



Ashill VC Primary School Newsletter



Tel: 01760 440403

Monday 26th June 2026

www.ashillschool.co.uk

So much to celebrate!



There is always a lot to celebrate at Ashill but this week, I was especially proud to find out how well our year 4 children achieved in their Multiplication Tables Check. As Mrs Filby writes in her summary, 'they smashed it!'. Well done year four.

We have planned a whole school trip to celebrate all the fantastic learning that the children (and adults) have engaged in this year.

Once again, a huge thank you to our FRIENDS. They work tirelessly to support all school trips and curriculum enrichment activities throughout the year, and they always have the children at the heart of their work. This week they have provided Ice Pops at the end of the day to keep everyone cool and refreshed.



Please do show your support by getting your tickets for the upcoming 'Ashill Family Fest' event.

We are trying something new and we need your support to make a success of it.

With best wishes
Dan Pickard
Headteacher

ASHILL
END OF YEAR
WHOLE SCHOOL
TRIP!

HIGH LODGE
THETFORD FOREST

Building on our learning in Forest School this year, we'll spend the day

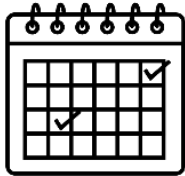
PLAYING, EXPLORING
and **LEARNING**
in the forest!

EVERY CHILD WILL TAKE PART IN AN
ARCHERY
SESSION!

MONDAY 13TH JULY
Leaving at 9. Back by end of school day.

CHILDREN WILL NEED A PACKED LUNCH

SEE NOTE IN EMAIL ON WHAT TO WEAR



Ashill VC Primary
 Dates in advance
Updated 26.06.26

Key

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

Mon 1 June	2nd half of Summer term 26 begins
Mon 29 June	KS2 Inter House Cricket (PM)
1 & 2 July	The Nicholas Hammond Academy Transition Days
Fri 3 July	Sports Day from 1pm
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 17 th 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 July	Whole School Trip
Tues 14 July	New Year R Transition Day in Bumblebee Class 9.15am to 10.30am
13 & 14 July	Litcham Transition Days
Tues 14 July	Year 6 Pleasurewood Hills Trip
Wed 15 July	New Year R Transition Day in Bumblebee Class 9.15am to 10.30am
Thur 16 July	New Year R Transition Day in Bumblebee Class 9.15am to 10.30am
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

Key

Blue text	New event
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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 only)

Forest School

Bumblebee Class, Year 1 and selected children (who have received an email confirm they are at Forest School).	Fridays
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Free School Meals

If you are eligible, apply for benefits-related Free School Meals.

Families can apply here: [Free school meals – Norfolk County Council](#)



Dukes Award

Dukes Presentation Afternoon Tea – a little awards ceremony will be held in the library on Wednesday 8th July at 2.30pm for all those children who have completed their Dukes Awards (and their parents - Invitations will be sent out nearer the time). The final date for completion of the award is Friday 3rd July (if you would like an invite to the afternoon tea/awards ceremony). If your child has not finished by then, they can still complete the award over the weeks/months following. Please could booklets be brought in as soon as possible after each challenge is completed, for Mrs Grigg to have a look at (NOT all the challenges in one go). Thank you.

Jewellery

Jewellery, including wristbands, in school presents a safety risk. The only jewellery allowed in school is small studs or sleepers for children with pierced ears. Wristwatches may be worn, but the school accepts no responsibility for loss or damage. No jewellery can be worn in PE or swimming sessions, so this must be removed before school or the child must be able to remove it themselves.

And also...

- Please make sure all items are named, especially tops and jumpers, which often get left on the school field.
- All clothing worn at school should be appropriate for school and the activities of the day being undertaken.
- Long hair should also be tied back / held back with a suitable hair band / clips at all times so your child has full vision to aid their learning and for their own safety.

Hot Weather

With us reminding you all about the heat, we've probably jinxed the weather now and probably in for months of rain ☺



During spells of hot weather, please ensure each day your child comes to school with sun screen already applied and that they wear a peaked sun hat.

Children may bring in sun cream (named) and apply a top up at break or lunch if required. Depending upon their age, appropriate supervision and support will be given.



