

Tuesday 19th May 2026

Ashwater Primary School

Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Newsletter No.24 Summer Term

Dear Families,

I can't believe that we are already approaching half term! It's been a busy and productive few weeks.

Last week, Year 6 took their SATS tests. I am so proud of all of them. They showed great resilience and aimed high; they were a real credit to you and to the school. Well done to Year 3,4 and 5 who were excellent classmates, who took care of Year 6 during this challenging week

Year 1 Phonics Screening & Year 4 Multiplication Statutory Assessments

Year 1 will have Phonics Screening statutory assessments during the week of 8th June. Year 1 children have been working hard in their Read Write Inc sessions to prepare.

On Wednesday 20th May there will be a Phonics Screening Check parent meeting with Miss Gee for Year 1 parents. It will be 3:00-3:30pm, to explain what the Phonics Screening Check is and what we will be doing to support the children in the lead up to this. We look forward to seeing you there!

Year 4 children have Multiplication statutory tests in the weeks of 1st June and 8th June. These are online tests, where children have to quickly answer a times table fact. Year 4 have been practising times tables in school and should continue to practise these at home,

Results of both tests will be shared in the end of year report.

Federation Leadership

After a very rigorous process, we have appointed to the two Deputy Head posts.

Rosie Cawsey is the Executive Deputy Headteacher (Inclusion, Attendance & Behaviour)

Jayne Miners is the Executive Deputy Headteacher (Achievement, Curriculum & Teaching)

Congratulations to them both! I am sure they will strengthen the leadership across all 3 schools as we continue to aim high in all we do for the children.

We now have our Federation governors in place. I am pleased to tell you that John Lawlor has been elected as the Chair of Governors. Becky Bridgman is the Vice Chair.

A full list of governors can be seen below:



Upcoming Events

May 20

Athletics After School Club – YR – Y6

Phonics Screening Check Parent Meeting 3pm

May 21

Swimming – Y3 and Y4

Board Games After School Club – YR – Y6

May 22

Last day of term

June 1

First day back

June 4

Class 1 Assembly to parents – 9am

Class 2 Assembly to parents – 3.45pm

Swimming – Y5 and Y6

June 5

Non-Pupil day

June 11

Swimming – Y5 and Y6

June 18

Swimming – Y5 and Y6

June 19

Tempest Leavers Photos

June 25

Swimming – YR, Y1 and Y2

June 26

The Gruffalo, Theatre Trip YR, Y1 and Y2.

Mr John Lawlor (Chair)
Mrs Becky Bridgman (Vice Chair/Co-opted)
Mrs Sue Russell (Co-opted)
Mrs Rosie Pearson-Woods (Co-opted)
Mrs Kathy Williams (Local Authority)
Miss Hayley Frayn (Co-opted)
Mrs Sandra Grocock (Co-opted)
Mrs Rebecca Osborne (Co-opted)
Dr Revd. Paul Fitzpatrick (Co-opted)
Mrs Sue O'Reilly (Co-opted)
Mrs Elisha Brown (Elected parent)
Miss Ella Dannan (Elected staff)

Author Visit

On Thursday 2nd July we have a local author Anne Parsons coming in to do some story telling with the children in years 1, 2, 3 and 4. She has recently published her 3rd book called Archie, Go! You can see more details about this at the end of the newsletter.

Dates

Our Open Evening & Summer Concert as well as Year 6 Leavers will be on **Thursday 16th July**

3:30 – 4:00pm Open Evening

4:00 – 5:00 Summer Concert & Year 6 Leavers

We hope you will join us for the class assemblies which are an opportunity for children to share what they have been learning with you.

Thursday 4th June

Class 1 Assembly to parents – 9.00am

Class 2 Assembly to parents – 3.45pm

Warm Weather

Now that we are finally having warmer weather, please do remember hats, suncream and water bottles.

THE CAREY FEDERATION



Upcoming Events

July 1

Sports Day – 1.45pm – 3.30pm

July 2

Author Visit

Swimming – YR, Y1 and Y2

July 6

6th July – 10th July Y5 & Y6 Activities Week

July 9

Swimming – YR, Y1 and Y2

July 16

Swimming – YR, Y1 and Y2

Open Evening, Summer Concert & Y6 Leavers 3:30 – 5:00pm

July 22

Last day of term

Swimming

We are delighted to continue to offer swimming lessons in our Summer term. Please see the upcoming events 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 per session for swimming and the coach. This will be on MCAS.

