Monday 9th November 2026

Ashwater Primary School

Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Newsletter No.5 Autumn Term Second Half

Dear Families,

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn term. Last term ended with a wonderful Harvest Assembly and an opportunity for families to come into class and see the children's work. Well done to the children for showing such confidence in delivering the assembly.

Changes to Our School Newsletter

We are always looking for ways to ensure our communication with families is clear, timely and effective. With this in mind, we will be trialling a move from our weekly newsletter to a **half-termly newsletter**.

The half-termly newsletter will continue to provide key information, celebrate achievements and share important updates from across the school. In between newsletters, we will make greater use of our other communication platforms such as MICAS and Class Dojo to keep parents informed about day-to-day news, reminders and upcoming events.

We value strong communication with our school community and believe this approach will provide a more efficient and effective way of sharing information, while ensuring important messages reach families in a timely manner.

As this is a trial, we will be seeking feedback from parents in the New Year to find out how well the new approach is working and to gather your views on its effectiveness. Your feedback will help us shape our communication methods moving forward.

Thank you for your continued support.

Pupil Ambassadors

Congratulations to the following children who have been appointed to these roles.

Librarians: Gabe & Gemma

Digital Leaders: Harry C, Reggie, Faith & Paige

School Council: Ridley, Evie, Ronan, Charlie V, Harper & Blu

PE and Wildtribe

Class 1 have finished their current stint of Wildtribe. Class 1 will have PE on Tuesdays and Thursday this term.

Class 2 will have Wild Tribe on Friday mornings and will need to bring in waterproofs to wear over their school clothes and wellies. Long hair needs to be tied up.

THE CAREY FEDERATION

Upcoming Events

November 11
Federation Remembrance Assembly (Children only)

November 13
Children in Need Day (non-unform suitable for running – donation requested)

November 14
PTFA Big Breakfast Ashwater Village Hall 9-11am

November 17
Parent Consultation
2:30 – 6:00 pm

November 23
Federation History Day at Halwill School
YR, 1 & 2

December 11
PTFA Christmas Fair
3:30pm – 4:30 pm

December 16
Christmas Lunch

December 17
Christmas Church Service
9:15am and 5:00pm

December 18
Term ends

January 4
Start of Spring Term

Class 2 will have PE on Tuesdays.

Children need to bring in their PE kits to change into for the afternoon lesson and will need to be in their PE kit for them to take part.

Remembrance

We will be holding a cross-Federation Remembrance Assembly via Teams on 11th November to commemorate this important occasion. There are poppies and other items available for the children to buy in school for a donation.

Children In Need, Friday 13th November- Challenge Yourself 2026

The Carey Federation Marathon Challenge

This year, the BBC Children in Need appeal is encouraging everyone to "Challenge Yourself 2026" by creating their own challenge inspired by the number 26.

To support this amazing cause, the children and staff from Ashwater, St Giles and Halwill will be joining forces to take on a marathon challenge. Together, our three schools will run a combined total of 26.2 miles, with every child contributing to the distance and playing their part in this fantastic team effort.

On Friday 13th November the children can wear non-uniform but please ensure it is appropriate for running.

We would be very grateful for any donations towards this worthwhile challenge. While running a marathon is certainly a challenge for us, for many children across the UK, having a safe home, enough food to eat and access to the care and support they need can be a challenge every day. Every donation, no matter how small, can help make a real difference to young lives.

To celebrate our efforts and support the appeal, children are invited to come to school in non-uniform on Friday for a voluntary donation.

Thank you for your continued support. Let's challenge ourselves, get running and help make a difference for children who need it most!

Parent Consultation, Tuesday 17th November, 2:30 – 6:00 pm

Please book your slot for a 10 minute appointment with your child's teacher. They look forward to sharing your child's learning and progress with you.

Christmas

Please see the date list for our Christmas events. Families and the wider community are warmly welcomed to either morning or evening services at St Peter Ad Vincula Church in Ashwater.

All children from Pre-school to Year 6 are involved in the service. All children are asked to join for the evening service, however, this is optional for Pre-school children.

On the morning of Thursday 17th December, please can all children be dropped to the Church. There will be **no Breakfast Club on this day.** We will walk the children from Reception to Y6 back to school and ask that children bring wellies and waterproof trousers and coats to the church.

In addition, there will be rehearsals at the church for YR – Y6. On these days we will ask you to please drop children at the church in the morning. Once these dates are confirmed we will let you know.

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

School Lunches – please book by Sunday for the

WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL

After School Clubs

We are running a programme of After School Clubs. All clubs can be booked via your MCAS app.

