



Ash, Cartwright & Kelsey Church of England (Aided) Primary School

Through God's love and strength all flourish

* **Achieve** * **Create** * **Know**

Friday 6th September 2024

Newsletter Term 1 Week 1

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back and I hope you all had a fantastic summer. It was lovely to welcome all the children back and our new Fledglings and Wrens have settled in beautifully. I am glad that so many of our year R parents attended the NELFT session on supporting the children's transition to school and hope you found it useful. There has been lots of work going on in school during the summer using our 106 funding – the nursery courtyard playground is finished and looks fantastic. Please do **not** let your children play on this equipment after school as it is bespoke nursery equipment. A big thanks to Nick Hassall, one of our school governors, who came in during the summer with Mr Hart to put up the reception class awning – it looks great and provides outdoor cover for the children.

We need to say a huge thanks to the Cartwright, Godfrey and Kelsey Trust who generously donated funds to finish off the transformation of the new Robins classroom. The children really benefit from such generosity and sense of community.

The children have launched straight into their new topics and we are busy planning a variety of trips to enhance this – please keep a look out for letters and note that our shared learning session for parents is after school on Tuesday 15th October.

Have a lovely weekend

Fiona Crascall
Headteacher



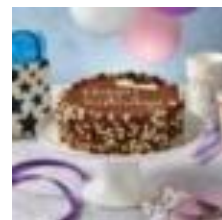
Birthdays to celebrate

Owls

Finley and Joseph

Hawks

Max and Theo



We still have a few spaces left in our lovely nursery – please do ring the school to arrange a tour with me if you have, or know someone who has a nursery aged child. Thank you!

Severe Nut Allergy

Please remember we now have a child in the school with a severe nut and sesame allergy. Please do not send your child into school with any products that contain nuts for snacks or lunch. Our nut free policy is available on the school website:

[Nut free policy 2024.pdf \(ashckschool.org\)](#)

Thank you for your support.

Important Update – Changes to Education-related Penalty Notices

Information for Parents

The Government, School and the Local Authorities Pupil Welfare Service are working together to improve attendance. Parents and Carers must also work together with schools to promote high attendance.

You may be aware that the Department for Education has recently announced national changes to penalty notices issued for unauthorised absence in term time. These changes came into effect on 19th August 2024. The changes to be aware of are:

- Penalty notices issued for offences that take place after 19 August 2024 will be charged at a new rate of £160 per parent per child. This can be paid at £80 if paid within 21 days.
- Any second penalty notice issued to the same parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period will be issued at the rate of £160 to be paid within 28 days with no option for a discounted rate.
- The threshold at which a penalty notice must be considered is set at 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school week period. This may include absences as a result of arriving late after the register closes. The 10 school weeks may span different terms or school years.
- A maximum of 2 penalty notices may be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period, so at the 3rd (or subsequent) offence(s) another course of action will need to be considered (such as prosecution).
- Only penalty notices issued for absences taking place after 19 August 2024 will count towards the above thresholds.

Attendance really does matter so please do not take your child out of school in term time. Thank you.

Attendance Award

Week Ending 6/9/2024	Hawks Class	100%
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Dates for your diary

Thursday 12th September	Kent Test in school for year 6 children (those who have previously registered)
Friday 10th October	Harvest Festival at the Church – families of year 6 children very welcome to attend – 1.45pm
Tuesday 15th October	3.15 - Shared learning after school R, KS1 and KS2 – please come to the classrooms, meet the staff and see what the children have been learning
Thursday 17th October	Kent Test results to parents
Friday 25th October	Break up – end of term 1
Monday 4th November	Children back in school for term 2
Thursday 19th December	Children break up for Christmas Holidays
Tuesday 7th January	WOW Day and children back in school for term 3