We kindly ask that children do not share sun cream due to the possibility of skin reactions.

If we feel the midday heat is too intense, there will be times where we review the risk and opt for the more shaded playground (thanks to the large oak tree) or possibly even indoors.

We've had a few questions about children wearing sunglasses recently. After reviewing this last year, we would only encourage children to wear sunglasses for medical reasons. Instead, we advise children to wear peaked sun hats, which should be adequate to protect their eyes from the sun in most situations.

Being realistic, like glasses which are naturally worn for appropriate reasons, sunglasses are often lost, found damaged, difficult to name and can potentially be more of a hazard when playing at break/lunch and in outdoor lessons. Therefore, we only encourage the wearing of any glasses if really needed.





Parking concerns on Hale Road/Watton Road/The Oaks

Concerns have been raised regarding cars parking on the zigzags on Hale/Watton Road outside the school.

If you are collecting at the end of the day, or collecting children from clubs, please park responsibly in the nearby roads around the school. Thank you in advance for your support and cooperation.

Just a gentle reminder to be considerate of our neighbours when dropping off and picking up in The Oaks, particularly the part nearest the school gates.

It is a notoriously busy part of The Oaks with many parked cars, even when the school is closed.

Also, some concerns that children were running across residents front gardens, so please ensure that children are reminded to stay on the designated paths for their own safety.

Also, please avoid parking across driveways near the car park entrance. There have been numerous cases recently of 'double parking' and parking across a dropped kerb, so please ensure you park according to the highway code, regardless of how long you intend to park your car and not drive across the gardens of the residents.



This is a polite reminder to encourage everyone within our school community to park safely and responsibly. We kindly ask that you do not use the school layby or staff car park to park in or drop off/pick up your child, both at the beginning/end of the school day and when picking up for clubs later in the day. Please also to not park in front of local residents dropped kerbs/driveways. Thank you.



Ashill
 Primary School
 Included • Thriving • Achieving

SEN MARKETPLACE EVENT

Advisors from different SEN services
 will be available to talk to.



Talk to
 SEN Advisors



Get Advice
 and Support



Discover Local
 Services



Information
 and Guidance



Support for
 Families




Work Together
 for Your Child

 **WEDNESDAY
 14TH OCTOBER 2026** |  **FROM
 2PM**

 **IN THE SCHOOL HALL**

ALL WELCOME! 

Together, we can help every child thrive. 



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





Ashill Family Fest

10th July 2026

Ashill School
17:30 - 20:00

Tickets: £2.50 an adult in advance,
£3 an adult on the door
£5 a child

Includes:
Disco
Bouncy Castle
Inflatable Obstacle Course,
Lawn Games,
Craft Tent

Food, Bar & Sweet Treats Available

Tickets can be purchased in advance via School Money

Each advance ticket includes entry into a prize draw!

Celebration Assembly
12th June 2026

Well done to the following children:

Bumblebees



Squirrels



Hedgehogs



Badgers



Head Teacher Award



The attendance winners are:

Hedgehog Class 94.4%

2nd
Badger Class 93.3%

3rd
Squirrel Class 93.1%

4th
Bumblebee Class 91.9%

Overall Attendance (so far this year):

94.6%

Celebration Assembly
19th June 2026

Well done to the following children:

Bumblebees



Squirrels



Hedgehogs



Badgers



Dukes Award



Dancing Success

The attendance winners are:

Bumblebee Class 96.3%

2nd
Squirrel Class 96.2%

3rd
Hedgehog Class 95.2%

4th
Badger Class 92.4%

Overall Attendance (so far this year):

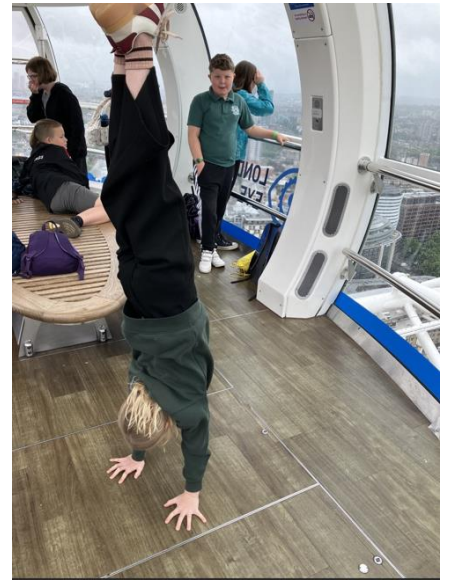
94.6%

What's Been Happening?

