



Headteacher’s Letter - The Easter break is here, and it has arrived at the end of a very busy term. We had a very successful Musical production of Les Misérables in January, a Ski Trip, F1 in schools’ competition, Year 13 Photography Exhibition, careers events, sporting events and more. Our Year 11 and Year 13 students are approaching exams and working incredibly hard. It is great to see so many extend this commitment into revision sessions. I hope everyone has a restful Easter break ready for a busy summer term, Dr Mellor

Next Two Weeks	
10 th April	Order deadline for Year 11 Leavers’ Hoodies
13 th April	School Opens for Summer Term
19 th April	Order deadline for Year 13 Leavers’ Hoodies and Yearbooks
21 st April	School Early Finish 2pm
23 rd April	Ashby School Spring Concert

Other Key Dates & Events	
27 th April	Student 3-in-1 booster + meningitis ACWY vaccinations
30 th April	Year 7 Parents’ Evening (Online)
1 st May	Colour Run
4 th May	Bank Holiday (school closed to students)
18 th May	D&T Rotation – information on Arbor
22 nd May	Year 11 Prom – read letter here
25 th – 29 th May	May Half Term

Pastoral & Safeguarding Updates

Morning Reception use – A reminder to students that unless it has been previously arranged, or you arrive after 8.40am, please use the gate entrance to the school and not the main reception.

Mobile Phone and Device Policy at Ashby School – please read our [letter here](#).

In our classrooms

What are we learning KS3 Summer Half Term 1 - Please find an overview of what students will be learning in their subjects during the first half of the Summer term to support them to become Empowered to Learn and know that Anything is Possible. Thank you for your continued support and involvement in your child's education. We look forward to a productive and enriching half term! Please click the relevant year to open the link.

[Year 7](#) [Year 8](#) [Year 9](#)

Wellbeing Updates

Exam Stress Support for Students and Parents – Exam season can be a challenging time for young people. Many feel stressed in the lead-up to their exams and worried in anticipation of their results. As young people, it can be a challenge to know how to manage your wellbeing during exams. As adults, it can be difficult to know what we can do to support children and young people during this time.

Place2Be have created some tip sheets full of practical advice to help young people, schools and families manage stress during exam season. Click the links below for helpful advice and information.

[Student guide to managing exam stress](#)
[Supporting your child to beat exam stress](#)



Careers

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

Year 7 Careers Event – Guess My Job – Tuesday 21st April. Please find a letter with information [here](#).

Year 11 Exam Preparation Information

To ensure our students are fully prepared for their GCSE examinations, with appropriate focus in lessons and wrap-around support, Year 11 students will remain in school up to and including **Thursday 4th June**. As GCSE exams will already be underway by this point, an adapted timetable will operate from the start of the exam period until this study leave date. This will ensure that all students receive targeted input from the relevant subject areas ahead of each examination.

Alongside the high-quality teaching and support already taking place in lessons in the lead-up to and throughout the exam period, this structure will provide the most effective learning environment for our students.

We appreciate that some students and parents may prefer independent study at home during this time; however, this will not be authorised. Students are expected to attend school throughout this period, including the mornings before and the afternoons after any examinations. **Please note that unauthorised absences may count against students being able to attend the Year 11 Prom.**

Revision

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

Year 11 Leavers' Hoodies & Yearbooks

Year 11 Leavers' Hoodies – Year 11 Leavers Hoodies can be purchased [here](#). **Deadline to order 10th April**. Please select collection at checkout. All orders must be **delivered to the school**.



Year 13 Leavers' Hoodies & Yearbooks

Year 13 Leavers' Hoodies &/or Yearbooks - To commemorate our Year 13 students' time with us at Ashby Sixth Form, students have the option to purchase a Leavers' Hoody and/or Yearbook. These items can be brought directly through the supplier's websites. Please see details in the [letter here](#) for how to order. **Order deadline 19th April**.



Staff Compliments

At Ashby School, we are proud of our dedicated staff and always welcome positive feedback from parents and carers. If you would like to share a compliment or pass on your thanks, please email compliments@ashbyschool.org.uk

What's been happening...

Year 7 Girls Football Semi-final – The girls played against Robert Smyth Academy. It was a long afternoon, leaving school at 12.30 and returning to school at 5pm due to minibus travel time. 12 players were taken and all the girls got pitch time. They adapted well to playing out of their normal position for the benefit of the team and game.

At half time, the score was still 0-0 and both teams were battling hard. 3 minutes into the second half Keira scored with her powerful left foot, shortly after, Robert S equalized and that's how the 50min game ended 1-1.

The game went straight into penalties, with whoever was on the pitch, eligible to take a penalty. Harriet did an awesome job in goal demonstrating true grit and resilience to face something she hasn't before, and all of the outfield players supported her well.

