
Thursday 2nd April 2026

THE CAREY FEDERATION



Ashwater Primary School

Upcoming Events

Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Newsletter No.21 Spring Term

Dear Families,

As we reach the final day before the Easter holiday, it has been great to see the children continue to challenge themselves in the classroom and in sporting activities. Last week, Year 5 & 6 undertook Bikeability, which helps teach road safety skills while cycling. This is particularly important in areas with busy roads as well as quieter country lanes.

A number of KS2 children also attended Monkleigh School for Cross Country. The Ashwater children aimed high and showed great resilience. Well done to all who took part and a special well done to Reggie who came first in his group and well done to Charlie (2nd place) and Harry H (4th place) in their group. Thank you to Miss Frayn for accompanying the children.



April 2

Last day of term

April 20

First day back after Easter

April 22

Club -Athletics – YR – Y6

April 23

Board Games – YR – Y6

Swimming – Y3 and Y4

April 30

Swimming – Y3 and Y4

May 4

Bank Holiday

May 7

Swimming – Y3 and Y4

Tempest Class Photos

May 22

Last day of term

June 1

First day back

June 5

Non-Pupil day

June 19

Tempest Leavers Photos

June 26

The Gruffalo, Theatre Trip YR, Y1 and Y2.

July 6

Y5 & Y6 Activities Week

July 22

Last day of term

Last Thursday, Ashwater School took part in the Mini Football Festival between Ashwater, Halwill and St Giles. The Festival was hosted by Halwill School. Well done to all the Ashwater children that participated. They showed an excellent Aim High attitude and Resilience.



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

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

As you will have seen from the letter sent to you today, governors of both boards have voted to federate with St Giles. Therefore, from Monday 20th April, 2026, The Carey Federation will comprise, Ashwater School, Halwill School and St Giles-on-the-Heath Primary School. We are delighted with this decision and feel confident it will strengthen the Federation further and provide even more opportunities for the children. Please see the attached letter on our website:

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

Swimming

We are delighted to continue to offer swimming lessons in our Summer term. Please see the table below displaying the dates and year groups. In previous years, we have not charged for this, however, as costs are rising, this year we will be looking for a contribution of £5 per child for swimming and the coach. This will be on MCAS.

| Year Groups | Dates |
|-------------|-------------------------------|
| Y 3/4 | 23/04, 30/04, 07/05, 21/05 |
| Y 5/6 | 04/06, 11/06, 18/06 |
| Y R/1/2 | 25/06, 02/07, 09/07, 16/07 |

Staff News

Sadly, Miss Hutt will be leaving after Easter. She has been a wonderful member of the team and I know she will be greatly missed by the children, staff and families. We wish her luck for the future.

Michelle Rose will be in Ashwater School from Monday to Wednesday. I know everyone will be pleased to have Mrs Rose back.

Development of Provision within the Early Years and KS1 Classroom

I am delighted to inform you that over the Easter break we will be having additional toilets installed. I know this may not sound very exciting but actually for the Early Years children, particularly, as well as the KS1 children it is going to considerably enhance their provision. As you may know, the existing toilets are a good walk from the classroom and the new instalment will be in close proximity and will enable children to reach the toilet quickly. This is very important for young children, especially when toilet training.

Wild Tribe Summer 1st Half 2026

Class 2 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.

Moving Catering Providers

Please see our new menu on our website which are now on MICAS to book for next term. <https://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/school-dinner-menus/>
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.

Holidays

Thank you parents and carers for all your support this term. I hope the children have a wonderful Easter break. The last day of term is Thursday 2nd April and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 20th April.

Mrs Ruh Alford
Executive Headteacher

Safeguarding

Glycerol is often used to create the slush effect. But in high quantities, especially to small children, glycerol can cause shock, hypoglycaemia (low blood sugar) and loss of consciousness.

That's why slushies containing glycerol are not recommended for children under seven. And, older children should be limited to just one slush a day.

[#ChildSafety](#) [#ChildHealth](#)





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



BEST
START
IN LIFE

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



Ashwater Primary School
Ashwater,
Beaworthy
Devon,
EX21 5EW
[Telephone:- 01409 211228](tel:01409211228)
admin@ashwater.devon.sch.uk

THE CAREY FEDERATION



Halwill Primary School
Dreybury Lane,
Halwill Junction
Beaworthy,
Devon, EX21 5XU
[Telephone:- 01409 221476](tel:01409221476)
admin@halwill.devon.sch.uk

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Ruh Alford [B.Ed \(Hons.\)](#), [M.Ed](#)

www.thecareyfederation.co.uk

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