



Welcome to Ashbrook

Start of Year Newsletter



Everything You Need to Know About Ashbrook Junior School

A very warm welcome to all our Ashbrook families!

A very warm welcome to all our Ashbrook families! Whether your child is joining us in Year 3, returning for another year or beginning their final year in Year 6, we are looking forward to a fantastic year together. At Ashbrook, we want every child to feel that they belong, that they are valued and that Ashbrook is a place for everyone. We want our children to develop a love of learning and become confident, independent and compassionate members of our school community.

Our School Community

The Ashbrook Way: "At Ashbrook we are kind, responsible and respectful."

These three simple expectations underpin everything we do at Ashbrook – in classrooms, on the playground, in assemblies and when we represent our school.

Our six school values: Respect • Responsibility • Equity • Creativity • Kindness • Aspiration

Our Curriculum

These three pillars underpin our learning and curriculum and we use these phrases with our pupils to explain the purpose of our learning.

 **We Know-** we develop the knowledge, vocabulary and understanding children need to become successful learners.

 **We Connect-** we make connections between our learning and how this impacts our local community and local context.

 **We Grow-** we develop confidence, independence, resilience, creativity and the skills children need to thrive in the wider world, so we are ready for next stage of education.



The School Day

8:40-8:55am Gates open. Children go straight to their classrooms where learning begins.

3:25pm School finishes. 3B and 4T are collected from classroom doors; 4W, Y5 and Y6 collect from top playground.

Morning welcome: Class teachers meet and greet children at the classroom door. Senior Leadership Team and Designated Safeguarding Leaders are out on the school gate to welcome families, offer support and answer any questions.

Late arrival: Children arriving after 9:00am should be signed in at the school office.

Everyday essentials- What does my child need?

- Named Water Bottle
- Coat appropriate for weather
- Reading book/ diary
- Healthy snack

Please name all belongings.. Children should not bring unnecessary toys or items from home (they will be asked to leave them in their tray until home time).

Uniform and P.E

Children should wear school uniform every day. Our new school logo was introduced in 2025/26, but please do not worry if your child's uniform has the older logo. Plain blue jumpers are also fine.

Children come to school wearing their PE kit on PE days. PE days may change each half term. Class teachers will inform parents when P.E is each half term.



Celebrating Children

Children are recognised for demonstrating The Ashbrook Way and showing our school values with:

- Dojo Points
- Whole Class Rewards
- School Values Certificates
- Reading Rewards
- Lunchtime Behaviour Rewards

Assemblies

Our weekly assembly programme is:

Monday-
Teaching our
School Values

Tuesday-
Personal
Development

Wednesday-
Singing

Thursday-Picture
News

Friday-Living
Our School
Values

Parents/carers will be contacted to be invited to attend Friday's Living Our School Values Assembly if their child receives a Friday celebration certificate so that they can attend where possible. To make this a special event for those pupils who are receiving a certificate, please only attend assembly if your child is receiving a values certificate.

Keeping in Touch

We want communication between home and school to be positive, respectful and helpful. Our main way of sharing information and updates is through Class Dojo. We aimed to get all parents set up on this before summer. If you need support with logging on/ joining code please speak to class teacher or school office.

If you need to contact school about classroom learning, homework or day to day questions please speak to your child's class teacher via Class Dojo or have a conversation at the end of the day.

Longer conversation- message though Class Dojo or call the school office to arrange an appointment with class teacher

Urgent Matter- please phone school office to speak to DSL, Senior Leader or Class Teacher. A full communication strategy is attached to the end of the newsletter with help with who is best to contact for different areas of school.



Working with Parents

We want school and home to work together as much as possible and we have introduced a number of Year 3 Stay and Learn sessions this year, so new parents can get to know our school community. We have other events that we would love parents to be part of as well as our popular SEND coffee mornings. Autumn Term Key Dates are attached and updates will be on Class Dojo regularly for parent- school events. If you are interested in becoming part of our 'Friends of Ashbrook' parent - school group to organise events, communication and fundraising please see Mrs Priestly in the school office or Mrs Dell (Head of School). We are always looking for volunteers to hear children read, support school trips and visits too. Please contact school office for details of how to be involved.

Food and Childcare

- School Lunches are cooked onsite by our partners at Aspens. Children can order school lunch every day and these are paid for through an application called Parent Pay. Ensure school office know about any dietary requirements. Staff have had up to date training on allergy awareness. Menus are available from the school office and will also be put onto Class Dojo.
- School Milk can be paid and ordered by 'Cool Milk'. Contact school office for further information
- Parent Pay is an application used to pay for school meals and trips/ visits. Details will be sent out next week and Mrs Priestly in the school office can offer more info on Parent Pay.
- Our before and after school care provider is Tigers. Contact number Tigers 07502 002 949 lynneflinn@ashbrook-inf.derbyshire.sch.uk
- Children can bring a healthy snack only to school for breaktimes.
- We run a tuck shop on Fridays. This year the maximum spend is £1 only. Please don't bring own snacks on a Friday- healthy snacks only or tuck shop purchase.



