Ashford Park Primary School

Newsletter

www.ashford-park.surrey.sch.uk

Autumn Term 1 - 16th October 2026

WALKTHRUs
BUILD GREAT TEACHING,

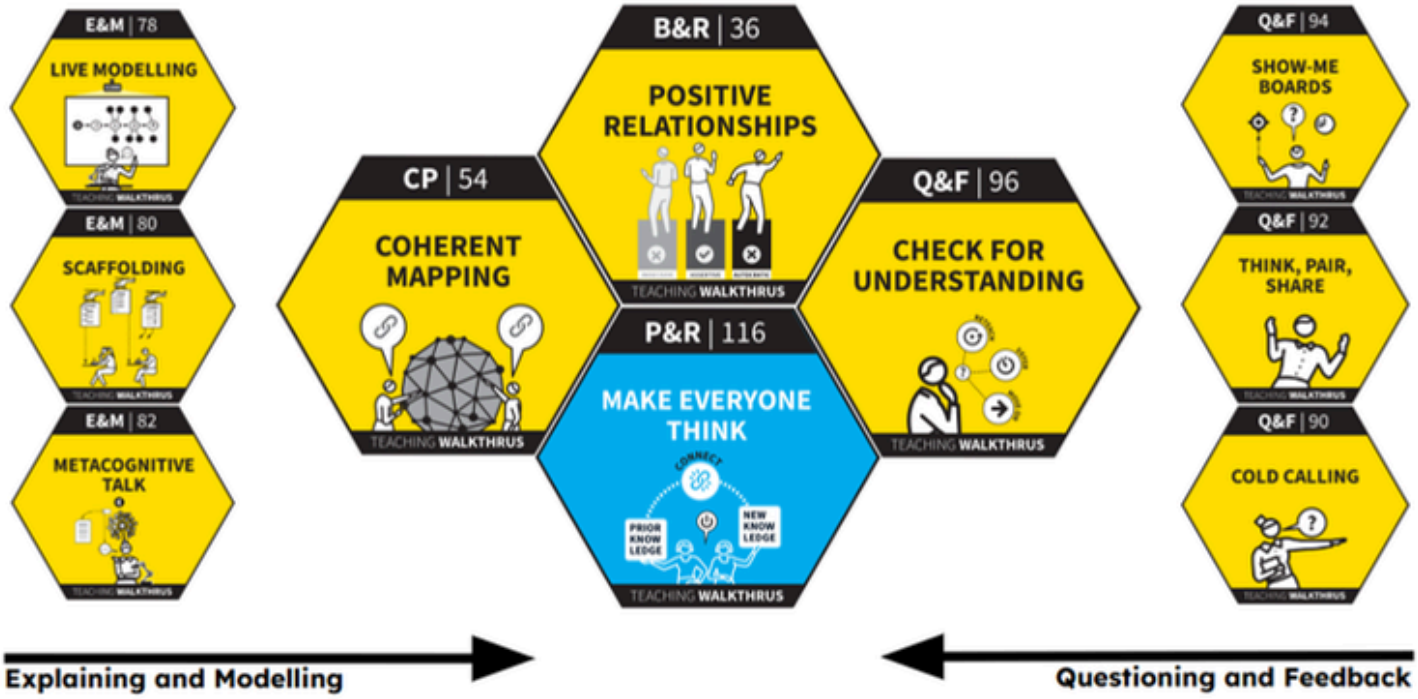
WalkThrus in Action Across the School

Achieving Potential Producing Success

Our recent learning walks showcased the consistent use of evidence-informed teaching strategies, high expectations and strong support for all learners. Across classrooms, staff demonstrated many of the WalkThru techniques that help pupils secure knowledge, develop confidence and achieve success. We are proud of the:

- ✅ Consistent implementation of WalkThru strategies across classrooms.
- ✅ Strong use of modelling, guided practice and checks for understanding.
- ✅ High-quality phonics and reading instruction supporting early literacy.
- ✅ Effective use of retrieval practice to strengthen memory and learning.
- ✅ Excellent support for SEND pupils through carefully tailored interventions.
- ✅ Positive classroom cultures where pupils are confident to participate, practise and improve.

The Ashford Park approach to teaching and learning is based upon our core WalkThru strategies:



As Autumn Term 1 comes to an end, it has been wonderful to see how quickly the children have settled into their new classes and embraced their learning. Thank you to all families who attended our well-attended Parents' Evening appointments and for your continued support.

