Newsletter

6th November 2026

Thank you to all the parents who contributed to the Ofsted questionnaire. It was overwhelmingly positive and we appreciate the lovely comments. Thank you

We will share the report when it has been sent back to us. Usually within 18 days.

The children have been brilliant this week. The inspectors commented on how well behaved and respectful they were.

The school Council had a lovely visit to Hickory's and came back with their bags of goodies. Again, their behaviour was exemplary.

Please note, all school communication messages are sent out via ARBOR please ensure that you have notifications turned on and regularly check for messages.

Mr Butler and Mr Perkes

Sign of the Week "Fireworks"





Menu

Monday 9th November

Oven Baked Sausage
Chicken Sausage (H)
Plant Based Meatball (V)
Gravy
Mashed Potatoes
Waffles

Tuesday 10th November

Mediterranean Chicken Wrap
Oven Baked Mac 'n' Cheese (V)
Potato Wedges
Chocolate Brownie

Wednesday 11th November

Roast Beef
Roast Chicken (H)
Quorn Sausage (V)
Stuffing & Gravy
Mashed & Roast Potatoes
Poppy Topped Cakes

Thursday 12th November

Chicken Nuggets (H option)
Wholemeal Cheese & Tomato Pizza (V)
Chips
Chocolate Brownies

Friday 13th November

Ocean Friendly Fish Selection
Crispy Quorn Dippers (V)
Diced Potatoes
Fruit Sorbet

All dinners must be booked through your Arbour App

Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to share some personal news with you. After much thought and consideration, I have decided that I will be retiring from my position as Headteacher of Ashwood Park Primary School at the end of December.

This has not been an easy decision. Ashwood Park has been a very special part of my life, and I feel enormously privileged to have had the opportunity to lead the school and work alongside such a wonderful community of children, families, staff and governors.

Over the years, I have been incredibly proud of all that we have achieved together. Most of all, I will remember the children – their enthusiasm, curiosity, humour and determination. They are at the heart of everything we do, and seeing them grow, learn and flourish has been one of the greatest rewards of being a headteacher.

I would also like to thank you, our parents and carers, for the support, encouragement and trust you have shown me during my time at Ashwood Park. A successful school depends upon a strong partnership between home and school, and I have always valued that partnership enormously.

Although I am looking forward to having more time for friends, travel and some of the things I enjoy outside of school, I know that leaving Ashwood Park will be a very emotional moment for me. I will leave with many happy memories and a huge sense of pride in the school and its community.

I remain fully committed to the school for the remainder of the autumn term and will continue to work closely with the staff, governors and children to ensure a smooth transition. The Governing Body will share further information with you about the arrangements for appointing my successor in due course.

There will, of course, be an opportunity for us to mark my retirement together before I leave at the end of December. Until then, it will be very much business as usual, and I look forward to making the most of the weeks ahead with the children and the whole Ashwood Park community.

Thank you, once again, for everything you have done to make my time at Ashwood Park so rewarding. It has been a privilege to be your Headteacher.

With very best wishes,

Keith Butler

Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We are currently seeking a parent/carer to join the Governing Body of Ashwood Park Primary School as a **Parent Governor**.

Our Governors play an important role in supporting the leadership of the school and helping to shape its future. They provide challenge and support to the Headteacher and senior leaders, contribute to strategic decision-making, and help ensure that the school continues to provide the very best opportunities for all our pupils.

We are particularly keen to hear from parents and carers who:

- Have an interest in the education and wellbeing of children.
- Are willing to contribute their time and ideas to support the school.
- Can work positively and constructively with other governors and school leaders.
- Are prepared to ask questions, offer challenge and contribute to discussions.
- Are committed to the values and ethos of Ashwood Park Primary School.

No previous experience of being a Parent Governor is necessary. Training and support are available to help you understand the role and responsibilities of a Parent Governor.

Being a Parent Governor is a rewarding opportunity to make a real contribution to the life and future of our school and to represent the views and interests of our parent community.

If you would like to find out more about the role or are interested in standing for election, please contact the School Office. Further information about the election process and nomination arrangements will also be provided.

We would be delighted to hear from any parent or carer who would like to get involved and help us continue to make Ashwood Park Primary School the best it can be for our children.

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PTA News

The Monster Mash Discos raised **£754.64!!** Thank you for supporting this event.

Congratulations to Ace and Esmai, the lucky winners of the Halloween Raffles. You helped raise **£168.31!!** Thank you for supporting this event.

Guess the Number of Pumpkin Seeds Competition – There were **986** seeds in the jar. Congratulations to Sophia who made the closest guess with 983!

Key Stage One

This week in key Stage one we have been reading our new book Lost and Found by Oliver Jeffers. It is the story of a boy who finds a lost penguin and returns him to his home. The children have done some retelling of the story and some great posters about the penguin. We have also been adding three one-digit numbers and using a range of methods to add and subtract. Next week we will be continuing our new History topic all about how we are making History. We have been looking at photographs of ourselves at different points in our own lives and putting them on a time line.

