Newsletter

Belong Thrive Succeed

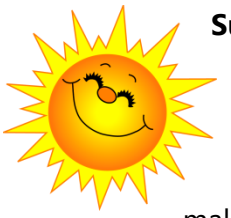
Monday 20th April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome back to you all; I hope that you enjoyed the Easter break and that you were able to take the opportunity to meet with friends and family and enjoy some slightly warmer weather. Children across the school are working hard and are enjoying being back at school. The summer term is always a busy one and we have so much to fit into the next ten and a bit weeks! Please do keep a close eye on the dates at the end of this newsletter, so that you don't miss anything!

New EYFS children

Congratulations to those pupils who were offered a place in EYFS at Hill Top for August. We are delighted that your child will be joining our school and we look forward to meeting you in the coming weeks. Further information will be sent to families separately, giving you all the details that you will need to know prior to your child starting school.



Sunny Weather

As I write this newsletter, it's lovely and sunny! When the weather is warm, we encourage parents to send children to school with a sun hat for playtime, as the sun is always at its strongest when the children are playing outside. Sun cream should be applied before school, if sending sun cream into school, children should be able to apply it themselves. Please also make sure that everything sent into school is named.

Classes for next year

Members of the senior leadership team alongside class teachers are now beginning the process of thinking about classes for next year. We take many, many factors into consideration, for example age, gender, friendships, behaviour, special needs, to name but a few. It is not the simplistic task it can sometimes be perceived to be, but rather a professional decision that we take very seriously.

Each year we ask the children to consider which children they feel they would be successful with in a class next year. We try to encourage the children to consider who they work well with in a group and who they feel they could learn well alongside. Having their friends is important but the focus is to create successful learning groups. Please talk to your child at home about this process.

Nut Free School

Please remember that we have some children in school with very serious nut allergies. We are a nut free school and do not allow nuts or nut-based products in school at lunchtimes or at break times. Thank you for your support.

External Defibrillator Fund Raising

We have partnered with **AEDdonate** to fundraise for an external defibrillator that would be accessible 24/7 to the local community if ever needed. Over 30,000 people in the UK suffer a sudden cardiac arrest outside of hospital each year and we want to be able to support anyone in the community in a life-saving situation.

Donations can be made by scanning the QR code.

Ashby Hill Top Primary School Defibrillator Fundraising Campaign | AEDdonate

SCAN ME

Health & Safety within our uniform policy

We work hard to keep the children safe in school and part of that is addressed by our Uniform Policy. Please may we remind you that:

- Long hair should be tied back during every PE lesson.
- Earrings worn to school can only be stud earrings. Hooped earrings or ones that dangle have a higher risk of getting caught and being ripped out during play.
- Earrings need to be removed or taped with micropore tape for all PE lessons and activity.
- False nails are not safe to be worn during the school day.

Attendance

Our school attendance target is 96%. The overall attendance so far this year is 95.8% so we are really close to this target! Thank you to all those families who are working with us to prioritise their child's learning

Year Group Attendance

EYFS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
94.2%	96.7%	96.0%	95.8%	95.0%	96.1%	96.9%

Well done to our Year 6 children who currently have the highest attendance this year…keep up the excellent work!

SPOTLIGHT ON PERSISTENT ABSENCE

What is persistent absence?

If your child takes too much time off school, they will become categorised as persistently absent. (Attendance below 90% = persistent absence). Missing school will make your child fall behind in lessons and will impact on their academic progress and achievement.

How will we tackle persistent absence?

If your child's attendance has dropped below 90%, school will make contact to raise concern and offer support. An attendance concern letter will be sent to parents, and school will actively consider no longer approving absence unless medical evidence is submitted. School will also access support from the Education Welfare Service. After this point, if absences continue or improvement in attendance is not sustained, a referral could be made for a penalty notice. If the local authority decide that the case meets the criteria to be

submitted to the Magistrates Court for prosecution under Section 444(1) of The Education Act 1996 for the offence of failing to secure a child's regular attendance at school, a court hearing would be the next step.

End of Key Stage SATS
SATs week for our current Year 6 children will take place from Monday 11th May 2026 with the last test being on Thursday 14th May 2026.

Ashby Bowls Club
We are really lucky that Ashby Bowls Club are providing 10 free sessions in school for our children.

Does your child enjoy sport but doesn't play in a team? Do they enjoy solving problems? Are they happy to be part of a team or work individually? Then get them to give bowls a go! Ashby Bowls Club offer free junior sessions for children aged 9-13 years. The enrolment day is **Saturday 23rd May at 11.00am.** Sessions will be held on Saturday mornings from 11.00am to 12.30pm and will run for 8 weeks.

Remember, if you have any questions, please phone school or email office@ashbyhilltop.leics.sch.uk.

Regards,

Sylvie Newman
Headteacher

2025-2026 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Please find below dates for this academic year- we have tried to include as much information as possible here! This information will be added to the bi-weekly newsletter and will also be available on the school website. New dates will be added in green!

Easter Break		
24 April	FOHT Rainbow Run	
29-1 May	Y4 Beaumanor Residential	
4 May	School closed for Bank Holiday	All day
7 May	EYFS Classroom showcase	8.30am
11 May	Year 6 SATS week	
15 May	Y6 Camp Day	
21 May	EYFS Art Gallery for parents	pm

22 May	School closes for half term	3.25pm
May Half term		
1 June	School reopens for children	8.45am
1 June	Year 4 Multiplication check window	
3 June	Sports Day	am
8 June	Year 1 phonics check week begins	
9 June	FOHT School Summer Disco	pm
10 June	Musical Evening	pm
TBC	Saffron Lane- NWLSSP sporting event, selected KS2 children TBC	
12 June	Y6 Warning Zone trip	
22 June	Whole School Picnic	
24 June	Reserve Date for Sports Day- in case of wet weather	
25 June	End of Year Reports out to parents	
29 June	KS1-KS2 transition meeting	3.40pm
29 June	EYFS Classroom showcase	8.45am
30 June	EYFS-KS1 transition meeting	3.40pm
2 July	Move up day for whole school (Y6 to high school)	All day
2 July	Meet the Teacher evening	4-5pm
3 July	EYFS celebration	
6 July	Y6 Leavers Assembly	am
7 July	School closes for Summer	3.25pm
Summer Break- have a wonderful Summer!		
24 August	School reopens for children	8.45am