Ashill VC Primary School Newsletter

Tel: 01760 440403 Friday 20th November 2026 www.ashillschool.co.uk

Remembering Together

Last week, our school family has taken time to reflect on the importance of Remembrance and to remember those who have sacrificed so much in the service of others.

Across the school, children have explored the meaning of remembrance in ways appropriate to their age, reflecting on the courage, sacrifice and service of those who have lived through conflict, both past and present.



On Wednesday, we came together as a whole school community to observe a two-minute silence, while individual classes also created their own opportunities for quiet reflection. It was particularly moving to see the respect and thoughtfulness shown by our children, including our very youngest pupils.

Remembrance also provides an opportunity to reflect on our Christian understanding of peace, hope and reconciliation.

Jesus taught us, *"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God"* (Matthew 5:9). Through prayer and reflection, we remember those affected by conflict and consider our own responsibility to live with kindness, forgiveness and peace.
Remembrance is not simply about looking back. It is also about looking forward with hope. Our Christian vision and school values remind us that, however young we are, we all have a part to play in making the world a better place through the choices we make and the way we treat one another.

We will remember them.





With best wishes
Dan Pickard
Headteacher

CHILDREN IN NEED

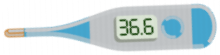
So far we have raised £51.00 for Children in Need we will keep the payment open until Friday 27th November if you wish to make a donation.

TEMPEST PHOTOGRAPHY



*Have you ordered your child's school **individual** photo yet? A polite reminder that the closing date for **free delivery** back to school is **Monday 23rd November 2026**. **Order through the Tempest website using your unique QR code or visit** www.tempest-orders.co.uk*

*If you need any assistance in ordering your photos, feel free to contact Tempest at **customerservice@htempest.co.uk***



Illness

Last year our attendance in school was greatly affected by illnesses across the school, particularly over the winter period. Just to remind you that if your child is not well, please phone the school office in the morning to let us know. You can also email or phone if you're unsure what to do. As a school, we have guidance regarding different illnesses and whether being in or out of school is advised.

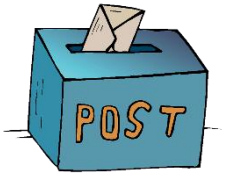
Please remember, we're quite happy for children to come into school if they are suffering from cold symptoms (coughs, sneezes and blocked noses). However, we'd always advise if your child has a fever or particularly high temperature, to stay off school until this has improved. Generally we have a 48 hour sickness rule, meaning if your child has been sick, they cannot return to school for two days. There can be some flexibility in this depending on times that this has happened, so please do check with us.

Medication

We do allow most types of medication to be administered in school, but in order for us to do this; you'll need to fill in a medication form. The form is available at the school office or on our website under 'Parent Information'.

Post box

If you're dropping a note, letter or reply slip into the school office, don't forget we have a post box located near the inner entrance doors for you to use. There are some envelopes and a pen available too, should you need them.



It's nearly that time of year!



Christmas Postbox
Every year, in the run up to Christmas, we have our Christmas postbox for children to post their Christmas cards to one another in school. The post box will be available from Tuesday 1st December and the last collection day will be Monday 14th December. Please remember to make sure the envelopes have the child's name and class on them. Class lists are available from the school office.

Big Christmas raffle – Friday 4th December
The big one! A huge raffle with some fantastic prizes. Ranging from a Nintendo Switch to local pub vouchers, wine, hampers, family panto tickets, beauty products and many more. Please sell as many tickets to friends and family as you can (50p each, £2.50 for a book). Bring the completed raffle stubbs and monies in by Monday 30th November to go into the Grand Christmas Draw. If you require any further raffle tickets, please speak to the school office or the Friends of Ashill (PTA).



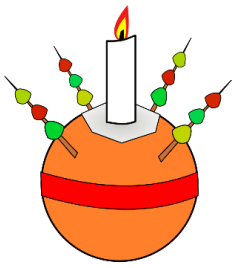
Christmas Lunch – Thursday 10th December
Don't forget, it's our Christmas lunch for the children on Thursday 10th December. Bookings are still being been taken but please check with Mrs Butters in the school office, if you're unsure.



Christmas Jumper Day – Thursday 10th December
This year we'll be holding our Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday 10th December. We look forward to seeing the children (and staff) in Christmas jumpers. The children will still need to wear uniform – simply change their top or jumper to something more festive.

Please note, this is not a charity event – we're very mindful that there have been a lot of fundraising activities over recent months, so it's simply just for fun!

Christingle Church Services – Friday 18th December
We are having our Christingle Church Service on Friday 18th December at 9.30am. All welcome.