RBDC

This week the children in the RBDC have had a lovely time looking around the new base. They are very happy to have so much space and lovely new things to go inside. We all look forward to making the space our own.

Early Years

What a wonderful first week back we've had! The children have been fantastic and really shone for our special visitors – we are so proud of them! A big thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Thank you also to everyone who has provided PE kits for our Reception children. We are looking forward to starting PE next week, and our planned PE day will be Monday each week. To help the children develop their independence and make getting changed a little easier, it would be really helpful if Reception children could come to school in clothes that are easy to manage on Mondays. Polo shirts with fewer buttons and shoes with Velcro fastenings are ideal! We are always encouraging the children to do as much as they can for themselves, so please practice dressing independently at home.

We look forward to seeing you at Parents' Evening next week and sharing how wonderfully the children are getting on.

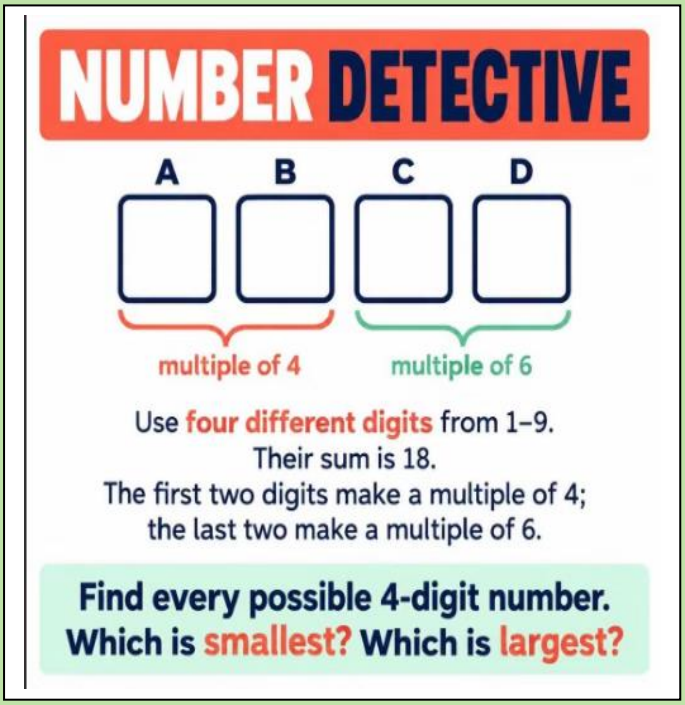
Have a lovely weekend!

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Key Stage Two

It has been lovely to welcome all our KS2 children back after the half-term break! Year 5 and 6 have been particularly excited to enjoy their newly completed area following the building work, and they absolutely love having their new space to explore and enjoy. In Years 3 and 4, the children have begun an exciting new art unit, exploring structure, shape and three-dimensional forms. Meanwhile, Years 5 and 6 have completed their engineering unit by painting and decorating their trains, producing some truly remarkable creations! A huge thank you to all the families who took part in our half-term homework projects. Our school is looking absolutely beautiful, filled with wonderful volcanoes and solar systems. We have loved seeing the children's creativity and the effort that has gone into their projects!



1st	Emily W
2nd	Louella
3rd	Jude

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Praise Assembly

Children who gained badges and certificates last week deserve our special congratulations:

RBM Hedgehogs – Noah-James

RR Foxes – Reuben

1/2B Squirrels – Mason

1/2JB Moles – Harry

2W Badgers – Luca

3/4D Chestnut – Bobbie

3/4H Elder – Amelia

3/4R Oak – Eden

5D Beech – Jacob

5/6BB Rowan – Lillianna

5/6E Holly – Marnie

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Diary Dates 2026

Tuesday 10th November

Parents Evening

Wednesday 11th Nov

Parents Evening

Thursday 3rd December

PTA Christmas Film Night

Wednesday 9th Dec

Carol Concert at Holy Trinity Church

Friday 18th December

Break up for Christmas

Meet Matt from Reflexions at Parents' Evening

Matt Jones from Reflexions will be available for a drop-in session for parents during Parents' Evening on Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th November.

Reflexions provides support for children and young people's mental health and emotional wellbeing, helping them manage challenges such as anxiety, low mood and worries that may affect everyday life. The service works with children, families and schools to help children develop strategies to support their wellbeing.

You are welcome to drop by for an informal chat at the Reflexions stand in the KS2 Hall to learn more about the service and the support available or to book an appointment with him.

If you would like to book an appointment, please contact the school office once you have arranged your appointment/s with class teacher/s

We look forward to seeing you there!