This is how the children spent their break times while the weather has been so hot. Productive playtimes exploring and keeping cool, inside and out.

And thank you to the PTA for the ice pops enjoyed on each of the hottest days this week.

















National Times Tables Results 2026

A fantastic well done to our **Year 4 children** who absolutely smashed their times tables in the National Test, which is held in early June each year, for all Year 4 children.

This year the cohort achieved an **impressive 24.31 average score** with the test being **out of 25**. The children are presented on the screen with 25 randomized questions of anything up to 12x12, which is the level of fluency we hope to achieve by the end of Year 4 as per the National Curriculum. Many questions are centred on a core set though, typically those that children may find tricky, in order that the test is a fair check of fluency.

I'm sure you'll join me in congratulating them!

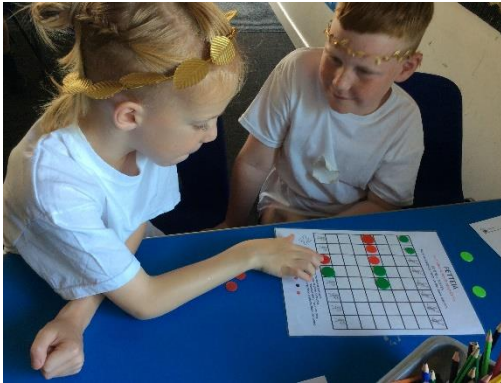


Some of Hedgehog Class, who selected to, were part of the Bikeability programme, one day Level 1 course last Friday.

All successfully passed and received their certificate and badge.



Hedgehog Class had an excellent Ancient Greece day in school on Thursday 25th June. Despite the heat, we welcomed Horrible Histories actor Ian Weston, who has also appeared in other short films and is a living history performer taking part in enactments, so an inspiration character for the children to learn from. The children completed a literacy exercise answering a quiz about Ancient Greece, a maths exercise involving shapes, learnt about weapons and the Athenian and Spartan fighting strategies as well as taking part in a mini-Olympic games. A lovely day!





More Art Club Success– Norfolk Churches Trust Competition

You may remember the article in the newsletter a few weeks back letting you know about the Art Club I ran at school. Well, I'm delighted to say that 4 of our children made it through to the long list stage. So out of 3000 entries, 500 were long listed including Amber, Abigail and Madeleine from Hedgehog Class and Emily G from Badger Class.

Here are some pictures of them viewing their artwork, which was exhibited for one week only in The Crypt Galley at Norwich Cathedral. A brilliant achievement for a small school, including one of our artists who had their work upgraded to the next category due to the judges feeling it was worthy of that.

It was great that we could allow the children to go and view their pictures, which meant that siblings could also share in the experience too.

Well done to Amber, Abigail, Madeleine and Emily. We will look to run a similar club in the future.
Mrs Filby.



Ashill Village Yard and Car Boot Sale

Sunday 23rd August 2026 - 10am – 2pm

£5 per yard/house/car boot

(Proceeds will be split between School, Community Centre, Call in and St Nicholas Church)



There will be space at Community Centre and if needed, Ashill School (field only – no access inside of school or playground) for Car boots from people outside of Ashill or houses on outskirts of village.

Forms can be collected from School, Call-in, Pub or Community Centre for booking. Booking forms and £5 fee can be placed in envelope and delivered to either 12 The Oaks or 34 The Oaks. If you would like to book online, the charge is £5.50 (extra to cover website fees). <https://bookwhen.com/taz> (please state in “extra info” box whether you will be having sale in own yard or using Community Centre).

Maps (showing participating yards) will be available to buy (for a small charge) on the day (locations to be confirmed).

Families can start to book activities on Sunday 21st June on our [booking system Equu](#).

[Big Norfolk Holiday Fun - Active Norfolk](#)



If you are eligible, apply for benefits-related Free School Meals.

