



# Ashby Hastings Primary School

Headteacher – Mrs Rachel Mckeown

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*“Inspiring minds to foster confidence”*

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## Newsletter

### Spring Term 1 2025 / 2026

Dear Parents,

What a busy few weeks we have had this half term in school! School continues to buzz with curiosity and learning.

Our recent class assemblies were wonderful, and our children made us proud with their confidence and enjoyment. A big thank you to all parents and grandparents who came to watch. We hope you enjoyed them as much as we did.

This week we marked Safer Internet Day across school. KS1 (Class 1 and 2) and KS2 (Class 3 and 4) participated in live lessons and assemblies that focused on the topic of Online Safety. These sessions help our children to understand how to stay safe and responsible when using technology. For information to help keep your child safe online, please click on this link: [Keep Children Safe Online: Information, advice, support - Internet Matters](#)

We are very excited as we continue our OPAL journey. Lunchtimes have been transformed, giving children more opportunities for creative, active and enjoyable play. **Keep a look out for a Weduc message next term with a date to come into school and have an OPAL Play Session with your child.** We can't wait to share this with you.

Looking ahead, we have our upcoming Parents' Evenings on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> March. These appointments are a great opportunity for you to meet with your child's class teacher and discuss your child's progress, both academically and socially. Information about how to book has been sent out by Weduc already, and the online booking system will open on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in your child's school journey. I would like to wish you a lovely half term break and we look forward to welcoming children back to school on **Monday 23rd February.**

Best wishes,

Rachel Mckeown  
Headteacher

## EYFS

In Foundation Stage, we have been exploring the environment around us and how it is changing as the seasons change. We have investigated how ice is made and have enjoyed playing in frosty and snowy weather! The children loved finding out about animals that hibernate during the winter, and used their amazing imaginations when building hibernation nests.

We have read stories to help transport us to the polar regions this term. We have been learning about animals that live in the North and South Poles. The children even made a picnic and went on our own Arctic adventure! The children practised their spreading and cutting skills whilst making their sandwiches.

The children have been learning how to look after our environment by talking about recycling and not dropping litter.

Well done Foundation Stage for a great start to 2026!



## Class 1

Class 1 have had yet another busy half term. They continue to develop their independence when working across all subjects and it has been great to see them making some incredible progress! In Science, we have been looking at the properties of different materials. We have been exploring which materials have been used to create a range of objects and why this is. To show the different materials and the properties they have, we made our very own material feely board. We have been exploring the lives of three significant nurses from the past in our history lessons. Florence Nightingale, Mary Seacole and Edith Cavell were fantastically great women who made some significant changes to how hospitals should be and how patients were cared for.

In Maths, the children have been exploring numbers up to 50. We have been looking at finding one more and one less, comparing numbers as well as ordering numbers from smallest to greatest. In English, we have been writing a non-chronological report about Emperor Penguins. The children thoroughly enjoyed researching and learning facts about these interesting animals. We have recently been designing our own Bog Babys and have created a report on these creatures. We have also used AI to bring our designs to life.

We have also been exploring primary colours in Art. We have been mixing these colours to create secondary colours as well as looking at finding the right shade for the

purpose of our art. We have then used this knowledge create a piece of art inspired by Clarice Cliff. Some fantastic pieces of art have been created and the class have really enjoyed mixing colours!

Well done Class 1 for another super half term!



## Gym Team Success!

After being inspired by our special visit from Courtney Tulloch, our gym team proudly represented the school at the North West Leicestershire Level 1 Gymnastics Competition.

The children demonstrated fantastic commitment, practising their routines both at home and in school. They truly impressed the judges with their beautiful ribbon and floor performances, as well as their confident vault.

All their hard work paid off as they secured an incredible second place!

Congratulations to the whole team — we are so proud of you!



## Cross Country 2025/2026

Our fourth year of taking part in the North West Leicestershire Cross Country season has come to a close, and we wanted to say a big thank you to all of our fantastic runners who took part, and to their families for helping them to get involved. We had 20 children from across the school take part in the races, and they all did brilliantly, demonstrating our school core values of confidence and teamwork in abundance. We are very proud of you all!



## Class 2

It has been a fun half-term in Class 2! We have loved learning to multiply and divide in Maths. We had a brilliant time being rockstars on TTRS day making instruments and battling the other classes in tournaments.