After School Clubs Summer 2nd Half 2026

Please see our website for information regarding after school clubs. These will be available to book via MCAS. [Before & After School Clubs – Halwill and Ashwater Primary Schools](#)

Wild Tribe Summer 2nd Half 2026

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

I hope the children have a well-deserved half term break when it comes. We look forward to welcoming them back on **Monday 1st June**. Don't forget **Friday 5th June** is a non-pupil day. It is also the Friday of The Royal Cornwall Show.

Mrs Ruh Alford
Executive Headteacher

NO NUTS Please keep our children with severe nut allergies safe. It is imperative that no **Nuts or Nut products** are brought into school. Could all parents **PLEASE** be extra vigilant, especially with some cereal bars which contain nuts.

Your support is appreciated.



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 2026 - 2027

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

Why are washing pods so dangerous?



child accident
prevention trust

The liquid detergent in washing pods and capsules is up to five times more concentrated than powder and can cause life-changing chemical burns to eyes, skin and throats.

Little ones may mistake brightly coloured laundry pods for sweets and bite into them. Or they may think they are a toy and squeeze them so hard they burst.

Some injuries are so severe that children need skin grafts or long-term tube feeding.

And if the alkaline chemicals get into the eyes it can burn and lead to long-term eyesight problems.

So, keep washing pods and capsules out of reach of children at all times.

Learn more: <https://capt.org.uk/washing-pods-and-capsules/>

.....
...

★ #ChildSafetyWeek 2026 is coming soon - Monday 1st to Sunday 7th June - Follow us for top tips to keep your family safe ★

#ChildSafety



Anne Parsons, a children's author, will be visiting our school on Thursday, 2nd July. Anne will be sharing the story of *Archie, Go!* with our classes and will be offering the chance of buying a signed copy of her book with a dedication.

In this book, Archie and Louise catch a thief who has stolen books from Louise's grandparents' bookshop. Subsequently, they find out about the roles Airedale Terriers have played in the past, being police dogs, and messenger dogs in the First World War. They make new friends with Maggie and her guide dog Ivy. Such experiences make Archie question his role in life as a family pet and a jumping champion.

Meanwhile, Archie is training hard for his competitions. Rory, Louise's brother, becomes involved with team agility classes, but just when preparations are going well, disaster strikes, and another training centre must be found urgently. The new location is already known to Archie and holds bad memories for him. Archie realises that he must overcome his fears and move on if he wishes to achieve his dream.

The opposition becomes more challenging as the national finals get nearer. When the competition day arrives, old rivals meet up, and a new team appears. Can his team beat them? Then Archie goes head-to-head with the new team leader in the individual jumping competition.

Life is never easy. All Archie can do is try his best and hope that will be good enough. Surely, fame is just a jump away!

Price - £5.00 (normal RRP £7.99)

If you would like to order at this special price, please contact the school office.

Saturday 13th June 2026

Hatherleigh Carnival's
COLOUR RUN
with a
TWIST

Hatherleigh's Colourful Event of the year!

5k & 2.5k ROUTES

ADULTS £15 • CHILDREN £10



Each participant will receive a medal
& a white T-shirt!

The party will continue in the
square with the presentation of
this year's carnival royalty.

Scan to Enter!



BAR • FOOD • MUSIC from
HSB & The Ninja Ninja

Enter by 2nd June!

Registration from 12.30pm Run 3.30pm



<https://www.hatherleighcarnival.co.uk>

Speech and Language Therapy

EASY ACCESS DROP IN

We are starting new easy access drop ins for pre school children.

Would you like any advice and support for your child's speech, language and communication skills? Visit one of our easy access drop ins with your child to see a Speech and Language Therapist. Get advice, support and strategies from the team.

Drop in sessions are now being held in different locations across Torbay, South Devon and North Devon. Exeter, East and Mid Devon.

If you would like to attend a drop in, please scan the QR code below to find a location and time that works for you.





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



THE CAREY FEDERATION



Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

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