Supporting Learning at Home

Class teachers will set suitable homework. The most important thing you can do to support learning at home is by reading with your child.

We are excited to introduce our **Reading Reward System**, designed to encourage children to develop a love of reading and celebrate their reading achievements.

We ask parents and carers to record each time their child reads at home in their reading diary. Please note that one read per day will count towards the reward system. Children can read independently or with an adult and every reading session helps them work towards their next milestone.

Reading Milestones

Children will receive rewards as they reach the following milestones:

- 25 reads - Blue Badge
- 50 reads - Red Badge
- 75 reads - Yellow Badge
- 100 reads - Green Badge
- 150 reads - Purple Badge and a special reward
- 200 reads - Bronze Medal
- 250 reads - Silver Medal
- 300 reads - Gold Medal and a special reward

When your child reaches a reading milestone, they should hand in their reading diary and books to their class teacher so that their achievement can be checked and celebrated.

Our Year 6 Reading Leads will regularly check reading diaries and keep a record of children's progress. Each week, during our Living our School Values Assembly, the Reading Leads will present badges and recognise children who have reached a reading milestone.

We hope this system will motivate our children to read regularly, celebrate their progress and, most importantly, develop a lifelong love of reading.



Come and Meet us

By the end of this week, class teachers will have sent out a curriculum newsletter with information about this half term's learning. We would also love to welcome parents and carers into school to informally meet the class teacher, see the learning environment, find out more about routines and expectations and ask any questions about the year ahead. Class teachers will post out on class Dojo when their Meet The Teacher session this week is so look out for this update.

We hope this newsletter provides some key information about Ashbrook Junior School. A full meet the team information, Autumn Term key dates and communication strategy is attached at the end of the newsletter.

Mrs Dell and the Ashbrook Junior School Team



Autumn Term Diary Dates 2026

You can find out about the events happening on our School Facebook page, Monthly newsletters and on Class Dojo!

Date	Event
Friday September 4	Inset Day
Monday September 7	Children return to school Starting Well September Newsletter
Week Beginning Mon 7 September	Meet the Teacher at 3:30pm in classrooms- see class dojo for specific class times.
Friday September 11	Class Curriculum Newsletters sent out on Class Dojo
Tuesday September 15	School Immunisations
Thursday September 17	Y6 Open Day Friesland
Friday Sept 18 (am)	Y3 parents Stay and Learn- Family and Relationships theme with Artist in Residence Shamila Chady
Date TBC (provisional date Friday Sept 18)	Colour Dash event
Wednesday September 23	Feed the Family Event with Aspens
Friday September 25	School Photos
Tuesday October 13	Open evening to parents
Date TBC	Year 3 Farm Visit
Date TBC	Year 3 and Year 5 Allotment Visit
Date TBC	Year 3 parent Learn and Stay Session. Family cooking with Aspens.
Monday October 19	Whole school Art Gallery- Families, Relationships, Belonging theme
Date TBC (provisional date Thursday October 22)	Halloween Disco
Monday October 26	Half term
Monday November 2	Pupils return to school
Friday November 6	Class Curriculum Newsletters out on class dojo



Wednesday November 11	Remembrance service led by Year 6 @10:30am
Friday November 13	Year 3 parent stay and learn- Boccia
Date TBC	Year 4 Derby Museum visit- Ancient Egypt
Date TBC	Year 5 Tree and bulb planting experience
Date TBC	Year 6 Holocaust Museum Visit
Friday November 27	Inset Day- school closed to pupils
Monday November 30	Assessment Week/ Practice SATs
Friday December 4	Treetops Reindeer Dash
Friday December 4	Family Quiz evening
Tuesday December 8 Wednesday December 9	Parents evenings
Date TBC	Year 3 stay and learn- showcasing end of unit work
Thursday December 10	Christmas Jumper Day and Pantomime 1:30pm
Date TBC (Provisional date Friday December 11)	Interclass Christmas Kurling Festival
Monday December 14	Year 3/4 stay and learn - Christmas Crafts
Wednesday December 16	Christmas Dinner Day and Christmas Jumpers
Date TBC (Provisional date Wednesday December 16)	Carol Service at Church
Tuesday December 15	Year $\frac{3}{4}$ Nativity 2pm
Thursday December 17	Year 5 6 Christmas carol concert- 2pm
Date TBC	Christmas Market + Wreath Making
Friday December 18	End of Autumn Term



