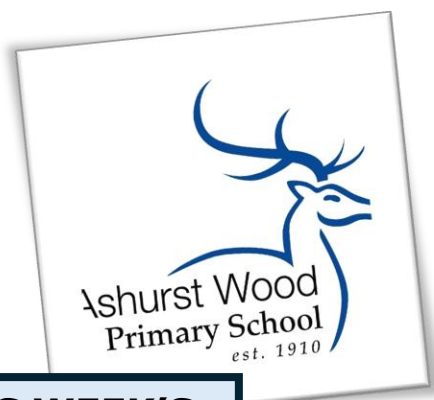




**THIS WEEK'S
DATES TO
REMEMBER**

Monday 7th

Meet the
Teacher Event
– Ospreys
(3.30pm)

**Wednesday
9th**

Meet the
Teacher Event
– Hawks
(3.30pm)
Karate Club
(3.20pm to
4.20pm)

Friday 11th

Achievement
Assembly
(3pm)

Please follow
us on
Instagram



Ashurst Wood School Newsletter – Week 1 7th September 2026



Our vision is for everyone to have a love of life, a love of learning and a love of people.

Be curious Be Resilient Be Compassionate Be Respectful Be Ready Be Safe

Attendance this week: 90.74%

Attendance from September 2026: 90.74%

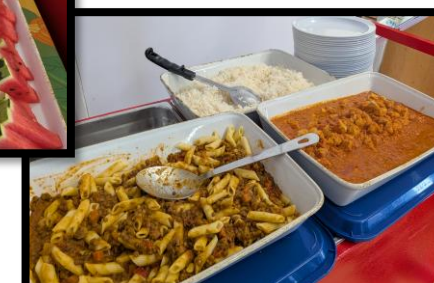
Welcome back to a new school year at Ashurst Wood Primary School!

It has been a real pleasure to see our school filled once again with smiling faces, excited conversations and a wonderful sense of enthusiasm for the year ahead. I would like to extend a particularly warm welcome to all of our new Reception children, who have made such a fantastic start to their school journey. I would also like to give a special welcome to Hunter, who joins us in Year 6 this year. We are delighted that you and your families have joined the Ashurst Wood family, and we look forward to watching you learn, grow and flourish over the coming years.

One of the most exciting developments this term has been the introduction of our new school meals. The difference has been remarkable. The dining hall is filled with the delicious smells of freshly prepared food, the meals look appetising, and, most importantly, the children have been telling us how tasty they are! It is fantastic to see pupils enjoying healthy, nutritious lunches each day. I think we can all agree that the days of soggy potatoes and the old back-to-school menu are now firmly behind us!

A huge thank you must go to Charlotte Tester, whose hard work, organisation and dedication have ensured that the transition has run so smoothly. Introducing a new catering arrangement is no small task, but Charlotte has worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make the process a success, and we are incredibly grateful for all that she has done.

As we begin this new academic year together, I would like to thank all of our families for your continued support. We are looking forward to an exciting year full of learning, achievement, friendship and fun. Here's to a fantastic year ahead for every member of our Ashurst Wood family.



SAFEGUARDING OUR CHILDREN

Benedict's Law & Allergy Awareness (Action Required)

As we begin the new academic year, we would like to highlight an important change in the way allergies are managed in schools.

From September 2026, new statutory guidance known as Benedict's Law comes into effect in England. The law is named in memory of Benedict Blythe, a five-year-old boy who tragically died from anaphylaxis at a school in 2021. Its purpose is to strengthen allergy safety across schools and ensure that children living with allergies receive consistent protection and support.