In English, the children have worked really hard on improving their writing. We have focused on writing a non-chronological report based on the text 'Molly McDrew An Adventure Around the World' and a character description based on the text 'Lila and the Secret of Rain'. We have enjoyed learning new English skills this half-term such as apostrophes and conjunctions.

In Geography, we have enjoyed learning about each continent in detail. In groups, we used the iPads to research facts and create a fact file. In Science, we have been learning about how animals, including humans, develop and change. We have explored the life cycles of different animals, found out the diets of animals and what they need to survive. In computing, we have been looking at different artists and recreating their art on laptops. We have learnt about art movements such as Pop Art, Cubism and Pointillism. In Art, we have explored mixing colours and building textures into our artwork.

The children have worked very hard over the past half-term, well done Class 2!



## Class 3

Class 3 have squeezed a lot of learning into a short half term! In English, the children have been learning about the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79AD and they have written their own newspaper reports explaining the effects on Pompeii and Herculaneum. This links to their History topic about the Romans, where we have explored what legacy the Roman's left behind in Great Britain and how their culture still influences our lives today.

In Maths, Class 3 celebrated TTRS day and battled it out with Class 2 and Class 4 to try and be the ultimate champions... They may not have won the challenge but they certainly had the best costumes!

In French, they have been applying the vocabulary for colours, body parts and classroom instructions - their rendition of 'Tete, Epaules, Genoux, Pieds' was fantastic! They also received some exciting correspondence from their pen pals in Pithiviers in response to the Christmas cards that they sent in December.

Not only that, but they set a fantastic example to the rest of the school in their performance of their class assembly 'Incredible You', all about what makes each of us unique, special and valued. To finish a busy few weeks, they have visited the ThinkTank Museum in Birmingham to begin their new 'Forces and Magnets' workshop.



## Class 4

Class Four have had a fantastic and very busy time in school!

In Maths, we have had great fun developing our times tables skills and thoroughly enjoyed taking part in our TT Rockstars Day. We have also been learning how to add and subtract fractions, showing excellent focus and determination.

In English, we have really enjoyed exploring biographies, particularly learning about inspiring activists from the Civil Rights Movement. The children have shown great interest and thoughtfulness when discussing the lives and achievements of these important individuals.

In PE, we have had lots of fun performing dances and developing our ball skills through hockey, working hard on coordination, teamwork, and confidence.

We have also had great fun composing our class assembly all about the Egyptians! The children have loved learning about this fascinating civilisation and are very excited to share their work.

Well done, Class Four, for another brilliant half term of learning!



# British Science Week 2026

We are proud to be supporting British Science Week again this year. We would love for all of our children to design a science poster that fits this year's theme of "Curiosity: What's Your Question?" Please see the Weduc message for more information, and remember the deadline for entries is Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March.



**Competition:**  
Create a British  
Science Week poster

## Dates for your Diary

**5<sup>th</sup> March** – World Book Day

**6<sup>th</sup> March** – **Class 1** Assembly – **9.10am start**

**13<sup>th</sup> March** - 'Mums' to School – (**Whole School**) - **9am – 10.15am**

**16<sup>th</sup> March** – Parents' Evening – appointments between 3.30pm and 7.30pm

**17<sup>th</sup> March** – Parents' Evening – appointments between 3.30pm and 6.00pm

**26<sup>th</sup> March** – **Class 2** Assembly – **9.10am start**

**6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> May** – **Class 4** Residential

**15<sup>th</sup> May** – **EYFS** Class Assembly – **9.10am start**

**22<sup>nd</sup> May** – Red Nose Day (Wear red/non-uniform day) (**Whole School**)

**June** – **EYFS** School Trip (**Date TBC**)

**June** – **Class 1 and Class 2** School Trip (**Date TBC**)

**19<sup>th</sup> June** – 'Dads' to school – (**Whole School**) - **9am – 10.15am**

**25<sup>th</sup> June** – Sports Day – **EYFS, Class 1 and Class 2** – **10.30am start**

**25<sup>th</sup> June** – Sports Day – **Class 3 and Class 4** – **1.45pm start**

*Please note that all dates may be subject to change. More information regarding each event will be sent to you closer to the date.*

