



Ashill VC Primary School Newsletter



Tel: 01760 440403

Monday 15th May 2026

www.ashillschool.co.uk

A huge well done and congratulations

- To all the year 6 pupils (and the staff in Badgers) for their efforts in SATs this week. We are really proud of how hard they have worked in preparation and how well they approached the tests this week.

Special thanks

- To you as parents for your support of the children.
- To all the adults who worked in the background this week to support them during the tests and keep them fed, watered and motivated throughout the week.
- To the pupils across the school (particularly Year 5) who supported them by maintaining a calm environment and being flexible about timetable changes.
- To Mrs Thornhill for coordinating things remotely and being with us each day to support the children.

Teamwork makes the dream work!

- The school had a monitoring visit from the Local Authority on behalf of the Standards & Testing Agency to look at how we administer the SATs.
- Our practice met all the expected criteria. We were congratulated on the atmosphere within the school and elements of our practice were deemed exemplary and will be shared within the Local Authority.
- All of this is testimony to the strength of the team at Ashill that support the children on their learning journey from Bumblebees to Badgers –
I feel very proud to be Headteacher of such a caring, committed and competent team!

Teamwork in action!

Hot off the camera a couple of photos from Eaton Vale, trust building and conquering outdoor challenges together. More to follow in our next issue.

With best wishes
Dan Pickard
Headteacher



Getting in touch...

There will be times, as a parent or carer, when you need to get in touch with us. It could be to discuss something that you need to share with us, something that is worrying you or simply to keep us in the loop. If you need to get in touch, we'd encourage you to take the following steps:



Before or after school chat on the playground

Most mornings, your child's class teacher or Mr Pickard will be on the playground at the beginning of the day between 8:45am and 8:55am. This is often the case at the end of the school day too. This is the perfect opportunity to have a brief chat or to arrange a phone call or a meeting.

Give us a call

You are welcome to give the office a call, either to chat directly to your child's teacher, if they're not teaching, or leave a message to call you back.



Arranging a meeting

If you would like to discuss anything regarding your child, the best person to speak to is the class teacher. You can catch them at the beginning or end of the day to arrange a face to face meeting or alternatively, you can email or call the school office and the class teacher will get back to you.

Avoid the emails, if you can...

As a school, we take great pride in our approach to staff wellbeing.

As we've mentioned before, we much prefer a two-way, verbal conversation between school and home; it's the most ideal way to share any concerns from both home and school and come up with a solution.

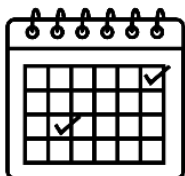
Therefore, we'd like to politely remind that, although emails to the office are ideal for letting us know information or responding to a member of staff, please avoid using emails to raise a concern or issue and instead opt for one of the above options.



Our teaching and leadership staff work lots of hours outside of school. To protect the balance of work and home, as much as we can, and to avoid any concern or issue impacting upon their own lives and those of their families, we kindly ask that this is respected, particularly outside of working hours, i.e. evenings, weekends and during the holidays.

What if I need to raise things further?

With our complaints policy in mind, if a conversation with the class teacher is unable to resolve a concern or issue, then please follow the above suggestions to get in touch with Mr Pickard and arrange a phone call or meeting.