I would also like to thank our staff for their commitment to high-quality teaching and learning. Their consistent approach is helping our children grow in confidence, independence and a love of learning, ensuring a positive start to the year for all.

Mr Boullton - Head Teacher

IN RECEPTION

Strong Foundations in Early Reading

Little Wandle Phonics Highlights

In Reception they have established routines quickly to enable children to focus fully on learning. The Little Wandle programme is delivered with fidelity, helping children build secure grapheme-phoneme correspondence.



Key strengths included:

- Explicit teaching of articulation, including tongue and teeth placement.
- Regular checks for understanding.
- Effective use of "My Turn, Your Turn".
- Immediate correction of misconceptions.
- Support staff demonstrated expert intervention, providing unobtrusive guidance and visual prompts to help pupils remain engaged and successful.

Little Wandle LETTERS AND SOUNDS REVISED

WalkThru Spotlight: Say It Again Better
Accurate modelling.
Immediate correction.
High expectations for participation.



A Musical Adventure with the British Army

Last Wednesday, a group of Year 4 and Year 6 children visited The Magna Carta School for an unforgettable, live musical experience. The event was hosted by the spectacular British Army's Engagement Ensemble, giving our children a unique opportunity to see and hear some of the British Army's finest musicians in action.



The room was filled with energy as the musicians demonstrated a brilliant range of instruments. Our students were treated to the vibrant sounds of the saxophone, piano, trombone, drums, tuba and electric guitar. The catchy rhythms were completely infectious, and it wasn't long before our children were tapping their feet and moving to the beat of the music.

It wasn't just a concert, though—the children also got stuck into a variety of interactive musical activities, learning about rhythm and discovering how these different instruments come together to create a big, powerful sound.

Our Year 4 and 6 students represented the school brilliantly!

Thank you so much for your generous donations for our Harvest Festival Assembly. We are incredibly grateful for your kindness and support, which helped make the occasion so special.

The children enjoyed a wonderful visit from Val and Cath from the Salvation Army, who shared a beautiful Harvest poem with them. The assembly was then filled with joy as the children sang some wonderful harvest songs and celebrated the importance of helping others. Thank you once again for your generosity and continued support.













Reception have been learning about China as part of our work on the story The Magic Paintbrush.

The children have worked together in their groups to design and build their own traditional Chinese buildings. They discussed how to join boxes together, create roofs and decorate their buildings. It was lovely to see the children sharing ideas, solving problems and working as a team to bring their designs to life, with wonder results!





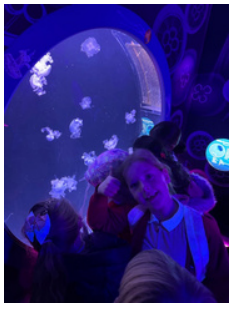


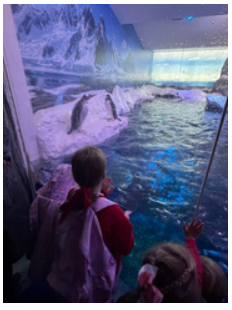


To support our Living Things and their Habitats topic in Year 2, children had a wonderful time during their visit to Sea Life! They explored a variety of fascinating habitats and discovered many amazing creatures from around the world.

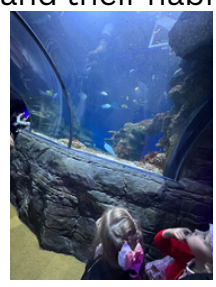
In the humid rainforest, they spotted busy ants and tarantulas, learning about the creatures that thrive in these warm and tropical conditions. They then journeyed into the chilly Arctic zone where they were delighted to see the playful penguins waddling and swimming in their icy environment.

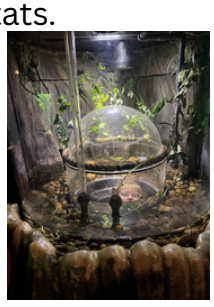
As they continued their adventure through the ocean exhibits, the children marvelled at graceful seahorses, mesmerising jellyfish, majestic stingrays, and powerful sharks. They were excited to see so many different aquatic creatures up close and enjoyed learning interesting facts about the animals and their habitats.













Discovering Archaeology: A Special Parent Visit Linked to Our Stone Age Humanities Topic

The children were recently treated to a fascinating visit from one of our parents, Zoe's Mum from Owl Class, who came into school to share her experience and knowledge of archaeology.

