



Ashleigh Primary School and Nursery

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26th September
2025

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John McConnell
Headteacher
01953 602410

**Ashleigh
Instagram**

Message from Mr. McConnell

This week has reminded me of how grateful we are to be part of such a generous community. I've been completely bowled over by a couple of acts of generosity this week as members of our community gave their time and skill for free to do something amazing for the children.

Firstly, we have a new sofa in the Reception class role-play area which is absolutely beautiful and just the right size for the children (a huge thank you to Liam Donovan); and,

Secondly, a massive thank you to Jake for his superb designs for our refresh of the Reception classrooms, which you can see on our Instagram page.

It has made me realise that we need an official 'Ashleigh thank you' card that we can send people when they do something lovely for us. I'm asking any child who's feeling arty over the next week to design something for us for the front of the card.

Entries to be slipped under Mr McConnell's office door by next Friday please!

Golden Ticket Raffle Winners

Barn Owl – Henry, Sienna and Austin; **Bat** – Jasper and Jaxson;
Fox – Leon; **Birch** – Aled; **Hazel** – Archie;
Elm – Charlie H and Faye; **Mulberry** – Ruby;
Ash – Isaiah and Jackson; **Sycamore** – Willow.

School Gates

School gates open at 8:30am, unless children attend Treehouse Breakfast Club where parents/carers have an access code for Sheffield Road gate. The access code should not be shared with anyone else, including children.

Only Treehouse Breakfast Club children are supervised on site before 8:30am.

Curriculum News

We are excited to share that we are introducing a new Oracy curriculum across the school this year.

What is oracy? Simply put, oracy is the ability to **speak and listen effectively**. Just like reading and writing, it's a key skill that supports learning across every subject—and helps children grow into confident, articulate individuals who can express themselves clearly and respectfully. Why now? The world is changing fast, and strong communication skills are more important than ever. By embedding oracy into our curriculum, we're giving children the tools they need to succeed—not just in school, but in life.

We'll be sharing more about how you can support oracy at home in the coming weeks, including games, conversation starters, and tips for listening together.

Let's help every child find their voice!

Parent/Carer Curriculum Café - Design Technology

Would you like to find out more about our curriculum?

Please join us for our first curriculum cafe drop in on **Friday 24th October between 8:45-09:30am**.

We will be displaying information about Design Technology across the school and Mrs Saadvandi, our DT lead will be available.

Please sign in at the school office and come and enjoy a hot drink with us.

Reception First Class Photos - EDP

Reception class photos will be included in the EDP's 'First Class' supplement on Tuesday 14th October.

Only children with photo permission, in school when the photo was taken, will feature.

Ashleigh Friends

Thank you to everyone who made **Frozen Friday** purchases this month - it was a lovely way to start the school year. Frozen Fridays will be back after May half term, with profits going towards the Year 6 leavers' celebrations in July.

We've been inundated with uniform donations recently, your generosity is really appreciated. **The Uniform Shop** is now very well stocked and ready for you to bag some bargains! The shop is open every day after school, with most items £1 each. We're currently also selling **white polo shirts at two for £1**. If you have donations, please use the green wheelie bin near the Year 1 classrooms - as well as uniform, we take

coats, jackets, wellies, waterproofs and bags, and we'll start collecting Christmas jumpers soon.

You might have noticed a new banner on the car park fencing advertising **Easy Fundraising**. This is a simple way to raise funds for the PTA. When you shop online, qualifying vendors will share cashback, meaning profit for us at no cost to you! Sign up using the QR code on the banner.

Lastly, we're pleased to announce we'll be bringing back the **Christmas online shop** again this year. For new families: the children each create a Christmas design which is sent off to be scanned. This can then be purchased on a variety of products including Christmas cards, wrapping paper, ornaments and more! Additional information should be shared next month - but if your child talks about making a Christmas card at school in September, this is what they're working on!

Ashleigh Friends PTA

After School Clubs - Autumn Term

Day	Club	Pick-Up Time	Final Dates
Monday	Creation Station	3:50pm	Mon 1 st Dec
	Cheerleading	4:00pm	
Tuesday	Nerf Games	4:00pm	Tues 2 nd Dec
Wednesday	Musical Theatre	4:00pm	Wed 3 rd Dec
Thursday	Gymnastics	4:00pm	Thurs 4 th Dec
	Karate		
Friday	Dodgeball	4:00pm	Fri 5 th Dec
	Singing Club	3:45pm	
	Ukulele	3:45pm	

Treehouse is open every day during term time.

PE Days

Children should wear PE kit to school on their PE days.

Year	Days
Reception	Not autumn term
1	Mondays and Wednesdays
2	Wednesdays and Fridays
3	Mondays and Tuesdays
4	Tuesdays and Thursdays Tuesday - Maple class swimming a.m.
5	Tuesdays and Thursdays
6	Friday

Free School Meals Information

The Free School Meal voucher scheme has been extended to March 2026 and the following payments will be made to eligible families.

Month	Amount Per Child*	Voucher Issue Date
September	£15	Issued [^]
October	£15	10/10/2025
November	£15	07/11/2025
December	£30	05/12/2025
January 2026	£15	09/01/2026
February	£15	06/02/2026
March	£15	06/03/2026

- * Please note that you have to apply separately for individual children, siblings do **not** qualify automatically.
- * If you were eligible for Early Years Pupil Premium in Nursery, you need to reapply when children join Reception.
- [^] New eligible families will have the codes issued separately.

