



Next Two Weeks

10 th February	It's Not Ok Online Safety Launches
12 th February	School Early Finish 2pm
9 th - 15 th February	Children's Mental Health Week 
13 th February	Wear Yellow for Children's Mental Health Week
16 th - 20 th February	February Half Term
26 th February	Year 12 Parents' Evening (Online) – Read letter here.

Pastoral & Safeguarding Updates

Medical Appointment Proof – Please send proof of medical appointments to Year Team Absence or Sixth Form so they can be authorised. If you are attending a 'Sit and wait' or 'drop-in' service, you can request a slip from the GP reception following your appointment to prove your attendance.

Parent Governor Nomination

We have a vacancy for the role of parent governor on our local governing board. More information can be found in the [letter here](#).

Careers

Careers Bulletin – Please find our latest careers bulletin [here](#).

In our classrooms

Student Planners – replacement planners are on order and will be back in stock soon!

Empowered to Succeed Revision Newsletter – latest newsletter can be [read here](#).

Other Key Dates & Events

5 th March	World Book Day
8 th March	International Women's Day
6 – 15 th March	British Science Week
9 th March	D&T Rotation – information on Arbor
10 th March	School Early Finish 2pm
19 th March	Year 10 Parents' Evening (Online)
19 th March	Mercian Band – Music & Misogyny Talk
20 th March	Non-Uniform for Comic Relief
27 th March	End of Term – Normal Finish Time (Easter Holiday)
13 th April	School Opens for Summer Term
27 th April	Student 3-in-1 booster + meningitis ACWY vaccinations
22 nd May	Year 11 Prom – Please read letter here

Trips

Year 12 UCAS Trip – Launch Letter [here](#).

Operations Updates

Parking & Reversing Cars – Please can we remind parents and students not to use local resident's driveways to turn around. A Leicester Road resident has had cars reversing onto her driveway, this is not acceptable and is dangerous. Please also avoid blocking residents' driveways when parking.

Recent Arson Incidents in Ashby – We would like to inform parents that we also work closely with the local PCSO team around any anti-social behaviour in the community, reinforcing positive messages in assemblies and through our pastoral and CREW activities.

Wellbeing Updates

Place2Be's
CHILDREN'S
MENTAL HEALTH
WEEK

9-15
FEB
2026

Children's Mental Health Week - 9th – 15th

February. – This year's theme, chosen by the national charity Place2Be, is "this is my place." The theme encourages children to think about the places where they feel they belong.

A sense of belonging is essential for children's wellbeing. When children feel accepted at home, in school, and in their communities, it helps them to:

- build confidence and self-esteem
- regulate their emotions
- feel safer and more connected
- develop resilience
- stay engaged in learning and relationships

Throughout the week, our school will be exploring the theme of belonging, using resources designed to help young people reflect on the places and people that make them feel safe, valued and understood.

If you want to take part at home you can:

Download the Place2Be family pack · Encourage your child to visit the Health for Teens mental health collection, where they can find a range of articles containing support, advice and signposting.

- Check out the advice on how to talk to your child about mental health on the [Young Minds website](#) or try one of the free online courses for parents and carers available from [Togetherness](#) (formerly known as the Solihull Approach). Use the access code: CURVE to log in.

Support for parents and carers - As well as highlighting support for children during the week, the local NHS has also created a new web page to round up all the local support and some national websites available to help you in your role as a parent. Visit [here](#) to find out more.

If you are worried about your child's mental health or wellbeing, please reach out. Whether through school or other local services, support is available.

Thank you for helping us to make Children's Mental Health Week a meaningful and supportive experience for all our pupils.

For a larger view, please click on the images and scroll through the PDF.

'This is my place'

We know that our sense of belonging as individuals, in our friendships, in school and in communities plays a vital role in our mental health and wellbeing.

To know our place and really feel part of our environment is a basic human need. It can have powerful and long-lasting impacts in lots of areas of our lives, including our physical and mental health, education, employment and relationships. When we feel that we belong, it empowers us to contribute to the world and make a real difference.

This year, Place2Be's Children's Mental Health Week will aim to support the groups and systems surrounding our children. We'll encourage peers, families, schools and community groups to create inclusive and nurturing environments, where children and young people feel they belong and can say "This is my place".

WHAT BELONGING MEANS TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

We spoke with primary and secondary aged children to ask what they wanted from the week, to help shape the activities we create for them, the tips we give to other children, and the advice we give to parents, carers and families and groups.

What is Belonging?

- Feeling that you have a place where you are always welcome and valued as either place or set of people.
- A place you belong with your family and friends.
- Feeling included, not left out.
- Belonging means feeling a connection with something.
- Feeling that you want to be there with no stresses or worries, it's all about feeling safe.
- Feeling a part of something e.g. a group or society.
- People accepting you as you are.

TOP TIPS FROM OUR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ON HOW TO HELP THEM FEEL A SENSE OF BELONGING

- Parents, Carers or Community Groups can help by asking questions about things they are or becoming passionate about.
- By checking in with you, providing support and making you feel safe and important.
- By being there and being happy.
- By doing things that make you feel happy and safe.
- Letting us choose our likes and interests and letting us explore new things.
- Parents taking time to listen and speak to us, reassure us.
- Making a comfortable, welcoming place for us.