It was tense, but the girls crowded round each other, and 6 girls nominated themselves to take a penalty.



Unfortunately, Robert Smyth beat us on penalties to go through to the final. It was a devastating way to end an undefeated run, as the game was neck and neck and had to be decided in this tough manner, but the teams were very evenly matched in the game, and this was unfortunately the only option to find a winning team.

A massive shout out to all the girls who were dedicated and displayed teamwork throughout this season, we will be back next academic year and look forward to training with other year groups again.

Year 8 Girls Sports Hall Athletics – Our Year 8 Girls team came a fantastic 2nd place in the County for a second-year running.

The team had to compete in a number of track and field events including Standing long jump and relays. All the team showed fantastic resilience pushing themselves to a great 2nd place overall with St Martins Catholic Academy in Hinckley coming first. A special mention to Ella and Esmee who achieved a personal best in the standing triple jump. Well done girls!



What's been happening...

Year 11 Trial Exam Results Morning – we held a Trial Exam Results' morning for Year 11 students to collect their Trial Exam Results and to prepare them for what to expect on their results day in August.



Sparx Maths - The end of the spring term brings our next Sparx Maths raffle draw! There are 2 winners in every year group with an amazing 8535 raffle tickets issued between January 7th and March 25th. Each winner received an Easter Egg, some of whom are photographed below. The next raffle will be drawn in the final week of school in July.



Careers Event – Year 8 Speed Networking - On Wednesday 18th March we held our Speed Networking Careers event for Year 8. Students met with multiple employers, asking them questions and learning about their career and experience in the world of work.

This event gave students an insight into different sectors and potential careers, some outside of their normal circle of influence, increasing their confidence and communication skills'.



Swimming Success – Congratulations to Morgan Sawyer, who has been crowned the 12 Years Age Group County Champion at the recent Leicestershire ASA Swimming Championships. She won Gold in 50m, 100m, 200m and 400m freestyle, 100m Individual Medley, Silver in 800m freestyle and 100m backstroke, Bronze in 100m and 200m breaststroke, 50m butterfly and 50m backstroke. This led to the highest points score for Girls in the 12-year category and overall County Champion. Morgan swims for Coalville Swimming Club and has now qualified for a number of events at the forthcoming East Midlands Regional Swimming Championships.



Year 12 Playwright Workshop

As part of the Arts Faculty's commitment to fostering a deep appreciation of creative work, our Year 12 students spent the day developing their theatre-making skills with published playwright and Ashby School alumnus **Ben Weatherill**.

Ben left Ashby School after completing A Levels to pursue a career in writing for stage and screen. Since then, he has developed an impressive portfolio of work, including *Chicken Dust*, *Jellyfish*, *Frank and Percy*, and *Motorhome Marilyn*. His plays have been showcased at leading theatres across the country, such as Leicester's Curve and London's Royal Court.

Reflecting on the visit, trainee teacher **Izzy Hughes (ITT - Teach for LiFE)** said: "It is so inspiring to see a school working so hard to ensure students have experiences beyond the curriculum. Allowing them to be immersed in innovative approaches to learning is something I'll take forward into my own career."



The experience offered Ashby students an invaluable insight into genuine career pathways, giving them the opportunity to see how industry professionals approach the devising process.

Ali Jackson, Teacher of Theatre, commented: "Being able to show students that a career in theatre is possible is hugely important to us

- made even more meaningful by having a former student return as an authentic role model." Students engaged in a range of creative tasks designed to develop character, story, and plot. They worked with a variety of stimuli, from music and video to thematic statements, generating ideas for their upcoming performance at the **Coalville Theatre Festival** on **19 and 20 June**. Their piece will explore how teenagers are viewed, treated, and valued (or undervalued) in contemporary society.



Students reflected on the workshop:

"I really enjoyed it. It opened my eyes about devising and the different processes. It has inspired me to really think about character and the 'why'."

Nic Conn, Teacher of Theatre, added:

"It's an amazing opportunity for students to network and to see theatre as a realistic career option. It shows them how capable they are and gives them the chance to contribute to the development of theatre on a whole new level."

Year 13 Study Leave

Year 13s will finish on Friday 22nd May (full day with a normal finish time). The Year 13 Leavers' Assembly will be during lesson 3 that day..

At Ashby School, we believe that *anything* is possible—and that starts with investing in the people who inspire our students every day: our teachers.

As a proud training hub for the next generation of educators, we welcome trainee teachers into an environment that offers far more than a timetable and a classroom. We provide a vibrant, supportive, and ambitious community where future teachers are empowered to thrive, grow, and excel.

Our Commitment to Exceptional Training

Our approach to developing outstanding educators is built on four key pillars:

Expert Mentorship

Every trainee is paired with a skilled and experienced subject mentor who provides consistent, practical, and personalised guidance. From lesson planning and pedagogy to behaviour management and reflective practice, our trainees are supported every step of the way. No trainee at Ashby journeys alone.