Friday 18th December, 2:30pm - Carols in the Playground
Come and join us for Carols in the playground, where you'll have the chance to listen to some Christmas Carols and festive songs performed by the children. This event will be weather permitting and you're welcome to sing along!

Yopa | Friends of Ashill Primary School

Help us rocket towards our fundraising goal with Fund the Future!



Local estate agent Phil Bird is helping us earn funding with Yopa's Fund the Future programme.
All we need is your support!

Scan to support

How you can help

1. **Sign up**
For every Fund the Future board displayed, we receive money to spend on supplies. If you're happy to host a board outside your home, signup at yo.pa/friendsofashill by **28/10/26**.

2. **Host the board**
Your Fund the Future board will be put up for you around **11/11/26** and removed around **11/01/27**. You don't need to be in for this, and if you have anyspecial instructions for the location of the board, they will be followed.

3. **That's it!**
Every board means more money for the organisation.
If you have friends and family in the area, they can get involved too.

Sign up or find out more at yo.pa/friendsofashill

FAQs

I'm a supporter. What does a Fund the Future board look like?
The Fund the Future board is the same size and shape as a 'for sale' board, but don't worry – it doesn't look like one. It will have the Fund the Future logo and the name of the organisation you're supporting. It will go outside your home, e.g. at the end of a driveway, but if you have special instructions for where it should be put you can let us know when you sign up.

Do I need to be in for the board to go up?
Not at all. If you have signed up as a supporter, we will take care of putting it up and removing it at the end of the sponsorship period. You don't need to be home for this.

Is it really free?
Yes, Fund the Future is completely free for everyone, from the school to its supporters.

Can I get my friends/family to put a board up too?
Anyone who wants to be a supporter can sign up for a board if they are within the agreed postcodes around the school, club, or charity. If they are outside it, unfortunately we can't put a board up.

Which organisations can take part?
Many primary schools, local sports clubs (e.g. junior football teams), local charities, fundraising events, and other local organisations can take part as long as they serve a defined catchment area. Contact marketing@yopa.co.uk or your local Yopa agent to check if you're eligible. Unfortunately, secondary schools can't currently take part.

Celebration Assembly
6th November 2026

Well done to the following children:

Bumblebees



Squirrels



Hedgehogs



Badgers





Headteacher Award



The attendance winners are:

Bumblebee Class 100%

2nd
Squirrel Class 95.8%

3rd
Hedgehog Class 95.2%

4th
Badger Class 93.5%

Overall Attendance (so far this year):

96.1%

Celebration Assembly
13th November 2026

Well done to the following children:

Bumblebees



Squirrels



Hedgehogs



Badgers



The attendance winners are:

Bumblebee Class 98.4%

2nd
Squirrel Class 96.7%

3rd
Hedgehog Class 94.4%

4th
Badger Class 93.8%

Overall Attendance (so far this year):

96.1%

What's Been Happening?

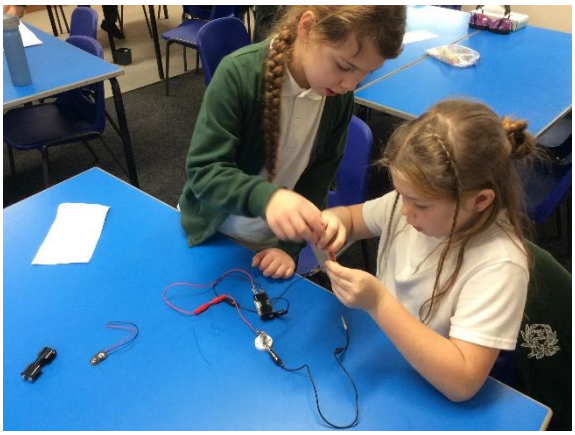


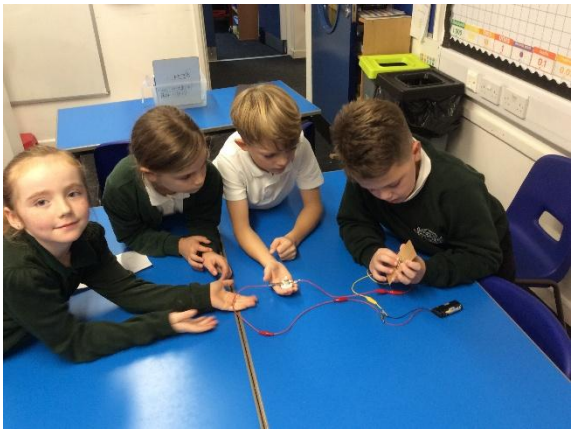
































































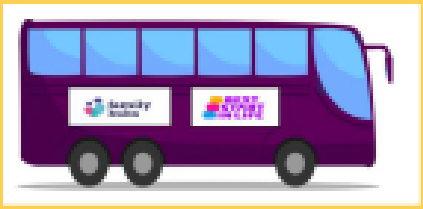






Where are we

family hubs



Breckland – November 2026 Engagements

Community Events - for Parents, Carers & Young People

The family hub team will be available at these community venues to answer your questions, share information on a wide range of activities, groups and organisation that can help you and your family