Families can apply here: [Free school meals – Norfolk County Council](#)

Kids

Disabled children
say we can



Free In Person Workshops in Dereham

Run by Parent Carers for Parent Carers

Introduction to Neurodiversity

Tuesday 23rd June

Behaviours that Challenge

Tuesday 30th June

Eating Challenges

Tuesday 7th July

Parental Resilience

Tuesday 14th July

All 10.30am - 12.30pm

Booking form:



For more information email
sally.macgregor@kids.org.uk

Dereham Memorial Hall

62A Norwich St, Dereham NR19 1AD



Making Sense of **SEND**

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



**The Discovery Centre King's
Lynn, 8th July 10am-12noon**

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

- Listen to expert-led talk on effectively communicating with schools
- A chance to give feedback and be heard by the Education Health Care Plan (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.

*No need
to book - please
just come along.*

**Find out
more:**



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.



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





We are pleased to introduce a new parent engagement initiative linked to our school meal menus. Following the launch of each new menu cycle (twice yearly), we will now be inviting parents/carers to complete a short survey to help us gather meaningful feedback on current menu content, including dishes pupils are enjoying and suggestions for future menus.

This survey is intended to capture feedback specifically on the menu itself and forms part of our wider commitment to strengthening engagement with both parents and pupils around school meals.

We would be grateful if you could share the survey link below with your parent community:

[Norse Group Spring/Summer Menu Feedback Survey – Fill in form](#)

Please note that, due to the branching questions included for allergen-aware and plant-based menus, the survey should ideally be completed separately for each child where applicable.

This survey is designed as a light-touch engagement tool focused on menu content. However, if your school would like to explore a more detailed or bespoke survey, we would be very happy to work directly with you to support this. We are also happy to share school-specific responses and feedback summaries on request.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Initiatives such as this help us broaden engagement with parents and children and ensure pupil voice continues to shape future menu development.

EXCITING ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FOOTBALL MULTI-SPORTS BASKETBALL DODGEBALL HANDBALL CIRCUS SKILLS ARTS & CRAFTS COOKING ACTIVITIES 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DEN BUILDING FIRE LIGHTING SKILLS FIRST AID ACTIVITIES GIANT MECCANO CONSTRUCTION SET TEAM CHALLENGES STEM CHALLENGES ZORB FOOTBALL & GAMES INFLATABLE NERF BATTLE ARENA
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PLEASE NOTE: THESE ACTIVITIES WILL TAKE PLACE ON SELECTED DAYS AND AT SELECTED VENUES. FULL DETAILS WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE ACTIVITY SCHEDULES THAT WILL BE RELEASED BEFORE BOOKINGS OPEN.

DATES CONFIRMED AT:

GAYWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL
FOR THE FIRST 5 WEEKS OF THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS!

DEREHAM JUNIOR SCHOOL
• 20th–22nd July
• 3rd–7th August

SWAFFHAM
• 23rd–24th July
• 27th–31st July
• 11th–13th August

BOOKINGS OPEN SUNDAY 21ST JUNE AT 2:00PM
BEFORE BOOKINGS OPEN, WE'LL BE SHARING THE FULL SCHEDULES SO YOU CAN SEE EXACTLY WHAT'S PLANNED EACH DAY AND CHOOSE THE SESSIONS THAT ARE

At ICS Coaching, our goal is to create a safe, inclusive, and exciting environment where children can stay active, make new friends, learn new skills, and build confidence while having an amazing time during the school holidays.

Our sessions are suitable for children aged 5–11 years

FEATURING ZORB 360 EVENTS
INFLATABLE NERF BATTLE ZONE & ZORB ACTIVITIES ON SELECTED DATES!

THETFORD VOICES

WORKSHOPS



Click to sign up for our Summer Workshop

Our workshops are a fantastic way for children to experience the joy of performing in a choir. We cater to children aged 6-16 and all our events are free to attend. Led by professional musicians, each workshop builds towards a concert performance for family and friends.

We are committed to making music education accessible to all children, regardless of their background or circumstances. Our singing workshops not only offer valuable musical education but also promote social development and emotional well-being among children in the local community. If you would like to support our work, please visit our [Get Involved](#) and [Donate](#) pages.

UPCOMING EVENTS