

Address: Bartlow Road; Ashdon; Essex; CB10 2HB Tel: 01799584219 Email: admin@ashdon.essex.sch.uk

World Book Day 2026!

A huge thank you must go to every single member of staff who has thrown themselves into World Book Day with such enthusiasm and heart. From carefully choosing the perfect book to read aloud, to supervising buddy reading sessions, to helping children prepare their assembly recommendations – your passion for reading is truly infectious, and it makes such a difference to the children in our care. It is one thing to teach children how to read, but it is quite another to inspire them to love reading – and that is exactly what each and every one of you does every single day.

World Book Day is so much more than a dress-up day. It is a celebration of stories, of imagination, and of the incredible power that books have to transport us to other worlds, help us understand one another, and spark a lifelong love of learning. The fact that our staff embrace it with such warmth and creativity says everything about the culture of this school, and we couldn't be prouder. Whether you're reading Roald Dahl to a giggling group of seven-year-olds or sharing the magic of David Almond with our older pupils, you are making memories that children will carry with them long after they leave our school.

And a very special thank you must go to Mrs Johnson, our English Lead, for organising what promises to be an absolutely brilliant day. The sheer amount of thought, creativity and meticulous planning that has gone into every detail – from coordinating the National Literacy Trust quiz, to setting up the whole-school buddy reading session, to dreaming up the beautiful Ashdon Storybook Tree display – is a true testament to her unwavering commitment to bringing reading alive for every child in our school. Organising a day like this is no small feat, and Mrs Johnson has done it with characteristic dedication, warmth and flair. We are enormously grateful. Thank you, Mrs Johnson!



Bookmark Winners!

Mr Wormy from Wormingtonville!

Stars of the Week!

Costume Winners!

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Ashdon 3km, 10km and Fun Run 2026



**CLICK THE
LINK BELOW**



[Ashdon 10k, 3k & Fun Run 2026](#)

Ashdon Primary School PTA – 29th Annual 10km, 3km & Fun Run
Join us on **Monday 4th May (May Bank Holiday)** for our 29th annual run! Whether you're a serious runner, a jogger, or a walker, there's something for everyone as we celebrate the beautiful countryside of Ashdon.

Race details: Registration opens at 09:00 and closes at 09:45, with races starting at 10:30am. The 10km cross-country route offers a challenging mix of terrains, predominantly off-road across the rolling countryside, with road closures in place for any on-road sections. The course is well marshalled with kilometre markers and a halfway water station.

Categories:

- 10km adult run (chip timed)
- 3km under-16s run (chip timed)
- 3km fun run

Please note that children under 11 must be accompanied by a responsible adult over 18.

Awards: Medals for all finishers, with trophies awarded to winners across all sections.

On the day: Free car parking, water, first aid, refreshments, food vendors, an ice cream van, and face painting will all be available.

All races start and finish at Ashdon Primary School.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch!

A Huge Thank You to Our Wonderful Sponsors!

Our event simply wouldn't be possible without the incredible generosity of our sponsors. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Ashdon Children's Nursery, Ashdon Parish Council, Cheffins, Saffron Security, The Foot Health Clinic, The Plough Bar & Grill, The Rose & Crown and Ford Homes. Their continued support means that we can keep this much-loved community event enjoyable for everyone — from our youngest fun runners to our most seasoned athletes. We are truly grateful for their kindness and commitment to our school and the wider Ashdon community. If you get the chance, please do support these fantastic local businesses



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Bring our Ashdon school Values to LIFE!

Competition Time!

We are launching an exciting whole-school design competition and we need YOUR creativity!

Our school motto is Challenge, Care and Celebrate - and we want YOU to design a piece of artwork that represents what these words mean to you.

Here's what to do:

You will be given a special template that already includes our school tree logo and one of the three words - Challenge, Care, or Celebrate. Your job is to fill it with the most colourful, creative, eye-catching artwork you can imagine! Think patterns, illustrations, scenes - anything that shows what that word means to you.

The rules are simple:

- Use as much colour as possible - the brighter the better!
- Keep the school logo and the word (Challenge, Care, Celebrate) visible in your design
- Be as creative as you like!
- One per child!
- Deadline—13th April

The best designs will be professionally printed and displayed around school for everyone to enjoy. So get those pencils, felt tips and imaginations ready!

Good luck to everyone - we cannot wait to see what you create!



Challenge

Example Template

Children will be given templates by their class teacher

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Tiny Schools' KS2 Winter Competition

On Monday, a group of our brilliant children headed to Lord Butler to take part in the Tiny Schools' Winter Competition (KS2) – and what a day it turned out to be!

We are absolutely delighted to share that our children came home with bronze medals, finishing 3rd in the competition!

But it was what happened along the way that made it truly special.

Mr O'Sullivan said it perfectly:

"The children were fantastic today and finished 3rd in the Tiny Schools event. What made me even prouder than the result was their honesty, effort and sportsmanship. Even when there was a mix-up that didn't go our way with some of the scoring, they stayed fair, respectful and carried on competing in the right spirit. They showed real character and represented the school brilliantly. They should all be very proud of themselves."

And Mrs Johnson added:

"The morning was really good, the children were fabulous and we all got bronze medals!"

Medals are wonderful, but the integrity, effort, and spirit our children showed on the day is what makes us truly proud to call them Ashdon Primary School pupils.

Well done to every single one of you – you were absolutely brilliant!



