

Monday 9th March 2026

THE CAREY FEDERATION



Ashwater Primary School

Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Newsletter No.18 Spring Term

Dear Families,

We had a fantastic World Book Day on Thursday. Thank you so much for supporting the children with their costumes. They all looked great!



During the day, the children undertook a number of reading related activities which really helped further develop their love of reading.

SATS Meeting for Y6 Parents, Tuesday 10th March 3:45 pm

We look forward to welcoming Year 6 parents and Year 6 pupils for this important meeting which will go through all aspects of the SATs.

Term Dates 26/27

Please see a link to the term dates for 2026/27 [Term Dates – Halwill and Ashwater Primary Schools](#). You will notice that there is a non-pupil day on Friday 11th June 2027. This was chosen as it is the Friday of The Royal Cornwall Show. We know we have a number of farming families who would like to attend. We greatly value our farming families but as you know, we cannot authorise an absence for children to go to this on a school day, so instead we have allocated a non-pupil day to enable families to attend.

Upcoming Events

March 10

SATs Meeting for Y6 Parents & children
3:45 pm

March 11

After School Club – Tennis YR to Y6

March 12

After School Club – Board Games YR to Y6

March 12

Exeter Museum and Synagogue Trip –
Class 2

March 18

Ashwater Parent Consultation 2:30 –
6:00 pm

March 19

National Child Measurement
Programme YR and Y6

March 26

Bikeability Y5 and Y6

March 27

Bikeability Y5 and Y6

April 2

Last day of term

April 20

First day back after Easter

May 4

Bank Holiday

May 22

Last day of term

June 1

First day back

June 5

Non-Pupil day

June 26

The Gruffalo, Theatre Trip YR, Y1 and
Y2.

July 22

Last day of term

You will have seen that July 5th 2026 is also a non-pupil day which we have planned to coincide with The Royal Cornwall Show. Moving forward, the plan is to have a non-pupil day on the Friday of The Royal Cornwall Show each year.

Exeter Museum and Synagogue – Thursday 12th March

Class 2 Ashwater and Class 3 Halwill will be visiting Exeter Museum and Exeter Synagogue on Thursday 12th March. A further letter about this was sent on Friday via MICAS.

Consultation to Federate with St Giles-on-the Heath School

Please find a link here [Letters – Halwill and Ashwater Primary Schools](#) to the consultation letter which was sent to you on 9th February. We value your views in relation to this potential development and would encourage you to post your thoughts via the dedicated email: consultation@halwill.devon.sch.uk or via the post box in the school office.

Safeguarding



THE CAREY FEDERATION



Useful Links

School Contact Details

Tel: 01409 211228

Email:

admin@ashwater.devon.sch.uk

Website:

[Halwill Primary School – Halwill and Ashwater Primary Schools](#)

Safeguarding: If you have any concerns about a child, please speak to one of the safeguarding team or email safeguarding@halwill.devon.sch.uk

Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Ruh Alford

Deputy Safeguarding Leads

Mrs Catherine Gee

Miss Hayley Frayn

Mrs Rosie Cawsey

Safeguarding Governor

Becky Bridgeman

Term Dates 2025 - 2026

These are on our website:

<https://www.thecarey federation.co.uk/ashwater-primary-school/parents/term-dates/>

School Lunches – please book by Sunday for the

Moving Catering Providers



I am delighted to be able to update you that as from 1st April 2026 we will be bringing the catering team in house, when we TUPE the kitchen staff over to join the Carey Federation family. We will be leaving our current provider of Norse and moving to Educatering.

Educatering are Exeter based and working with many schools across Devon, they provide fresh, good quality and where possible, local produce for us to prepare from scratch for the children to enjoy.

We are offering taster sessions with the first one being at Ashwater on the 18th March during the parents evening, Educatering staff will be there serving tasters of the food that the children will enjoy. The Halwill one will be after school early in the Summer term.

Another advantage is we can have a bespoke menu for our children and can adapt and change if it is less popular with the children.

Alison Horn

Wild Tribe Spring 2nd Half 2026

Class 1 will have Wild Tribe on Friday afternoons. On Wild Tribe days, children need wellies and waterproof trousers and coats to wear over their uniform. Long hair needs to be tied up.

After School Clubs Spring 2nd Half 2026

Please see After School Clubs on our website and remember to book through the new MICAS app. [Before & After School Clubs – Halwill and Ashwater Primary Schools](#)

Please note, once you have collected your child from after school club, ensure you leave the school grounds swiftly.

Mrs Ruh Alford
Executive Headteacher



Family Hub Advice &
Guidance Line, 0800
5385458

Mon-Fri 10am—4pm

‘Connecting Moments’- Digital SEND Support for Families

Are you a parent or carer of a child with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)?

Join us for Connecting Moments – a friendly online space designed just for you.

What’s it all about?

- Connect with other families in a small, welcoming group
- Share experiences and ideas
- Build a peer support network

Please join us on the **12th December at 10am, for a 1 hour session**– email-childsc.familyhub-mailbox@devon.gov.uk to book a space, places are limited and the session will be run via Teams.

If you would like support from the Devon family hub, please scan this QR code and complete our request for support form

Devon
County Council



DiAS
Devon Information
Advice and Support
for Special Educational Needs and Disability





Unauthorised Holiday/Leave Request

As you will be aware, Government Guidance advises that schools should not authorise requests for term time absence unless the school has received suitable evidence of exceptional circumstances. The Government does not consider a family holiday to be an exceptional circumstance.

In the absence of suitable evidence of exceptional circumstances, on this occasion the school cannot authorise your request for a Term Time Absence. We believe that if students are to benefit from education, good attendance is crucial. It is the policy of our school to celebrate achievement, and full attendance is a critical factor to a productive and successful school career.

I must take this opportunity to remind you, that should you still choose to take your child out of school unauthorised, then the school must refer the absence to the Local Authority for the consideration of initiating Parental Responsibility Measures. If you have Parental Responsibility, this could mean receiving any of the following.

- A Penalty Notice. Should a Penalty Notice be issued, one notice will be issued to each parent/carer for each child involved. Currently, each Penalty Notice is for £160, which is reduced to £80 if paid within the first 21 days. If a Penalty Notice goes unpaid after 28 days, then court proceedings will be initiated. If a previous Penalty Notice has been issued within the past 2 years, then the Local Authority will proceed straight to Court.
- A Magistrates Summons that could lead to a criminal record, a fine of up to £2,500 and/or a term of imprisonment for up to 3 months.

We understand the disappointment that a refusal may cause, but as you can appreciate, this policy represents the school's responsibility and commitment towards ensuring your child's full and efficient education.

Yours sincerely
Mrs Ruh Alford
Executive Headteacher