Ashill VC Primary
 Dates in advance
Updated 01.05.26

Key

Blue text	New event
Bold text	Parents/carers invited
Red text	Change of date

Tues 14 April	1st half of Summer term 26 begins
14 & 15 May	Hedgehog Class – Eaton Vale Residential
Thurs 21 May	Badger Class – Saxon Day (at school)
Fri 22 May	End of Summer 1 st half term – school finishes at 3.15pm
Mon 1 June	2nd half of Summer term 26 begins
Fri 5 June	Fathers’ day buy a gift
Tues 9 June	Bumblebee Class – Once upon a time – Gressenhall Trip
Tues 9 June	Hedgehog Class – Curriculum Cafe – Ancient Greece
11 & 12 June	Badger Class – London Residential Trip
Wed 17 June	Sports Day (previously advertised as 20th May)
Fri 19 June	Hedgehog Class – Bikeability Level One
Thurs 25 June	Hedgehog Class – Ancient Greece Day (at school)
Tues 30 June	Cricket Tournament
1 & 2 July	The Nicholas Hammond Academy Transition Days
Fri 3 July	Squirrel Class – Curriculum Cafe
Mon 6 July	Badger Class Production to parents at Fountain of Life evening performance time to be confirmed.
7 - 9 July	Wayland Academy Transition Days
Friday 10 July	Leavers Service at St Nicholas Church 9.30am (previously advertised as 17th July – changed to accommodate Yr 6 transitions) Annual reports sent out to parents. Summer family celebration event 5.30pm to 8.30pm (in place of discos previously advertised for 9 July).
w/b 13 July	Transition week – children work in new class groups in preparation for September.
13 & 14 July	Litcham Transition Days
Tues 14 July	Year 6 Pleasurewood Hills Trip – To Be Confirmed
15 to 17 July	Dereham Northgate High School and Dereham Neatherd High School Transition Days
Fri 17 July	Last day of Summer term – school finishes at 3.15pm

2025-2026 Term dates

Summer term: Tues 14th Apr to Fri
22nd May
17th July Mon 1st Jun to Fri

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P.E. Days

Bumblebee Class	Tuesdays
Squirrel Class	Tuesdays
Hedgehog Class	Mondays & Wednesdays
Badgers	Mondays (P.E.) & Fridays (Swimming - Year 6 from 22 nd May)

Forest School

Squirrel Class & Hedgehog Class	Fridays
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Friends of Ashill School



May Draw

1st No. 7 N Ridgway
2nd No. 37 S Ormes
3rd No. 39 K Martin

Friends of Ashill Primary School Family Festival



On Friday 10th July the Friends of Ashill School are hosting a Family Festival, extended family welcome!

This event will start at 5.30pm until 8pm!

There will be bouncy castles, a disco, inflatable obstacle course, food vendors & a bar! Please see poster for all other information.

Early bird tickets include entry into our Prize Draw.

Adults £2.50 (on the door price £3.00)

Children £5.00

If you require tickets, please complete the slip below and return to the school office. The total ticket price will then be put on School Money for payment and tickets issued thereafter (alternatively, payment can be made direct to the PTA via bank transfer).

Child Name(s): _____

Number of tickets required

Adult Tickets

Children's Tickets

Celebration Assembly
1st May 2026

Well done to the following children:

Bumblebees



Squirrels



Hedgehogs



Badgers



† Headteacher Award



Celebration Assembly

The attendance winners are:

Bumblebee Class 98.4%

2nd
Hedgehog Class 96.8%

3rd
Squirrel Class 98.6%

4th
Badger Class 92.1%

Overall Attendance (so far this year):

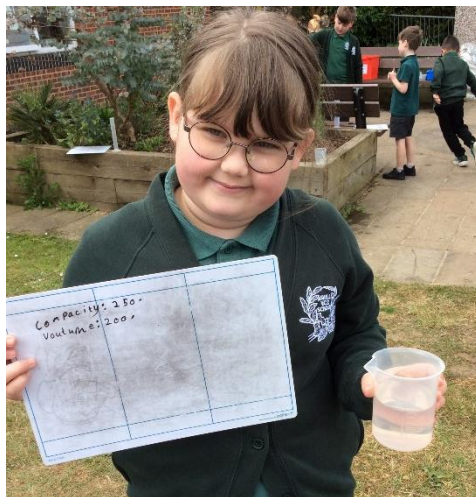
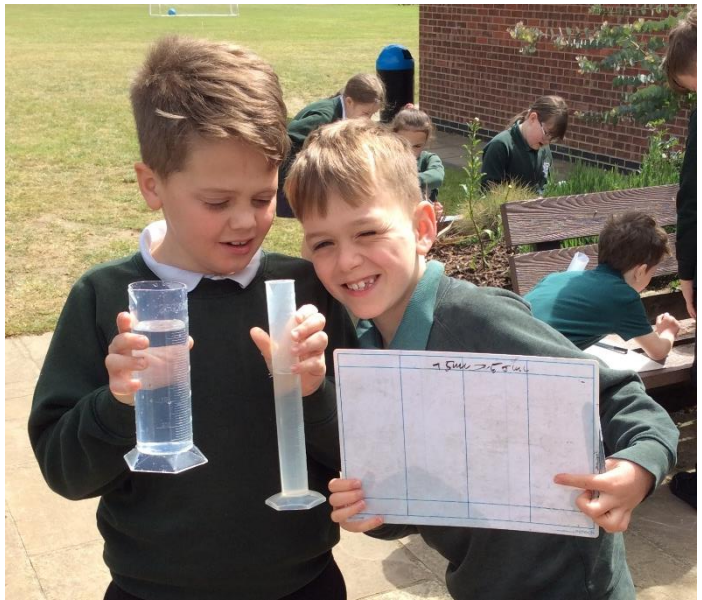
94.7%