A FEW MORE FROM US:

Parents and carers can foster belonging by providing a loving and consistent family environment, encouraging strong connections with peers and other trusted adults, and collaborating with school. A child's sense of belonging starts at home and expands to include the wider community.

Establish family rituals. Create a sense of security and connection through routines and traditions. These can be as simple as making a favourite meal, sharing stories in the evening, or having a special way of saying goodbye.

Encourage open communication. Create a safe space where our children and young people can share their thoughts and feelings without fear of judgment. Talk to them about what belonging means and encourage them to explore their feelings when they feel included or excluded, using curiosity and open questions.

Show them you know and value them. Notice your child's personality and unique talents, and cheer for their achievements, no matter how small. This boosts their confidence and sense of self-worth.

Embrace and celebrate heritage to keep our children connected to their roots. This is a powerful way to strengthen their sense of self and belonging.

Parent Support Forum

**Needing help,
Not sure what you should do with**

- filling in forms
- dealing with behaviour
- need help with benefits
- dealing with transition
- just need someone to talk to

COALVILLE C.A.N.

**Let's talk to
Coalville CAN**

Come to our Parent / Carer Support Forum

**Coalville CAN - Memorial Square,
Coalville**

Thursdays 12pm - 3 pm

**Chat with other parents or have a
confidential chat**

**We're here to
help you when
you need it most**

CONTACT US

01530 659789

www.coalvillecan.coop



What's been happening...

Year 9 Netball Finals- Loughborough University

We headed to Loughborough for the finals of the Leicestershire and Rutland school sports netball competition. Having got to the finals last year but suffering a loss, the girls were determined to right the wrongs from the previous year. The girls were focused prior to the match, and this was evident during the game. They led from start to finish, working hard for each other and playing some of the most amazing netball we have ever seen! The netball was fast flowing, the shooting was incredible and the interceptions from the defence were game changing. The girls worked so hard to get to finals and their hard work paid off! We couldn't be prouder of everyone involved. Well done!!! Player of the match: Matilda Garey



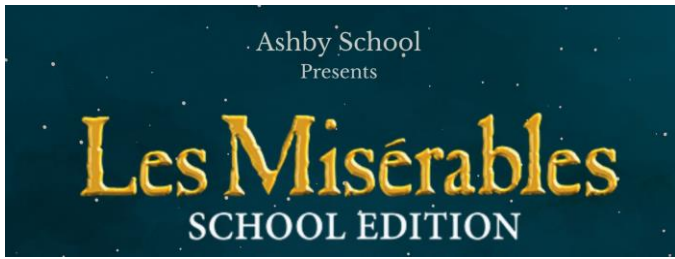
Sparx Maths - With the homework that was due in on 21st January, we hit a massive milestone of **1 million questions answered** this academic year. To celebrate, we did a surprise rewards raffle; **one winner in every class**. Students qualified if they had completed at least 90% of the homework due in. Here are some of our winners.



NWLSSP sportshall athletics, hosted at Ivanhoe

On Wednesday 21st January, our Year 8 all girls team took part in track and field events ; shot put, speed bounce, stand long jump, stand triple jump, vertical jump, 2 lap, 4 laps, 8 lap paarlauf, 4x1 hurdles relay and 4x2 laps relay. We won the girls competition and are through to County rounds (due to be hosted at Loughborough university) It was an absolutely fantastic display of athletic abilities to be 10pts clear of 2nd place and even coming 3rd in the mixed competition, despite no boys' team being entered. Ella who captained the event, led well and it was an excellent effort by all involved, but special mention to Esmee who entered the maximum of 5 events.





When we decided that this year the Ashby School Musical would be Les Misérables we had underestimated what a huge, well-loved show it is and how people have taken it to their hearts. However, we believed we could take on the artistic challenge and through passion and determination last week we were delighted to meet expectations.

Rehearsals started in September and cast, and crew worked tirelessly to implement the artistic vision. They have been prepared to learn and to have pride.



There are some big characters and songs in "Les Mis" and by early December we had secured the vocals to be able to deliver a concert style performance alongside our youth theatre who devised some original drama exploring the historical context of the play. This was incredibly well received, so the challenge for staff and students was to shape the whole performance through acting, design, and technical. We are proud that staging, lighting, and sound were all designed and operated by us.

Last week there were sellout performances and feedback in the school and local community has been overwhelming. Particular highlights were the performances from our main cast in lead roles who, supported by our incredible ensemble, sang and acted continually for over two hours. Liam Hogan as Valjean and Micheal Wheaton as Javert were outstanding, and Angie Morse as Eponie and Isabelle Coleman as Fantine moved audience members to tears through their poignant portrayals.

The ensemble multirole seamlessly and set changes were choreographed to add to the performance. Special mention must go to our live band, some of whom were ex Ashby Students, who gave their time for free.

At times we thought the challenge may be too much, but when the barricades swirled and confetti fell, we knew we had accomplished what we had set out to achieve. For us, the story is about individuals standing up for what is right and proving "Anything is Possible". It was a privilege to have directed such an exceptional group of "little people" who, through it, have become so big.

