshire

What job do you do at Ashton?

Groundsperson and Diggery TA

What did you do before you started at Ashton?

Head of Careers at Cansfield High School, Wigan

What are your first impressions of Ashton?

Family and Friendly

How do you hope to help Ashton be an even better school?

I hope to engage students through use of the diggery so that they develop confidence in their abilities and create a pleasant environment for learning.

What book are you reading at the moment?

Wereworld series I am trying to find book 3 "Shadow of the hawk"



WHERE IS MRS LEACH?

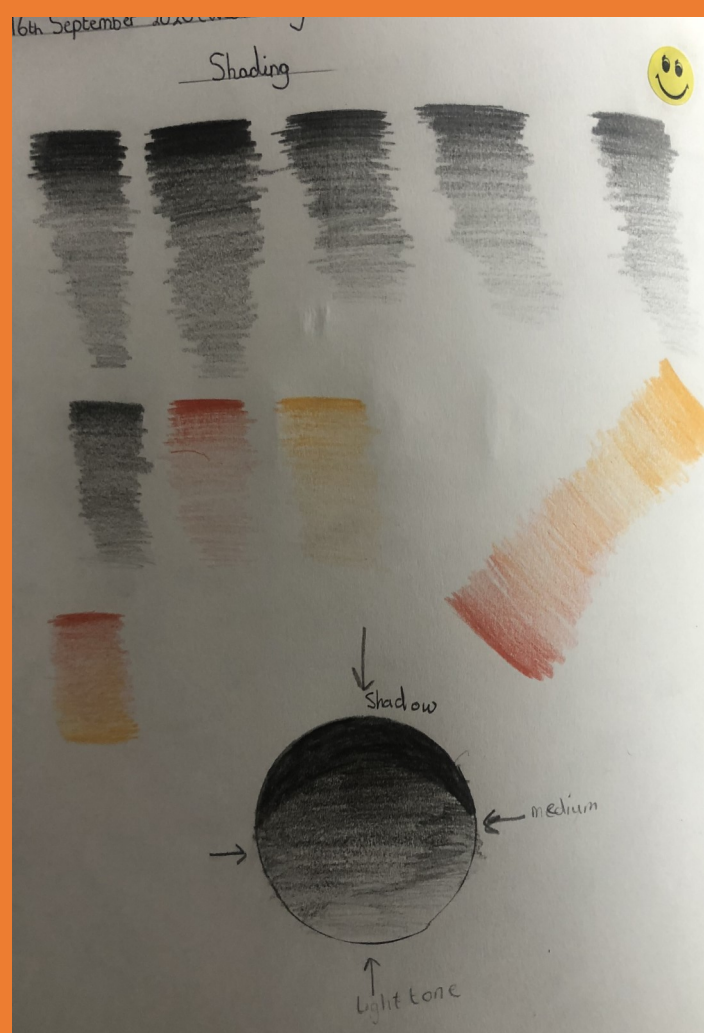
Mrs Leach has moved office from her office in the middle of the stairs to the top of the English corridor.

This is so that she can make sure she is able to work socially distanced for colleagues and so that students in her year group bubble do not mix with students from another year group bubble.

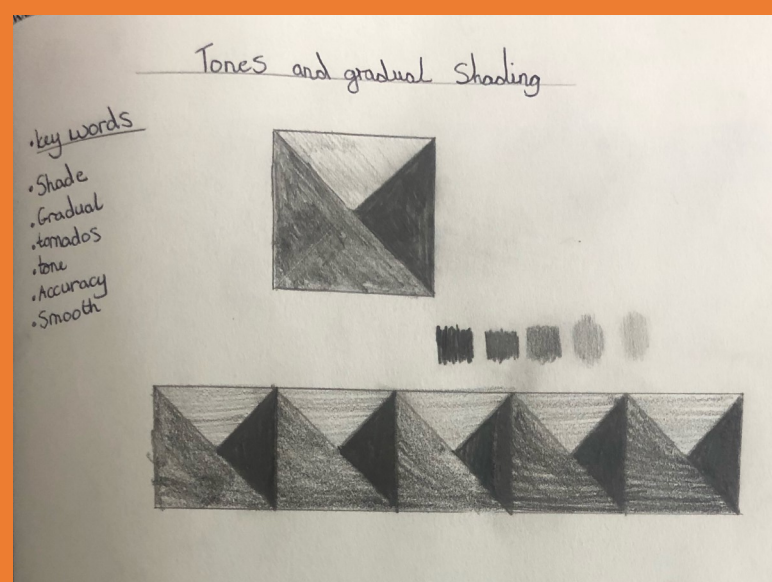
Just a little change to make sure we can all keep safe in school.