Diary Dates 2027

Monday 4th January

INSET Day—Closed to Children

Tuesday 5th January

Children Return to School

Friday 12th February

Break up for Half Term

Monday 22nd February

Children Return to School

Thursday 25th March

Break up for Easter Holidays

Monday 12th April

Children Return to School

Thursday 6th May

Local Elections—Closed to Children

Friday 7th May

INSET Day—Closed to Children

Monday 10th May

SATS Week

Friday 28th May

Break up for Half Term

Monday 7th June

Children Return to School

Wednesday 21st July

Last Day of Term

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Dinner Dates

The following staff will be in the lunch hall:

Mr Dimmock—Monday

Miss Benson—Friday

It would be wonderful to see as many children as possible joining the teachers in enjoying a school dinner. We hope this helps make lunchtime a highlight of the day!

Uniform

Please remember that the school tie is part of our uniform, even with a polo shirt.

Smoking and Vaping

The smoking of cigarettes and the use of vapes is not permitted anywhere on the School site.

Dogs

Dogs are not allowed on the School site.

Nut Allergy

We have several children in School with a severe nut allergy, please do not send any food that contains nuts into School.

Breakfast and After School Club (OSCA)

Please note that breakfast food is served before **8.15 am**. If you are new to OSCA or haven't been for quite some time please pop to the School Office to complete the essential paperwork.

Fruit

Please could all soft round fruit (eg grapes, strawberries, cherry tomatoes) be cut into quarters before sending into School, to avoid being a choking risk.

Emails

Please note, class email addresses will be removed after October half term. Class Dojo, the School Info email address and Arbor will be used for all communication instead.

Privacy Notice

Please take a moment to read our **Privacy Notice**.

Facebook

Do remember to take a look at the School's **Facebook** page.

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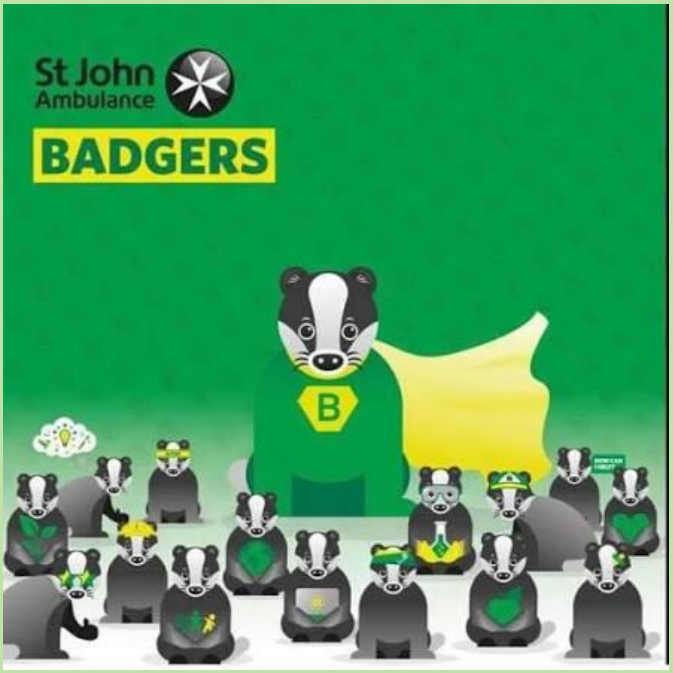
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St John Ambulance Badgers – Local Spaces Available

Would your child like to learn first aid, make new friends and have fun?

St John Ambulance Badgers is open to children aged **5–10 years**, and we currently have spaces available within our local groups.

Badgers take part in a range of fun and educational activities, including learning basic first aid and important life skills, while working towards badges and awards.

If you would like to find out more or are interested in your child joining, please check our website here and sign up to join your local group.

https://www.sja.org.uk/get-involved/young-people/badgers/

Thank you for helping us share this opportunity with families in the local community.

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Starting primary school in September 2027

Why not apply for a place online?

If your child was born between 1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023 they will be due to start primary school in September 2027.

You **MUST** complete an application form either online at **www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions** or by completing an application form from your home local authority by **15 JANUARY 2027**. You can include five school preferences on the application; there is nothing to gain by only putting one preference.

Applications will be available from **1 October 2026.**

Benefits of applying online

- E-mail decision received by 2pm on day of offer
- It's quick and easy to use
- You can apply 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- There's no risk that your application will be lost in the post
- You will get email confirmation that your application has been received
- It's safe and secure

The online system will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from 1 October 2026 until the closing date for applications on **15 January 2027**.

Please note: Even if your child already attends a school nursery or has an older sibling at school, do not assume that your child will automatically gain a place at that school. This is a common misconception and often the biggest cause of disappointment for parents who believe otherwise.

For further information please contact Dudley School Admissions Service on **0300 555 2345**.

Dudley
Metropolitan Borough Council

one click . . . makes it quick
www.dudley.gov.uk/admissions