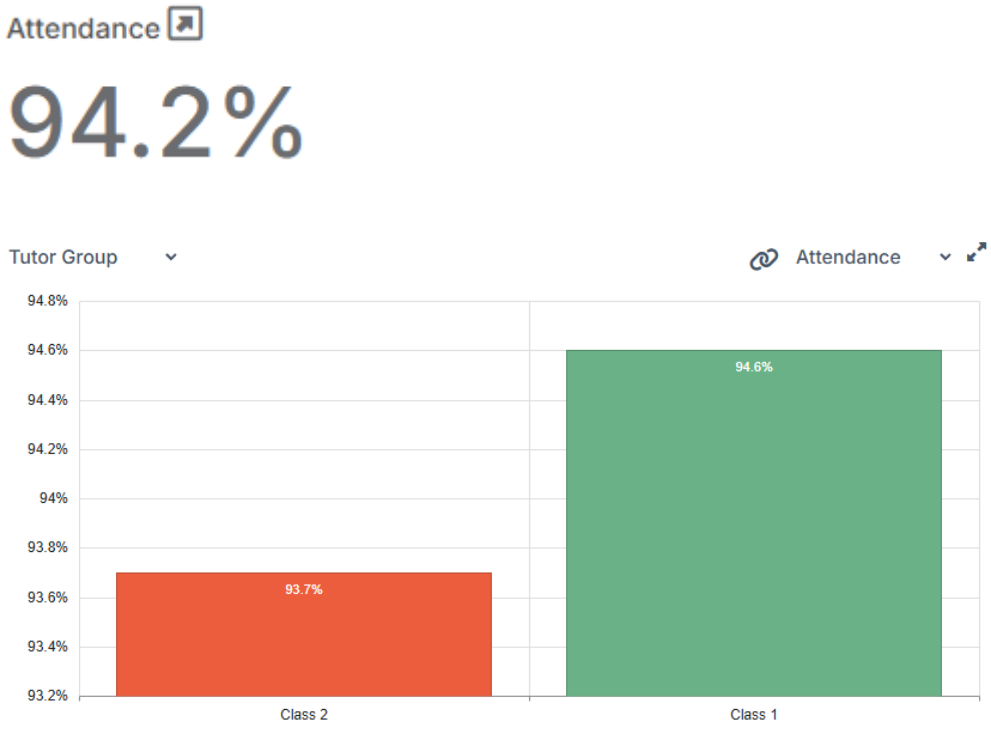
Monday	Club: Gymnastics Club Teacher: Millie May Max number: 20	Year R - 6	9th November to 7th December 2026 3.30-4.30pm £19 (5 weeks) £1.00 for Pupil Premium Eligible Students
Tuesday	Club: Football Teacher: Keaton Meagan Max number: 20	Year R - 6	3rd November to 8th December 2026 3.30-4.30pm £22.80 (6 weeks) £1.00 for Pupil Premium Eligible Students

Mrs Ruh Alford
Executive Headteacher

Attendance

Class 1 and Class 2 Attendance - This does not include Pre-School

First half of Autumn Term



Attendance Percentage	Days of School Missed
98%	4 days
96%	8 days
94%	12 days
92%	16 days or three weeks
90%	20 days or four weeks
85%	30 days or 6 weeks

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_i5KxggkPTw

THE CAREY FEDERATION

ASHWATER C.P. SCHOOL | ST. GILES-ON-THE-HEATH C.P. SCHOOL | HALWILL SCHOOL

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.


Ashwater School P. T. F. A
Christmas Hamper Raffle
£1.00
Per ticket
ASHWATER
Return Tickets by Friday 11th December
The draw will take place at the Christmas Service
on Thursday 17th December 2026
All proceeds go towards school funds.


THE BIG BREAKFAST RETURNS
SATURDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 9.00 - 11.00
ASHWATER PARISH HALL
£10 ADULT / £5 CHILD
PRE BOOK IF POSSIBLE BY EMAILING ASHWATERPTFA@AOL.COM
ASHWATER
ALL PROCEEDS TO ASHWATER SCHOOL
1/1

Dear parent / guardian,

We are delighted to share with you a new NHS funded service designed to support young people aged 7-12 who are experiencing worries or anxieties; **Lumi Nova**. With the end of the school year approaching, we wanted to remind you to take advantage of our offer as your child/ren transition into the summer and new academic year.

What is Lumi Nova?

Lumi Nova is an intergalactic adventure game to support young people to fight fears and manage worries. Whilst exploring planets, customising characters and earning treasure your child breaks their fears and worries down into manageable steps, learning life-long skills and building resilience.

Watch this short animated video to learn more: Lumi Nova Introduction Video

Who can use Lumi Nova?

Lumi Nova was created for 7 - 12 year olds (school years 3 - 7) who are having difficulties with fears, worries, or anxiety related to social situations, separation or phobias.

Lumi Nova can help your child to face their worries by breaking them down into small manageable challenges and can support your child with:

- Returning to school or starting a new school
- Making new friends and going to social events
- Speaking in front of a group
- And lots more!

How do you access Lumi Nova?

Accessing Lumi Nova is quick and easy. Use the link below to register and you will receive a text message to guide you through getting started or scan the QR code.

Luminova.app/devon