



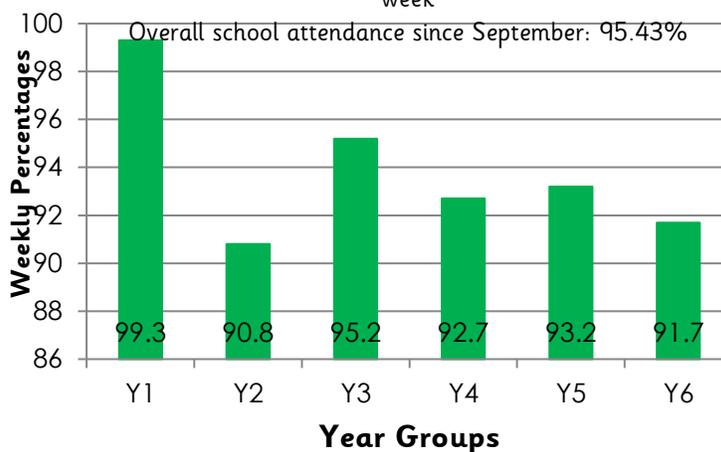
# Ashburnham Community School

## Key Dates for the Half Term

25 <sup>th</sup> April	Open morning for new prospective parents at 9am
29 <sup>th</sup> April	Ecuador fundraiser
2 <sup>nd</sup> May	<b>BANK HOLIDAY – SCHOOL CLOSED</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> May	Yr 4 tennis trip (8 children) Yr 4 Thames trip 1:30 – 3:30
5 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>SCHOOL CLOSED FOR POLLING DAY (year 6 in school)</b>
6 <sup>th</sup> May	French day
9 – 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 SATS week
11 <sup>th</sup> May	Yr 4 Thames trip 1:30 – 3:30
12 <sup>th</sup> May	9am – Yr 1 class assembly
16 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Year six school journey
16 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 4 Thames trip 1:30 – 3:30
18 <sup>th</sup> May	Yr 5 to Aquatic Centre all day
19 <sup>th</sup> May	Yr 4 to Chelsea Theatre for dance performance 7pm Reception parents Stay and Play morning 9am 9am Year 5 class assembly
20 <sup>th</sup> May	International day and evening 3:30 – 4:30
25 <sup>th</sup> May	Yr 5/6 cricket festival 910 children) 9 – 3:30 Yr 4 Thames trip 1:30 – 3:30
26 <sup>th</sup> May	Wastebusters collection 9 am Open morning for new prospective parents Mrs Stokes last day before maternity leave 9am – 10am end of term assembly Wear your own clothes day (donation) 2:30 – end of term class parties <b>Break up for half term</b>
6 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Back to school on the Monday (Nursery start back on 7<sup>th</sup> June)</b>

### Last week's attendance:

Congratulations to Year 1 with best attendance this week



Next Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> April, Tatiana (Grace and Justin's mother) is running an event to support those children and families affected by the earthquake in Ecuador. If you can bring in toiletries, they will be shipped off to people in need. Things wanted are: baby wipes, nappies, toilet paper, hand sanitizer, repellent spray, disposable gloves, bath flannels, bandages, shampoo, soap, tooth paste, tooth brushes, deodorant and mouthwash.

Please follow us on Twitter [@Ashprimary](https://twitter.com/Ashprimary) for regular updates

## Visit from the Mayor

We were lucky to be treated to a visit from **The Mayor, Councillor Robert Freeman** and the Mayoress this week. The children enjoyed meeting them and asking them questions about their role in the community. They were both thoroughly impressed by the children and the **happy atmosphere** in the school.

## Park Walk Play Centre

I am pleased to let you know that every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, children from Ashburnham can be walked over to the **Park Walk Play Centre**. The centre is open **from 3:30 until 6pm** and children are provided with a range of fun activities to participate in including art, craft and sports. Prices vary from £2 to £8 per day with discounts for siblings. There are some **free** spaces available too so please enquire at the office if you are interested. The age range is from four and a half to 13.

## Attendance

---

Please call the office **before 8:30** to report a child's absence as the office tends to get busy after 8:30. You can leave a message on the **answerphone** if necessary.



## Ashburnham and Fox both take Silver in National Table Tennis Championships!

---

A great day for the RBKC and a great day for the newly formed primary school federation of Fox and Ashburnham, as both schools took the **silver medals** in the English Schools Table Tennis National Team Championships at the weekend in Hinckley, Leicestershire. Collectively this is a **massive achievement**, and one that has no precedent. For the girls of Fox Primary, this was just one more success in a long series of medal winning performances over the past five years. Fox Primary can now boast one gold, two silver and two bronze medals at these prestigious school championships. But for Ashburnham Community School this was a truly spectacular result having only started their table tennis project a mere two years ago. And it should be added that both schools came tantalisingly close to winning gold, both missing out on first place by a single game.

As always there was a **highly charged atmosphere** in the hall, as parents, teachers, school governors and coaches gathered to watch their youngsters perform under intense pressure. Being the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of these school championships, expectations were particularly high. And the young players did not disappoint. Overcoming overnight anxieties and match-day nerves, Fox and Ashburnham set about their task with real character and determination.

For Ashburnham, Harry, Abed, Boubacar and William **locked horns** with Bramley Sunnyside from South Yorkshire, Lincroft School from Bedfordshire and the Park School from Dorset. By the final round, all four teams had one win and one loss to their name. Had Ashburnham been able to convert their final 4-4 draw with Bramley Sunnyside into a 5-3 win, it would have been Ashburnham walking away with the gold medals. It was all down to a few points either way. And in a painful reminder of just how close the tournament was, Ashburnham noted that they had actually beaten the eventual winners, Park School earlier on in the day.



It was a similar **nail-biting** story for the Fox girls. As expected; Rose, Valentina, Nadia, Louise and Colette, had reached the final match of a group of five schools undefeated, but so too did Great Wood School from Lancashire. It was high noon at Hinckley and the Fox girls battled away for a heroic 4-4 draw but it was not to be enough. On a games count-back Great Wood took the day by the single game and Fox had to be content with a highly creditable silver medal. Equal first on points, but second on a games countback. Sport can be so cruel! As the dust began to settle on yet another highly successful campaign for the RBKC table tennis stars, it was left to Federation head coach, Jon Kaufman, to sum up the day's proceedings:

'We should not underestimate the skill, hard work and sheer determination of our young players who continue to bring so much credit to themselves, their families and their schools. To even reach the national finals is a tremendous achievement, but to consistently be among the medal winners is a remarkable achievement indeed. One they can cherish for years to come. But recognition should also go to the whole organisation behind these successes; the parents, the school staff and the whole coaching team. And without the support from the head teachers and the PE coordinators, nothing much could be achieved.' So it's hats off to Paul Cotter, Bella Street, Alvaro, Ollie, Maggie, Charleigh, Natasha, Eamon and all the parents who, along with Epic Sports, Chelsea Academy and the RBKC sporting team, continue to lay the foundations for further success. And we may not have to wait long for that moment as Rose Bourdier, Arianna Di-Giammarino and Harry Derecki compete in the **English Schools Individual Championships** this coming weekend in Wolverhampton. We wish them luck.



## Year Four Equality and Diversity Debate

---

Four lucky children from Year Four had a tour of Chelsea Football Club last Friday in recognition of their amazing effort in the Equality and Diversity pledge presentation. The girls enjoyed the back stage tour and were awarded the 'Smartest School' award for their neat uniform.