



18th November October 2025

Upcoming Events

November 19

After School Club Tag Rugby YR-Y6

November 20

After School Club Board Games YR-Y6

November 22

KS2 children singing at Exeter Cathedral

November 23

Ashwater Village Christmas Craft Fair
1:00pm – 4:00pm

November 24

After School Club – Board Games
(Change of date)

November 27

KS2 The Lion, the Witch and the
Wardrobe at Theatre Royal Plymouth
12:00pm – 6:00pm (approx.)

December 5

Ashwater Christmas Fair 3:30 – 4:30pm

December 10

Christmas Lunch

December 17

Ashwater Church Service 9:15am and
5:00pm at St Peter's Church

December 18

Last Day of Autumn Term

January 5

First Day of Spring Term

Ashwater Primary School

Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Newsletter No.9 Autumn Term

Dear Families,

It was great to see so many parents at Parent Consultation. I hope you found the meetings useful. If you weren't able to attend, please do contact us so we can arrange for you to see the teachers at another time.

Thank you for the donations towards Children in Need. We have raised £34. The children had a 'super' day dressed as superheroes or in spots. They also enjoyed their Surprise 25 Challenge.



Remembrance

Halwill and Ashwater Schools had a special Remembrance Assembly where we linked up remotely. We looked at the war memorials in both villages and read out the names. We thought of the children who once attended Halwill and Ashwater School, going to war. We remembered people locally, in other parts of the country and the world as well as the animals who sacrificed so we can have freedom to live with the British Values of Democracy, Rule of Law, Respect and Tolerance & Individual Liberty. We thought of innocent people around the world who are caught up in conflict. The children observed the 2 minutes silence respectfully.



Exeter Cathedral Chorister Outreach Programme – Saturday 22nd November KS2 Children

Please return your forms as soon as possible. This is such a special opportunity for the children to sing in a cathedral. Take a look at our website, when the children took part in 2022! You can also listen to them singing.

<https://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/exeter-cathedral-chorister-outreach-project/>

To book free tickets, please follow the following link:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/exetercathedral/autumn-outreach-concert/2025-11-22/16:30/t-ojklagx>

CLUB CHANGE OF DATE – board Games

Due to the KS2 school trip on Thursday 27th November, **Board Games will be Monday 24th November.**

Wild Tribe

Class 1 have Wild Tribe this half term on Friday mornings. Children doing Wild Tribe need to bring in waterproof overalls or long sleeves and long trousers (not jeans), long hair must be tied up.

Attendance Letters

Thank you for your support with your child's attendance. I know our families do send children into school when they are well enough to be here. We have reviewed attendance for the first half of the Autumn term. If your child's attendance is below 95%, you will receive a letter this week. We appreciate that parents might be disappointed to receive a letter, however, it is important that we flag to you if your child's attendance is below the expected, so you are aware.

Parent Governor Vacancy

A huge thank you to Rachael O'Donnell who has been a Parent Governor and been an excellent support to the school and Federation, particularly in her role as Finance Governor. Rachael has stepped down from the Governors due to her other commitments.

We therefore have a vacancy for a Parent Governor. Information will be sent out about this today

Christmas Dates

All our welcome to both Christmas Church Services on Wednesday 17th December, 9:15am and 5:00pm.

The Christmas Craft Fair is being held in the Village Hall on the 27th November. Heidi Edworthy is running this in aid of Ashwater PTFA. A huge thanks to her for this.

On Friday 5th December, there will be a Christmas Fair for the Ashwater School and Pre-school children and their families.

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

School Lunches – please book by Sunday for the

FREE SCHOOL MEALS – Are you entitled to apply?

Even though your child is entitled to universal infant free school meals in reception, year 1 and year 2, if you are eligible for free school meals it is important that you register as soon as possible as this attracts income for the school and will also allow you to benefit from: -

- **A full set of school uniform**
- **Free attendance at Breakfast and After School Clubs**
- **2/3 reduction in residential fees**



CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

Your child may also get free school meals if you get any of these benefits and your child is both:

To apply please use the following link

https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fCCSCitizenPortal_live

If you require any assistance, then please do not hesitate to contact the school offices.

Ruh Alford
Executive Headteacher

Ashwater School P. T. F. A

Christmas Hamper Raffle

£1.00
Per ticket



The draw will take place at the Christmas Service
on Wednesday 17th December

All proceeds go towards school funds.



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