This is particularly important to us because we do have children in our school who live with severe allergies. For these children, an allergic reaction can happen very quickly and may require an emergency response. Therefore, please can we ask families to abide by the following when providing packed lunches, cakes and food for school. A flyer is attached:-

- No nuts (as usual)
- No pesto or chocolate spread
- All lunch boxes and water bottles to be clearly named
- Only water allowed in bottles
- All grapes and cherry tomatoes must be cut up

Mobile Phones (Action Required)

Due to the issues caused by mobile phones over the last few years, particularly when children use WhatsApp groups, mobile phones are not allowed in school. If you feel your child needs a mobile phone as they are staying overnight with their other parent or a sleepover, the mobile phone must be handed into the school office by an associated adult. If mobile phones are found on the school premises they will be confiscated and the parent will be requested to come and collect the phone. We appreciate your support with this matter – thank you.

Regular Pick Ups (Action Required)

To assist us with safeguarding, please can you advise the member of staff on duty in the morning if your child is going home with another parent/adult. If you have someone else who regularly collects your child from school (i.e. childminder, grandparent etc.), please can you email the school office so that we can record this in our collection book. Please note that we will not let a child go home with another adult until we have heard from you, so to avoid staff having to make unnecessary telephone calls please do let us know. If you are an existing parent, please can we ask you to review with the school office your collection contacts on our list.

Walking Home Alone

Walking to and from school unsupervised by an adult is something most children work up to at the end of KS2 (Y6 and Y5 if they are ten years old) and if they live in the village. The school offers a scheme for these pupils to set your mind at ease that they have reached school safely.

If any child, whose parents have requested to be on this scheme, has not arrived at school by 9.15am and we have not heard from home that he/she is absent for any reason, we will phone/email you to report that the child has not arrived.

To be a part of the scheme it is vital that parents report sickness etc. as early as possible in the morning otherwise staff will be making numerous unnecessary calls each day. As well as leaving a telephone message on our school absence line, you can also report absence online via the Study Bugs app or MCAS app. Details on how to download the apps are available from the school office. A lone walker form is available from the school office. If you have already completed a form for your child, you do not need to provide another.

Road Safety (Action Required)

We would just like to remind parents and outline procedures to our new families regarding parking and driving on School Lane. Please do not park or drop children off on the zigzag or double yellow lines for very obvious safety reasons. Please could parents refrain from parking in the staff car park or block the gateway as sometimes staff need to leave quickly to attend meetings and training after school. Please park considerately, as anti-social parking poses a threat to both children and adults when they are trying to cross the road. Please can parents and children stick to the pathways and not cross the school car park.

We would also like to remind parents/carers about the one-way system that has been locally agreed for a number of years around the roads adjacent to school. If we all abide by this, it relieves congestion and frustration, considerably at the beginning and end of the school day. Please approach school via Hammerwood Road and leave towards the Village Store and Village Hall down School Lane.

Polite Reminders & Notices

Meet the Teacher Events

We look forward to seeing you all at our 'Meet the Teacher' events. A letter was circulated yesterday but just to remind you of the dates:

Falcon Class – Friday 4th September @ 3.30pm

Osprey Class – Monday 7th September @ 3.30pm

Hawks Class – Wednesday 9th September @ 3.30pm

Owls Class will not be holding a 'Meet the Teacher' event, as Miss Young will be meeting with families individually. We look forward to welcoming you all and working together to make it a happy and successful year for our children.

PE Days (Forest School Days will be sent out shortly)

The PE days are as follows:-

Hawks Class - Tuesdays

Owls & Falcon Class – Wednesdays

Osprey Class – Fridays

The children wearing the new uniform do not need any further PE kit and should come to school in their new uniform. Children wearing the old uniform, will need to come to school in PE kit.

Achievement Assemblies

These will start on **Friday 11th September** and all parents and family members are welcome. We ask that if you have a pre-school child who is not able to sit quietly then you step into the corridor so that it does not interrupt the assembly. The assembly will be held at **3pm** every Friday unless notified of a change. This is an opportunity to celebrate children's achievements both in and outside school. If your child has an achievement that they would like to share, please bring any associated certificates, trophies, medals etc into the school office on a Friday morning.

This Summer's Top Doodlers

Doodle Maths Year 5/6: 27%
Doodle Tables Year 5: 6%

Doodle English Year 4: 21%
Doodle Spell Year 4: 16%