ARTIST OF THE WEEK



This weeks Artist of the week is Year 7 Student Gift for her hard work in lesson learning new shading techniques. Well done Gift!



LUNCHTIME PROVISION

On entry to the dining hall please queue up on the red lines in single file. The right line is for cold food and the line on the left is for hot food. Biscuits and drinks are available at both sides.

You will be called forward to the service area to purchase your food; no more than 5 students will be called forward to ensure that the area does not become overcrowded. Remember the saying... "5 in the line!"

You can then remove your mask to eat your food in the dining hall.

Please remember to put on your mask once you have finished eating/drinking and before you enter the corridor.



OUR CURRENT REDUCED MENU

Burger	£1.35
Panini	£1.95
Baguette	£1.95
Wraps	£1.95
Sausage Roll	£1.00
Chicken Poppers	£2.00

SANDWICH MEAL DEALS £2.20

Regular Range Plus 3 of the extras (1 Drink only)	Egg Mayo, Tuna Mayo, Plain Cheese or Ham Sandwich
Premium Range Plus 2 of the extras (1 Drink only)	All of the regular range with salad , chicken fillings, marinated meats and prawn sandwiches.
Hot/Cold Speciality Plus 1 of the extras	A range of homemade baguettes, paninis, wraps and ciabattas.
Extras	Small bottled water, aqua juice carton, milk, cookie, piece of fruit, yogurt, mixed salad.



STAFF CELEBRATION



Throughout the global pandemic, Harriet Ascroft chose to support the local community by volunteering on Preston North End Community and Education Trust Helping Hamper initiative. The initiative served over 1,300 vital food and hygiene hampers to those most in need, some of which were families and friends of Ashton Community Science College.

PNECET Helping Hampers



OUR NEW SCHOOL DAY

	8:30-8:40 arrival all students	lesson 1 9:00-10:00	lesson 2 10:00-11:15		lesson 3 11:15-12:15	lesson 4 12:15-13:45		lesson 5 13:45-14:45	14:45-15:00
7	quiet yard. Entry door 4			break 10:00-10:40 (GY - 4)		lunch 12:15- 12:45 (food 12:15- 12:25) SY -2			form time students dismissed from the following exits: <u>Door 0</u> lab 0 – lab 6 <u>door 2</u> 89 10 13 14 15 <u>door 3</u> 11 12 24 25 26 27 28 29 <u>door 4</u> 21 22 23 30 31 32 33 34 <u>door 5</u> 35 36 37 38 39 40
8	science yard. Entry door 3			break 10:40-11:20 (SY - 2)			lunch 1:15- 1:45 (food 1:30- 1:40) SY -2		
9	science yard. Entry door 0			break 10:00-10:10 (GY - 4)			lunch 12:45- 1:15 (food 12:45- 12:55) GY -4		
10	tennis courts. Entry door 5			break 10:15-10:25 (SY - 2)		lunch 12:15- 12:45 (food 12:30- 12:40) GY -4			
11	tennis courts. Entry door 5				break 11:05-11:15 (GY - 4)		lunch 1:15- 1:45 (food 1:15- 1:25) GY -4		

ACSC HOUSE POINTS SYSTEM

The House system acts as a link between the different age groups in the school, providing students with the opportunity to work together and compete against their peers. It encourages and fosters teamwork, leadership skills and sportsmanship in all areas of school life. The sense of community within each of the houses encourages a feeling of identity and belonging.



House allocation

Every student and staff member entering the school is allocated one of our six Houses. These are named after PROUD PRESTONIANS past and present. Students quickly form loyalties to their House and achieve a true sense of belonging. Students school jumpers are embroidered with their house names and siblings are always placed within the same house.