Andreia - November 2026

Monday 2nd November - Watton Library, 11:00 – 12:30

Monday 2nd November - Be Well Bus event at Wickes Thetford, 13:30 - 16:30

Tuesday 3rd November - Cloverfield Church and Community Centre, 10:00 - 11:30

Wednesday 4th November - Watton Library, 10:30 - 11:30

Monday 9th November - Thetford Library, 10:30 – 12:00

Monday 9th November – Breckland Family Hub, 14:00 – 16:00

Wednesday 11th November – Breckland Family Hub, 13:15 – 14:30

Monday 16th November - Thetford Library, 10:30 - 11:30

Thursday 19th November - The Charles Burrell Centre, 10:00 - 13:00

Monday 23rd November - Thetford Library, 10:30 – 12:00

Monday 23rd November - Breckland Family Hub, 14:00 – 16:00

Wednesday 25th November – Parent Café Thetford Library, 10:30 - 12:00

Monday 30th November - Thetford Library, 10:30 - 12:00

Monday 30th November - Breckland Family Hub, 14:00 – 16:00

Megan - November 2026

Monday 2nd November - Dereham SEND café, 13:30 -14:30

Mondays 9th, 16th, 30th November - Dereham Library Bounce and Rhyme, 10:00 - 11:30

Tuesday 3rd, 17th, 24th November - Swaffham Library Bounce and Rhyme, 10:00-11:30

Thursday 5th, 12th, 26th November – The LINK Dereham, 9:00 – 12:00

Friday 13th, 20th, 27th November – Dereham Leisure Centre, 9:00 – 11:30

Be Well Bus, Mann's Lane, Swanton Morley – Tuesday 10th November 9:15 – 12:30

Be Well Bus, Dereham Memorial Hall – Wednesday 18th November 10:00 – 14:00

You are also welcome to drop-in at the Family Hubs: Kingsway, Thetford ECFS base, Thetford, IP24 3DY or call

01362 654567

Monday – Friday 9am – 4pm

BEST START IN LIFE

in the community

Community and Partnership (C&P) team reserves the right to cancel event due to circumstances beyond C&P's control or not reasonably anticipated by C&P.


ST MARY'S WATTON
Messy®
Church
at St Mary's
Sat 10th Oct: 10am-12
Sat 14th Nov: 10am-12
Sat 12th Dec: 10am-12
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

Kids

flourish

Norfolk County Council

Norfolk Parent Carer Service



Autumn Term Online Workshops



Tuesday 22nd September Demand Avoidance
10.30am - 12.30pm

Sunday 4th October Eating Challenges 2pm - 4pm

Wednesday 7th October Eating Challenges 11am - 1pm

Wednesday 14th October Sleep 10.30am - 12.30am

Sunday 25th October Demand Avoidance 2pm – 4pm

Sunday 8th November Behaviour 2pm – 4pm

Friday 20th November Behaviour 10.30am - 12.30pm

Sunday 22nd November Sleep 2pm – 4pm

Monday 23rd November Resilience 11am - 1pm

Sunday 29th November Resilience 2pm - 4pm

Scan here for booking form:

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

Email sally.macgregor@kids.org.uk for more info



Swaffham Community Centre
Managed by Iceni Partnership

Discover our *new* ...

SEND Friendly Room

- Large touchscreen monitor
- Soothing, soft colours and furnishings
- Acoustic panels to reduce echo
- Colour changing mood lighting

Adaptable space for meetings, training and events.

Contact us to discuss affordable rates of hire.

01760 722 800
icenipartnership.co.uk
@iceniswaffham



Reduce waste by getting FREE food !

Come along to the Community Fridge from 9:30am-11am Tuesday to Friday. We redistribute surplus food from supermarkets for FREE to stop it from going to waste.

Find out more at facebook.com/swaffhamcommunityfridge

SWAFFHAM COMMUNITY FRIDGE

Reducing Waste.
Supporting Our Community.