To check if you are eligible for **free school meals** please click [here](#).

Diary Dates

New/Updated events

2025-2026	
Tues 30 th Sep	• a.m. Maple class swimming
Wed 1 st Oct	• 6-9pm Year 6 Open evening at Attleborough Academy
Thurs 2 nd Oct	• Reception & Year 6 NCMP Screening • 3:00-4:30pm Year 5 Boys' Football v Drayton (home)
Fri 3 rd Oct	• 3:10pm Reception Curriculum meeting (in Squirrel classroom) – moved from 2 nd October
Mon 6 th Oct	• 3pm Year 6 Boys' Football v Robert Kett (Home) KO 3:45pm
Tues 7 th Oct	• School & Nursery Individual Photos • a.m. Maple class swimming
Thurs 9 th Oct	• 3:00-5:00pm Year 5 Boys' Football v Taverham Junior (away) • 5-6pm tour for Reception Intake September 2026
Fri 10 th Oct	• 10-11am tour for Reception Intake September 2026 • 1:30-2:30pm tour for Reception Intake September 2026
Tues 14 th Oct	• a.m. Maple class swimming • Parents' Evening appointments (details to follow)
Wed 15 th Oct	• Parents' Evening appointments (details to follow)
Thurs 16 th Oct	• Parents' Evening appointments (details to follow)
Mon 20 th Oct	• 3pm Year 6 Boys' Football v Cringleford (Home)
Tues 21 st Oct	• a.m. Maple class swimming

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3:00-4:30pm Year 5 Boys' Football v Queen's Hill (home)
Wed 22 nd Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3pm Year 6 Boys' Football v St Michael's (Away)
Fri 24 th Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:45-9:30am Parent/Carer Curriculum Café - DT • Year 3 visit to Gressenhall • 3pm School & Nursery close for half term
Mon 3 rd Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:30am School & Nursery reopen
Tues 4 th Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a.m. Maple class swimming
Thurs 6 th Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flu Vaccinations; Reception to Year 6
Mon 10 th Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 6 Residential to Willersley Castle
Tues 11 th Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 6 Residential to Willersley Castle • a.m. Maple class swimming
Wed 13 th Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 6 Residential to Willersley Castle
Thurs 14 th Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 6 Residential to Willersley Castle
Fri 15 th Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 6 Residential to Willersley Castle
Tues 18 th Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sibling Photos • a.m. Maple class swimming
Tues 25 th Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flu Vaccinations; Reception to Year 6 ('Mop-up' session) • a.m. Maple class swimming
Tues 2 nd Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a.m. Maple class swimming
Tues 9 th Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a.m. Maple class swimming
Thurs 11 th Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3pm Brass Band & PTA Cake Sale
Wed 17 th Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper* Day (* festive top with school uniform)
Fri 19 th Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3pm School & Nursery close for Christmas holiday
Tues 6 th Jan 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:30am School & Nursery reopen
Fri 13 th Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3pm School & Nursery close for half term
Mon 23 rd Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:30am School & Nursery reopen
Fri 27 th Mar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3pm School & Nursery close for Easter holiday
Tues 14 th Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:30am School & Nursery reopen
Mon 27 th Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reception Hearing & Vision screening
Tues 28 th Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reception Hearing & Vision screening
Thurs 30 th Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reception Hearing & Vision screening
Mon 4 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School & Nursery closed - Bank Holiday
Mon 11 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 6 SATs
Tues 12 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 6 SATs
Wed 13 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 6 SATs
Thurs 14 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 6 SATs
Fri 22 nd May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3pm School & Nursery close for half term
Mon 1 st Jun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:30am School & Nursery reopen
Tues 9 th Jun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports Day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 9:15-11:30am Years 3-6 ○ 11:45am-12:45pm Picnic Lunch ○ 1-2:30pm Reception, Years 1 & 2
Tues 16 th Jun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reception to Year 6 Dental Screening visits (information will follow nearer the time)

Thurs 18 th Jun	• Sports Day - Reserve date
Tues 23 rd Jun	• Year 6 transition day at Wymondham High
Wed 24 th Jun	• Year 6 transition day at Wymondham High
Thurs 25 th Jun	• Year 6 transition day at Wymondham High
Fri 17 th Jul	• 3pm School & Nursery close for Summer holiday

Community Events

Steps Community Food Store: The Hub, Ayton Road, NR18 0QJ

1. 9.15am-10.45am every Tuesday
2. 2:00-4:00pm every Thursday



Norfolk County Council 2025-2026

Norfolk Model Calendar

This calendar applies to community schools, community special schools, VC schools and nursery schools and sets the days on which school transport will be provided. While most Foundation, VA, foundation special, free schools and academy trusts who are able to set their own dates, adopt the Norfolk Model, we advise you to check with your child's school before making holiday or other commitments.

September 2025						
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December 2025						
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January 2026						
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March 2026						
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June 2026						
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July 2026						
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Key : White dates - schools open to pupils
 Yellow dates - pupil holiday
 Red dates - bank holiday

Five staff training days will be selected from yellow dates, we suggest 1st & 2nd September, 5th January, 13th April and 20th July. Some may choose to use twilight hours for staff training instead of some or all of these.



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November 2026						
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Five staff training days will be selected from yellow dates, we suggest 1 & 2 September, 23 October, 4 January and 12 April . Some may choose to use twilight hours for staff training instead of some or all of these.