Weekly Professional Development

In addition to rich classroom experience, trainees participate in weekly after-school CPD sessions, exploring essential areas such as SEND, pastoral care, curriculum design, and career development.



These sessions strengthen subject knowledge, enhance classroom practice, and build the confidence needed to succeed in the profession.

Strong Partnerships

We work closely with Teach for LiFE—our bespoke LiFE MAT training provider based on the Ashby School site. This partnership ensures our trainees benefit from a diverse, high-quality programme that reflects the latest educational thinking and best practice.



Trainees also engage in ongoing professional learning aligned with the LiFE MAT values of integrity, inspiration, and innovation. This was highlighted during our recent Professional Learning Day, where trainees collaborated with Year 7 students to develop oracy skills through structured presentations and enhanced questioning techniques. This authentic partnership enriches the learning experience for both trainees and students, strengthening relationships and deepening understanding.

At Ashby School, we are dedicated to nurturing educators who will become confident practitioners, inspiring role models, and advocates for positive change in the future of education.

Events & Community Information...

Ashby School

SPRING Concert

April
Thursday 23 2026
7pm

Ashby School Theatre

Tickets are available from
www.seaty.co.uk/ashbyschoolconcert

healthcare opinions



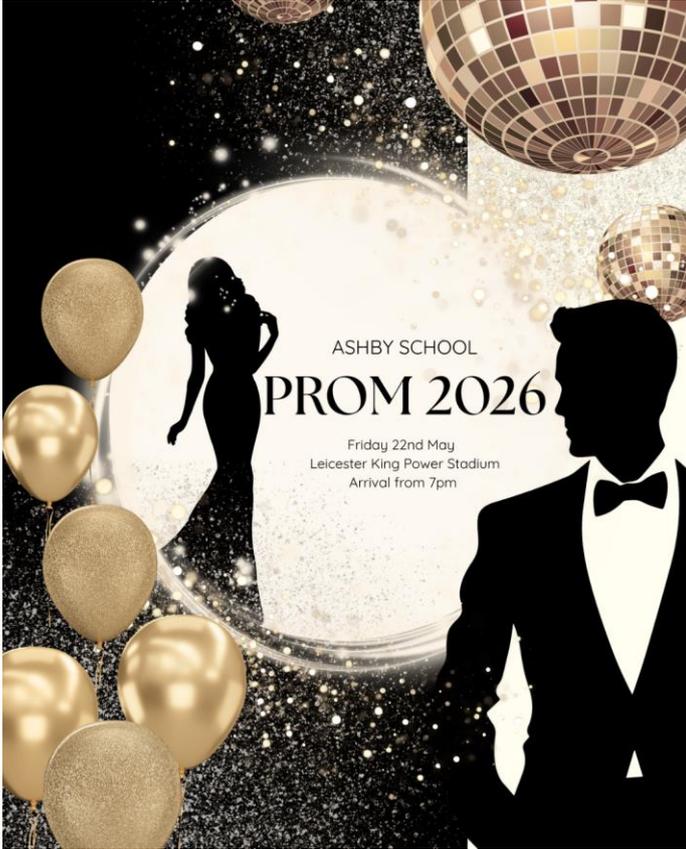
Healthcare Research for 0-18-year-olds

90-Minute online interviews discussing hospital visits (this includes emergency & non-emergency visits)
0-7-year-olds will not be asked to participate - only parents/guardians

Running throughout March and April - daytime and after school availability

Receive £65-£100 via bank transfer or voucher

Apply with the QR code and a member of our team will be in touch

ASHBY SCHOOL

PROM 2026

Friday 22nd May
Leicester King Power Stadium
Arrival from 7pm



HOLIDAYS TOGETHER

FREE* HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES & FOOD IN NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE

➔ SIGN UP TO YOUR LOCAL SESSION

*Free with a HAF Code




North West Leicestershire District Council
#LetsGetMoving

LET'S GET MOVING



Let's talk about our kids and their tech

A FREE COMMUNITY TALK FOR PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS & CARERS (16+ ONLY)

Hosted by
Dr Laura Spells

Dr Laura Spells works as a Specialty Doctor in CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health).

Laura has seen first hand, as a parent and through her job - the complex issues surrounding smartphone usage in children. Laura is a passionate leader in the Smartphone Free Childhood Campaign and is eager to help families navigate this complex world.

Tuesday 19th May at 19:30
Ashby School (theatre) LE65 1DT
[Click here to book your ticket](#)

Topics covered

- The link between mental health & wellbeing and spending too much time online
- Strategies for delaying the smartphone (incl. alternative options)
- Strategies for families to achieve a healthy balance with technology