House Points

All house points count towards the House Championship Scoreboard. The Scoreboard is updated weekly and published in the school newsletter. Half termly totals are announced in house assemblies with certificates and prizes awarded for students' achievements. At the end of the school year there is a special event for the winning house.



Participation

Students can contribute to their house totals in several ways, both in and out of the classroom, through good behaviour, work, attendance, involvement in extra-curricular activities and by taking part in regular house competitions. Everybody is encouraged to participate in at least one of the varied house events from creative writing to sports tournaments: there really is something for everyone.



Behaviour

Students also receive house points based on their behaviour. The number of grumpy faces a student receives is deducted from the number of smiley faces a student is awarded. The number remaining is converted into house points and added to the scoreboard.



For example $76 \text{ 😊} - 5 \text{ 😞} = 71 \text{ House Points}$



1st		938 points
2nd		922 points
3rd		887 points
4th		814 points
5th		794 points
6th		744 points

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COVID-19 related pupil absence

A quick reference guide for parents

What to do if...	Action Needed	Return to school when...
<p>My child has Covid-19 symptoms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIGH TEMPERATURE- this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back • A NEW <u>CONTINUOUS COUGH</u>- this means coughing a lot more an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours. • A LOSS OR CHANGE TO YOUR SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE- this means you have noticed you cannot smell or taste anything. 	<p>DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contact school to inform us 2. Self-isolate the whole household. 3. Get a test 4. Inform school immediately of the test result. 	<p>The test comes back negative.</p>
<p>My child tests positive for Covid-19.</p>	<p>DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL</p> <p>Contact school to inform us</p> <p>Agree an earliest date for possible return. Minimum of 10 days.</p> <p>Self-isolate the whole family for 14 days.</p> <p>Bubble isolate.</p> <p>Remote learning.</p>	<p>They feel better. They can return after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of taste/smell. These symptoms can last for several weeks.</p>
<p>My child tests negative for Covid -19.</p>	<p>CONTACT THE SCHOOL</p> <p>Discuss when your child can come back to school (same day/next day)</p>	<p>The test comes back negative.</p>
<p>My child has symptoms not linked to Covid-19.</p>	<p>FOLLOW THE USUAL SCHOOL ABSENCE POLICY PROCEDURE</p>	<p>After 48hrs following the last bout of vomiting/ diarrhoea if this is the cause of absence</p>
<p>Someone in my household has Covid-19 symptoms.</p>	<p>DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL</p> <p>Contact School</p> <p>Self-isolate the whole household for 14 days</p> <p>Household members to get tested</p> <p>INFORM SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY ABOUT TEST RESULTS</p>	<p>The test comes back negative.</p>

What to do if...	Action Needed	Return to school when...
Someone in my household tests positive for Covid-19.	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL Contact school Agree an earliest date for possible return to school Minimum of 14 days	The child has completed 14 days of isolation.
NHS test & trace has identified my child has been in close contact of someone with symptoms of confirmed Covid-19.	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL CONTACT SCHOOL Agree an earliest date for possible return. Minimum of 14 days.	The child has completed 14 days of isolation.
We/my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as a period of quarantine.	Do not take unauthorised leave in term time. Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed. Agree an earliest date for return Minimum of 14 days from return date. Whole household to isolate.	The quarantine period of 14 days has been completed.
We have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding.	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL CONTACT SCHOOL Shield until you are informed that restrictions have been lifted and shielding has paused again.	School inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school.
My child's bubble is closed due to a Covid-19 outbreak in school.	DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL At home support your child with remote education provided by school. Your child will need to isolate for 14 days.	School will inform you when the bubble will be reopened.

CORONAVIRUS

Let's protect each other and our communities

Take extra care and follow the information on this leaflet to keep you and those around you safe.



With or without symptoms, get tested



Call NHS 119 to book



Preston
City Council

Let's protect each other and our communities



Do not have
visitors in your
home or garden



Wear face coverings
in enclosed places



Wash hands
regularly



Give each
other space



With or without
symptoms, get
tested