Having studied both a degree and a master's degree in archaeology at university, specialising in prehistory, she was able to give the children a wonderful insight into the study of the past. As part of her master's degree, she carried out research into prehistoric hand axes and brought along some experimental hand axes that had been made for her as part of her research. The children had the exciting opportunity to see and handle these artefacts while learning more about how early humans made and used tools.

She also brought in genuine Mesolithic archaeological material, approximately 10,000 years old, from fieldwork she took part in on Islay in Scotland. To complement this, she shared photographs from an Iron Age excavation in Russia, giving the children a fascinating glimpse into archaeological discoveries from different periods and places.

Although she has since moved into a career in technology, she thoroughly enjoyed returning to the classroom to share her archaeological experiences with the children. Her visit brought history to life and gave the children a fantastic opportunity to learn about archaeology through real artefacts, photographs and personal experience.

A huge thank you to her for taking the time to visit and inspire the children.

From the Year 3 Team







Congratulations to Ava in Year 3

for winning the

'Fun teacher outfit' Golden Ticket

Thank you Mrs Smith for being a good sport too

A combined team of Year 4, 5 and 6 boys represented the school at a football tournament in Egham.

The team drew their opening match 1-1 before winning their next two games 3-2 and 2-0. A narrow 4-3 defeat in the final group match meant they sadly missed out on the semi-finals on goal difference.



The boys finished strongly with an excellent 3-1 victory against the third-placed team from the other group. We are incredibly proud of their effort, attitude and sportsmanship throughout the tournament.

Well done to Will, Logan, Arlo, Edward, Alijah, Archie, Parker and Christian.

Achieving Potential Producing Success

APPS Children Acheiving Success Beyond The School Day

A question for everyone:

How travel has changed?

What travel will look like in the future?



Mae

Year 1

Modes of transport



Maisie Y5

Tudor Learning

Mixed media art work of Henry VIII



Darcy

Year 6

Amazing Totem Pole



Neiil

Year 5

Bowler of the season award



Noor

Year 5

Judo Competition



Sara

Year 6

Learning about Peruvian Fried Rice



Kuwarjeet

Year 6

Demonstrating school values at the Catalyst Golf Club



Amelia

Year 6

Amazing Totem Pole

Florence

Year 4

Playing Tag Rugby



Florence recently joined the London Irish Club and plays tag rugby every Sunday. She had the pleasure of training with the Black Ferns, New Zealand's women's rugby team, and loved the experience. At her first tournament last weekend, she scored multiple tries and impressed coach JP Doyle, a former RFU referee, who praised her performance and joked about signing her up. Florence has another tournament this weekend, and her family are super excited to watch her play.

INSET Days 2026/2027
18th December 2026
4th January 2027
1st and 2nd July 2027

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

October Half Term: Monday 19th - Friday 30th October	
November 2026	
Monday 2nd	Children return to school
Friday 6th	Whole school flu vaccinations
Tuesday 10th	New to Reception Parent Tours at 6.00pm
Wednesday 11th	Remembrance Day - uniformed groups can wear their uniforms, e.g. Cubs, Brownies
Thursday 12th	Individual school photos, no PE this day
Monday 16th	Odd Socks Day to raise awareness of anti-bullying
Wednesday 18th	Year 6 SATs parent information evening in class at 3.30pm and online at 5.30pm
Thursday 19th	Year 6 Trip to The Lincolnsfield Centre
Friday 20th	LEGO Workshops in school
Tuesday 24th	Year 2 Fire of London Workshop
Friday 27th	MUFTI (Non-Uniform) Day for The Salvation Army's Christmas Present Appeal
	PTA Christmas Quiz Night
December 2026	
Wednesday 2nd	Reception and Year 6 Heigh and Weight checks
Tuesday 8th at 9.45am	Year 1 & 2 Nativity to parents – book tickets via Ticket Tailor, link to follow
Wednesday 9th at 9.45am and 2.00pm	
Thursday 10th at 9.45am	
Friday 11th	Christmas Jumper day - £1 donations for Save the Children
	Christmas dinner day
Wednesday 16th	PTA Pantomine trip to see Goldilocks at Woking Theatre
Thursday 17th	MUFTI (Non-Uniform) Day for last day of term. Children break up at 2.00pm
Friday 18th	INSET Day - School Closed
Christmas Holidays: Monday 21st December - Friday 1st January	
January 2027	
Monday 4th	INSET Day - School Closed
Tuesday 5th	Children return to school