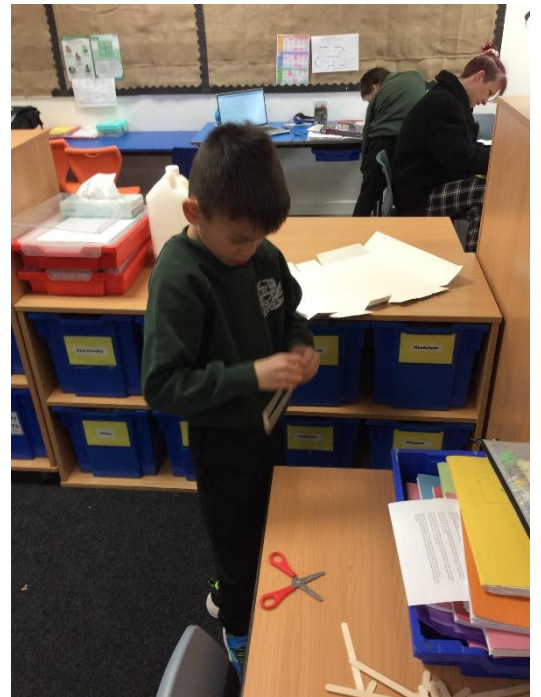
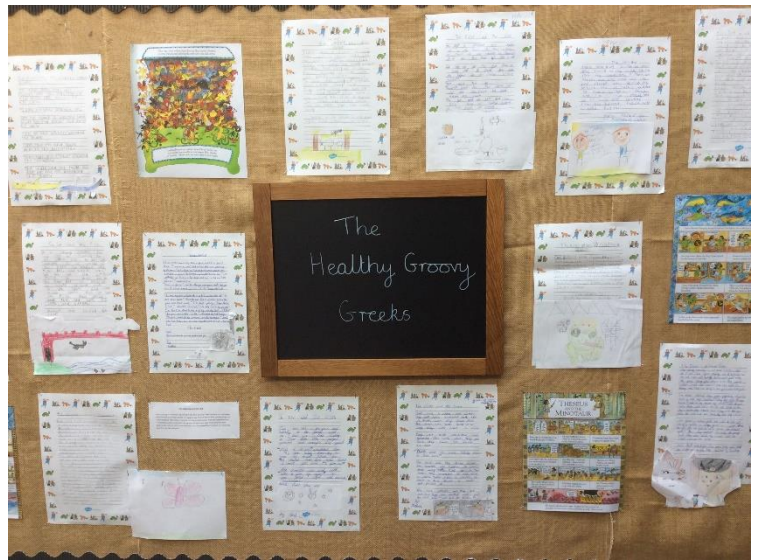
What's Been Happening?

















Making Sense of SEND

**In person free, friendly information
and support about SEND for
families and professionals.**



**Thursday 21st May 2026
Dereham Memorial Hall, NR19 1AD
10am-12pm and 12.30pm-3pm**

**Are you looking for support for your child
/young person with SEND and your family?**

- Listen to expert-led talks on SEND topics.
- A chance to give feedback and be heard by the EHCP team or SEND advisor. Bookable on the day.
- Speak directly with more than 20 services and get personalised, face-to-face advice all in one place.
- Children's participation activities giving children and young people the chance to share experiences.