Meet Our Team

Senior Leadership Team



Mrs Tarrant
Executive Headteacher
DSL



Mrs Dell
Head of School
DSL



Mrs Johnstone
Deputy Headteacher
DSL
SENCO



Mr Huntingdon
Deputy Headteacher
Curriculum and Teaching
and Learning Lead

Office Team



Mrs Hadfield
Operations Manager



Mrs Priestly
Admin Officer

Pastoral Team



Mrs Everett
Safeguarding and Attendance
Officer



Sarah Hume
School Counsellor



Mrs Laing
ELSA Practitioner

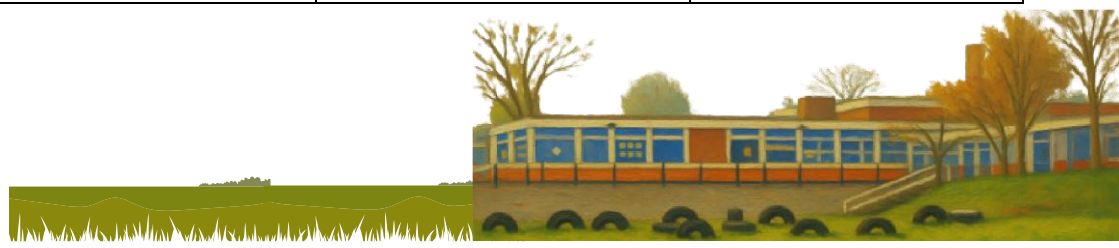


Year 3 and Year 4 Team

 Miss Booth Year 3 Teacher RE and French Lead	 Miss Wilkinson Year 4 Teacher Maths and Music Lead	 Mr Tinsley Year 4 Teacher	 Mrs Thompson PPA cover Teacher DT Lead
 Mrs Ward Teaching Assistant	 Mrs Dhillion Teaching Assistant	 Mrs Delay Teaching Assistant	 Kieron Palmer CSSS Sports Coach

Year 5 and Year 6 Team

 Miss Carr Year 6 Teacher English Lead History and Geography Lead	 Mrs Corcoran Year 6 Teacher Science Lead	 Mr Huntingdon Year 6 Teacher PE and Computing Lead	 Mr Collins Year 5 Teacher PE, Outdoor Ed and Behaviour support
 Mrs Thompson PPA cover Teacher DT Lead	 Mrs Laing Lead Teaching Assistant and ELSA Practitioner	 Mrs Mallinson Teaching Assistant	 Miss Boyer Teaching Assistant



 Kieron Palmer CSSS Sports Coach			
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Lunchtime Teachers

 Mrs Hayes Senior Midday Supervisor	 Mrs Wheldon Midday Supervisor	 Mrs Eyre Midday Supervisor
 Mrs Roberts Midday Supervisor	 Mrs Blakemore Midday Supervisor	 Mrs Dodsley Midday Supervisor

Site Team

 Ms Varty Site Manager	 Mrs Wheldon School Cleaner	 Mrs Handley School Cleaner	 Mrs Hutchinson School Cleaner
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Communication

Academic Concern	Behaviour Concern	SEND Concern
Class Teacher Face- to- face conversation before school or organised meeting via class dojo	Class Teacher Face- to- face conversation before school or organised meeting via class dojo	Class Teacher Face- to- face conversation before school or organised meeting via class dojo
Mr Huntingdon Deputy headteacher teaching and learning leader Dojo: Mr Huntingdon Phone: 01332 673785	Mrs Dell Head of school. Behaviour lead Dojo: Mrs Dell Phone: 01332 673785	Mrs Johnstone Deputy Headteacher SENCO Dojo: Mrs Johnstone: Phone: 01332 673785
Mrs Dell -Head of School	Mrs Tarrant-Executive Headteacher	Mrs Dell Head of School Mrs Tarrant-Executive Headteacher

Before and After school Club	Absence Request or Attendance queries	Clubs/ School lunches/ Trips & Visits/ Payment support
Tigers Phone 07502 002 949 Email lynne.flinn@ashbrook-inf.derbyshire.sch.uk	Mrs Priestley – school office Mrs Everitt – attendance officer Email office@ashbrook-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk Phone 01332 673785	Mrs Priestley – school office Email lpriestly@ashbrook-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk Phone 01332 673785
Safeguarding concerns	Uniform	
Mrs Everitt (Safeguarding officer and DSL) Email: safeguarding@ashbrook-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk Phone: 01332 673785 or see Mrs Dell, Mrs Johnstone or Mrs Tarrant (DSL Team)	Uniformity 21–23 Nottingham Road, Borrowash www.uniformity.co.uk	