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Jupiter at Careers Fair @ Cambridge

Jupiter class had an amazing opportunity to take part in a Primary Careers Fair at Cambridge Regional College on Tuesday. Each child was given a careers booklet to complete as we went to different stalls, which were each run by a different employer who explained to the children all about their job and provided some interactive activities for the children to do that were linked to that career path. Some highlights included: bouldering across a rock-climbing wall, seeing real animal skulls with archaeologists, building bridges and having a plaiting competition at the hairdressing stall. The children had a fantastic time and it enlightened them to lots of different career paths that they could consider for the future.



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Celebrating Chinese New Year Meal

As the vibrant festivities of Chinese New Year draw to a close, we are delighted to share that we have been marking this wonderful cultural celebration together as a community. Chinese New Year - also known as the Lunar New Year - is one of the most important and joyful festivals in the world, bringing with it traditions of togetherness, good fortune, and delicious food.

To mark the end of the celebrations in style, Mrs Henry put her culinary skills to wonderful use and treated us to a very special Chinese New Year lunch. We very much enjoyed this meal!

On the Menu

Main Course

Meat Option

Sweet & sour battered chicken, served with sticky white rice, peas, and prawn crackers on the side.

Vegetarian Option

Sweet & sour Quorn, served with sticky white rice, peas, and prawn crackers on the side.

Please note: the sweet & sour sauce was optional for both main course options.

Dessert

Cinnamon & Mandarin Cake

A perfect sweet finish to round off our celebrations - the mandarin is a traditional symbol of good luck and prosperity in Chinese culture, making this a truly fitting end to the meal!

We hope everyone enjoyed this special lunch and the chance to come together to celebrate. A huge thank you to Mrs Henry for making this such a memorable occasion!



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Outdoor Learning Time For Mars!

What a wonderful time our children have been having outside! From water play and exploration in our outdoor classroom area to getting stuck in at the mud kitchen, our pupils have been throwing themselves wholeheartedly into hands-on learning this week.

The mud kitchen has been a hive of activity, with children mixing, measuring, and creating their own imaginative concoctions – all while developing key skills in problem-solving, collaboration, and communication. Dressed in their waterproofs and wellies, there was no stopping them!

Meanwhile, our outdoor learning space has been buzzing with curiosity, as children explored ramps, water channels, and buckets to investigate how things move and flow. There were clipboards at the ready too, with some budding scientists carefully recording their observations!

At this school, we firmly believe that learning doesn't stop at the classroom door. Outdoor play is a vital part of our children's development – building resilience, creativity, and a love of the natural world. Rain or shine, we'll keep getting outside!



Muga-licious Makeover!

Thank You PTA!!

Cast your minds back to our Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) – full of sinking patches and well past its best, it was no longer safe or fit for purpose for our children to enjoy. Something had to be done!

Step forward, our absolutely incredible PTA! Not only did they successfully apply for a grant of £4,500, but they also rolled up their sleeves and raised additional funds through a host of other projects to make sure the work could be fully funded.

The result? Just take a look at those before, during, and after photos – what a transformation!

Our children now have a fantastic, safe space to run, play, and make memories – and that is entirely down to the hard work, determination, and generosity of our wonderful PTA.

From every single child here at Ashdon Primary School – thank you. Thank you for seeing what our school needed and making it happen. You are extraordinary, and we could not be prouder to have you in our corner.



Attendance Winners of the Week!



Regular school attendance is vital for your child's academic success and personal development. Each day offers unique learning opportunities and social interactions that cannot be replicated at home. Consistent attendance helps children build relationships, develop essential skills and maintain learning momentum.

We understand children become genuinely unwell and will of course report such absences fairly. However, minor ailments like sniffles are not always a reason to miss school, and we encourage attendance wherever possible.

Missing school creates learning gaps that compound over time. Children who attend regularly achieve better grades, develop confidence and stay engaged with their education.

**Congratulations to Mercury and Mars Classes for having the highest attendance the week before half term!
They will enjoy an extra 10 minutes of playtime as a reward.**

Jupiter Class: 91%

Saturn Class: 94%

Mercury Class: 97%

Mars Class: 97%

Important Dates, Events and REMINDERS:

- **Monday 9th March - Friday 13th March - Assessment Week (Make sure that you all go to bed early and have breakfast before you come to school, ready to do your assessments).**
- **Monday 9th March - Jupiter Class CPR training session**
- **Thursday 12th March - Toddler and Parent Play Group @ 09:00-10:00**
- **Friday 13th March - Celebration Assembly @09:15**
- **Wednesday 18th March - KS2 Gym and Dance Competition @ Saffron Walden County High (Saffron Hall) 16:15-18:00**
- **Thursday 19th March @ 09:00-10:00 - Parent and Toddler Playgroup**
- **Thursday 19th March - Mars Class Safari**
- **Friday 20th March @ 09:00-10:30 - Mars Dance Competition at Radwinter (no Celebration Assembly)**
- **Tuesday 24th March @ 09:15 in school Revd Romey to lead Easter Service (all parents and family welcome to attend)**
- **Wednesday 25th March @ 14:00 - PTA Easter Egg Hunt**
- **Friday 27th March @ 14:00 - Spring Music Festival (no Celebration Assembly due to this)**
- **Friday 27th March - Last day of Spring Term 2**
- **Monday 13th April - First Day of Summer Term 1**



Dear Parents,

We'd love for you to follow and regularly check our school Facebook Page!

We are now updating it regularly with all the wonderful things happening here at school – from exciting activities and learning highlights to special events and celebrations. It's a brilliant way to stay connected, see what your children are getting up to, and help us spread the word about our fantastic school community.

The more engagement we get, the more visible we become to the wider public, so please do give us a follow, hit that like button, and share our posts with family and friends!

Thank you so much for your continued support – we really do appreciate it. Click on the logo.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Reynecke-Raybould