**Find out more
and book
your place:**



www.norfolk.gov.uk/msos





FIRST STEPS

*fountain of life pre-school

INSPIRE A GENERATION TO LEARN TO LOVE AND LOVE TO LEARN

DISCOVER YOUR CHILD'S POTENTIAL IN
A CARING CHRISTIAN ENVIRONMENT

Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | 9^{am} - 3^{pm}
Friday 9^{am} - 12^{am}

Term time only

CONTACT

01760 447444

supervisor@firststepsashill.co.uk

www.firststepsashill.co.uk

FIRST STEPS PRE-SCHOOL

The Well Christian Centre
Swaffham Road, Ashill. IP25 7BT

Fee paying and funded places
available for 2 and 3/4 year olds.





Messy[®]

Church

at St Mary's

Sat 28th March: 10am-12
Sat 25th April: 10am-12
Sat 16th May: 10am-12
Tues 9th June: 4pm-6pm

CRAFTS

for primary age but all families welcome

STORIES

FOOD/DRINK

FREE!



St Mary's Church, Church Rd, Watton, IP25 6DQ
01953 881252 | wattonchurch@gmail.com | stmaryswatton.org



**SWAFFHAM TOWN
FOOTBALL CLUB**

YOUTH OPEN TRAINING SESSIONS

2026/27 SEASON

The Pedlars are pleased to be holding open training sessions for the following 2026/27 age groups playing in Norfolk Combined Youth Football League:

	U7s	School Year 2
	U10s	School Year 5
	U11s	School Year 6
	U12s	School Year 7
	U13s	School Year 8
	U14s	School Year 9

-  **1 STAR ACCREDITED CLUB WITH EXCELLENT FACILITIES AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENT PLAN**
-  **HIGHLY EXPERIENCED FA & UEFA QUALIFIED COACHES WITH DBS & FIRST AID**
-  **CLEAR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PATHWAYS INTO U18S AND SENIOR FOOTBALL**
-  **MONITORED DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE FA FOUR PILLARS APPROACH**
-  **FOCUS ON FOOTBALL, FUN, TEAM WORK, SKILL DEVELOPMENT IN A POSITIVE & SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT**



WHERE:

**NICHOLAS HAMOND ACADEMY FIELD
PE37 7DZ**

WHEN:

**WEDNESDAY 10TH & 17TH JUNE 2026
ARRIVAL 18:15
SESSION 18:30 - 20:00**

COST:

FREE

MORE INFO:

**DM OR E-MAIL:
STFCYOUTHSECRETARY@GMAIL.COM**

**TICKETS
AVAILABLE
NOW!**

**AMAZING
LEGO DISPLAYS**

**NEW & RETIRED
LEGO SETS**

**BUILD
CHALLENGES**

**ACTIVITIES
FOR ALL AGES**

**CHARITY
TOMBOLA**

**MILLIONS OF
LOOSE BRICKS**

**PLUS SO
MUCH MORE!!**



17TH MAY

 **SPORTSPARK**

MORE LEGO® THAN YOU CAN DREAM OF

**NORWICH
BRICK
FESTIVAL**

Kids



flourish



Norfolk
County Council

Norfolk Parent Carer Service



Summer Term Online Workshops



Eating Challenges Sunday 17th May 2pm - 4pm

Neurodivergent Teen Monday 1st June 10.30am - 12.30pm

Eating Challenges Friday 5th June 11am - 1pm

Neurodivergent Teen Sunday 7th June 2pm - 4pm

Sleep Challenges Wednesday 10th June 10.30am - 12.30pm

Parental Resilience Sunday 21st June 2pm - 4pm

Parental Resilience Wednesday 24th June 11am - 1pm

Managing Challenging Behaviours Friday 3rd July 11am - 1pm

Sleep Challenges Sunday 5th July 2pm - 4pm

Managing Challenging Behaviours Sunday 19th July 2pm - 4pm

Scan here for
booking form:



Join us online -
just scan the code
and choose your
dates!

Email
[sally.macgregor@
kids.org.uk](mailto:sally.macgregor@kids.org.uk) for
more info

