



Ashurst Wood School Newsletter

19th January 2026 (Week 17)

THIS WEEK'S DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday 20th
Y2 Forest Schools (PM)

Wednesday 21st
Reception Forest Schools (PM)
Mid-Sussex Cross Country Finals Y5/6 (PM)
Parent responsibility to take
PINS Webinar – Supporting High Masking Needs in Neurodivergent Girls (see flyer over page)

Thursday 22nd
Y4 Forest Schools (PM)

Friday 23rd
PTFA Pyjama Day
Y5 Forest Schools (PM)
Achievement Assembly (3pm)

Please follow us on Instagram



Attendance this week: 93.45%
Attendance from September 2025: 97.13%

Thank you for all your support in improving our attendance and reducing the number of lost learning days.

Dear Families,

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all parents and carers for your support during the recent water outage, and for helping your children continue their learning at home wherever possible. Your flexibility and cooperation are truly appreciated.

Our School Council has been working hard over the last term to review our school uniform and gather pupils' views. We would now welcome parents' opinions on the current uniform, which has been in place since 2010 when the school transitioned from a green to a pink design.

Please take a few minutes to complete the survey, as your feedback is essential before any uniform changes are considered. The survey will remain open until **January 30th**

The link for the survey is Uniform Survey 2026

Polite Reminders and Notices

Board Games Club

Board Games club, **which commences after half-term**, did not show on the MCAS App last week and we apologise for this. It should be available now for you to register your child for Board Games. This club is available for Reception to Year 3.

PTFA: Pyjama Day – Friday 23rd January

The PTFA Pyjama Day is taking place on **Friday 23rd January** for a £1.00 donation per person. Please may we remind the **Year 5** parents that the children will still be undertaking Forest Schools on this afternoon so should bring their Forest School kit with them.

Parent Workshop 'My Digital Child'

Just a polite reminder that we will be hosting a parent workshop 'My Digital Child' on **Wednesday 28th January, commencing at 2.30pm** run by Paula Betsworth, Early Help and Mrs Blake-Hatton. A sign-up sheet is now available in the school reception area.

Top Doodlers

Doodle Maths Year 6: 69%
Doodle Tables Year 6: 19%

Doodle English Year 4: 62%
Doodle Spell Year 4: 23%

Upcoming PTFA Events

Pyjama* Party

Friday 23rd Jan

*wear your pyjamas, hoodies or general cosy snug wear to school

Recommended donation £1 per person



Join Our School Lottery!

This month, the school lottery has a bonus draw for £1,000 Aldi gift token alongside the usual chance to win cash. Remember, the more tickets we sell, the bigger the cash prize!

Please share with relatives and friends.

We're aiming for **60 tickets** and currently have **34**. With the 34 tickets we are on track to raise £450 this year and have £17.50 of this so far, which have already raised **£326.80** this year to support activities and equipment for the children. Every ticket makes a difference.

Thank you for your continued support!

[Your School Lottery - Online Fundraising for Schools and PTAs - Your School Lottery](#)



PINS Webinar: Supporting High Masking Needs in Neurodivergent Girls

A session for Parents / Carers and School Staff

Wednesday 21st January 2026

Via Microsoft Teams

4.00-5.30pm [Early Session join link](#)

7.00-8.30pm [Late Session join link](#)

Children can appear engaged at school, but may show their challenges more openly in the comfort of home. Home can often be a place where they process and release stress and where emotions and needs become more visible.

This webinar looks at masking, especially in girls, and how neurodivergent children sometimes conceal their struggles to navigate school and social environments.

In this session, Dr Pooky Knightsmith will support you to:

Spot the subtle signs that a/your child is masking

Understand the impact on their wellbeing, including anxiety, burnout, and emotional school avoidance

Discover practical, ready to use strategies that help children feel safe to unmask

We'll look at masking across the neurodivergent spectrum: including autism, ADHD, dyslexia, and more and explore small, thoughtful shifts that can make a big difference in supporting children both at school and at home.

Early session, join by scanning below



Late session, join by scanning below





THIS YEAR'S KEY DATES!

To help with organisation, below you will find key whole school dates for this term and outline dates for the remainder of the year to enable you to book time off to attend school events if you wish to do so. More details of specific events will be sent out closer to the time. If an event is in red it requires adult participation! There are more activities planned including PTFA events, but these are the key ones which need families to dedicate time to attend.

January 2026

Wednesday 21st January
PINS Webinar: 'Supporting High Masking Needs in Neurodivergent Girls via Microsoft Teams – see flyer on page 2 for details.

Friday 23rd January – Non Uniform PJ Day

Wednesday 28th January – Parent Workshop 'My Digital Child' (2.30pm)

Upcoming Parent Workshop

Wednesday 28th January (2.30pm)
'My Digital Child'

Run by Paula Betsworth, Early Help and Mrs Blake-Hatton

A sign-up sheet is available in the School Reception area.

February 2026

Monday 9th – Friday 13th February

Arts Week

Monday 16th – Friday 20th February

Half term

Friday 27th February – Art Exhibition

Friday 13th February
Non Uniform Day

March 2026

Thursday 5th March World Book Day (Not a dressing up year)

Friday 6th March
Cookie Sale

Wednesday 11th March – Parent Workshop 'Healthy Friendships & Relationships (2.30pm)

Week commencing 16th March – Parent Consultations

Wednesday 18th March
2pm Rock Steady Concert

Monday 23rd March – Easter Bonnet Parade (Reception)

Easter Cake Competition (KS2)

Tuesday 24th March – Easter Service @ ST Dunstans. KS1 1pm / KS2 2pm

Thursday 26th March last day of term (1.30pm finish) – Easter Egg Hunt

Friday 27th March – Inset Day

SUMMER 2026

Monday 13th April Term starts

Monday 13th – Friday 17th April Science Week

Friday 24th April
Non Uniform Day

Wednesday 20th April – Parent Workshop 'Supporting my Child to Emotionally Regulate'

Friday 8th May
Brownie Sale

Monday 11th – Thursday 14th May
Y6 SATs week

Saturday 16th May
Crazy Golf Day

Monday 18th – Friday 22nd May – Enrichment Week

Monday 1st – Friday 5th June
Y4 Multiplication tests

Monday 8th – Friday 12th June
Y1 Phonics screening

Friday 5th June
Rock paper Scissors Day

Friday 12th June
Non Uniform Day

Friday 19th June Sports Day
Friday 26th June Reserve Sports Day

Monday 8th – Friday 12th June
Y6 Bikeability

Thursday 25th June Movie Night

Friday 26th June Donut Sale

Wednesday 1st – Friday 3rd July Sackville Y6 transition days (TBC)

Monday 6th July week SHOW Week

Wednesday 15th July
2pm Rock Steady Concert

Monday 20th July Last Day of term