

Half Termly Newsletter

Autumn 1 Thursday 22nd October 2026



Message from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our new half termly newsletter. This has been a very busy and successful half term, with many achievements, exciting learning opportunities and memorable experiences for our pupils.

Thank you for your continued support. We are proud of all that the children have accomplished and look forward to another exciting half term.

N. Wood



Highlights from this Half Term



Learning across the school / Curriculum Spotlight

Curriculum week - Under the sea:

Classes have fully immersed themselves in our Under the Sea themed curriculum week, exploring learning through Art, Maths and RE, alongside a variety of engaging activities in their specialist lessons. Throughout the week, pupils have enjoyed a range of exciting experiences across the school, including a sea creature scavenger hunt, coral sponge printing, creating their own underwater sensory trays, and even walking the plank! Our sensory studio has been transformed into an inspiring underwater adventure, providing pupils with a rich and immersive environment to explore. Some classes have also enjoyed musical performances from their peers, while others have experienced the sea-themed sound tents in the hall, bringing the sights and sounds of the ocean to life. It has been a fantastic week of creativity, exploration and memorable learning experiences for all.



Harvest Festivals



On the 23rd September the pupils at Amwell View celebrated the annual Harvest Festival. Each class chose a vegetable and created a piece of artwork based on their chosen vegetable. During the Harvest Assemblies, classes came together to sing their favourite Harvest songs, such as 'Down to the Allotment' and 'Big Red Combine Harvester'. Each class then presented the vegetable they had made by placing them on the Harvest table. Pupils have enjoyed looking at their creations on display in the entrance hall.



Upcycling at Tonwell

Some of the pupils based at the Amwell View Tonwell Satellite School, have been busy upcycling furniture as part of their After school Youth Club activities, developing their practical skills, creativity and teamwork while giving old furniture a new lease of life.

Sam Wood, Class Teacher said "Amwell View All Stars Youth Club have visited the Ware Re-Use shop to choose and purchase old furniture that the pupils liked the look of, with the view of upcycling it into a statement furniture piece. The pupils have planned and decorated these pieces of furniture themselves.

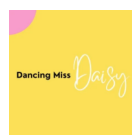
The pupils chose a small, old Mud Kitchen to rejuvenate for our school playground, and a chest of drawers unit that they wanted to upcycle and for us to donate as a raffle prize at our Christmas celebration later on this year.

The pupils really enjoyed choosing each piece, sanding them down and communicating what colours and materials they would like to use to create their own upcycled pieces. They have been developing a range of designing, construction and decorating skills, and are able to use tools safely and appropriately."

The pupils will continue to work on practical projects like this to develop important life skills as they move towards adulthood.



Dancing Miss Daisy



Dancing Miss Daisy has been providing Dance sessions at Amwell View over the past academic year, building on PE Teacher Amy's fantastic foundation. Daisy is a former professional Dancer, qualified special yoga practitioner, and has over a decade of experience working within SEND education and community settings.

Daisy provides a creative approach to movement, offering a multi-sensory experience suitable for all learners, with ambitions to build a truly inclusive community through Dance.

Using movement, music, and the principles of Special Yoga; Daisy establishes a holistic environment in which everyone can learn inside, and beyond, the studio.

Daisy currently works Wednesdays and Thursdays at Amwell View and will soon be launching Special Yoga and Dance classes at her private studio and in the community. She can be reached at any time at dancingmissdaisy1@gmail.com, and you can find her on socials as [@dancing_missdaisy](https://www.instagram.com/dancing_missdaisy) or explore her website: www.dancingmissdaisy.com.

Please [click here](#) to read Dancing Miss Daisy's **Photography and Filming Consent form**. Please fill out the form below to confirm whether or not you are happy for Images/videos to be shared with, or taken by, Daisy. Images and videos help to spread the word about Dancing Miss Daisy on social media/on the Dancing Miss Daisy website, as well as for training and feedback purposes.



Attendance Matters



Whole School Attendance for Autumn 1: 91.6%
Our Attendance Target: 90%

Thank you to all families for supporting regular attendance and punctuality.

In line with the statutory attendance guidance please be reminded of the following procedures for attendance and absences.

Daily absence procedures:

- Parents/Carers are required to either telephone or email (attendance@amwell.herts.sch.uk) the school directly explaining the reason for absence. This information will be passed on to the relevant class teacher and registers marked accordingly. This process will need to happen daily unless in exceptional circumstances.
- Messages should not be sent via transport staff. If we have not heard from parents/carers once the morning registers have closed at 9:35am, parents/carers will receive an automated Attendance Follow Up email and/or SMS notification from us via the Attendance Officer on Arbor or via attendance@amwell.herts.sch.uk. Once we have heard from parents the register will be amended accordingly.
- Children will be marked as an unauthorised absence if we do not hear from parents/carers.

Lateness:

If children arrive after morning registers close at 09:35hrs they will be recorded as late. We have a 40 minute window (8:55-9:35am) to get all pupils in from various transport operators and back gate parental drop off.

Attendance statistics for pupils can be found on child's Arbor pupil profile, or requested by emailing the Attendance Officer (attendance@amwell.herts.sch.uk).

Application for Leave of Absence due to Exceptional Circumstances:

All requests for absence in term time must be approved by the Headteacher at least two weeks in advance. It will be at the Head Teachers discretion to make a decision as to whether there are exceptional circumstances that will allow him to grant the time off. Please do not assume that the absence will be granted until you have received confirmation from the school. Requests not deemed as exceptional circumstances will be recorded as an unauthorised absence.

Please use the form on our website under <https://amwell.herts.sch.uk/parents-carers/absence-and-attendance>. Please return the completed form to the School Attendance Officer (attendance@amwell.herts.sch.uk) for the Head Teachers approval.



Parent Support and Resources



Upcoming Coffee Morning

Our parent support adviser, Coral, will be hosting a coffee morning with the school Mental Health Support Team link, Georgina, on **Friday 13th November from 10am-11.30am**.

The focus of the session will be on **parent wellbeing**. Further details will be sent by email soon.



[Parenting when separated for parents of SEN children online group](#)

[Dads Together online parenting group](#)
[Parent Alienation Workshop](#)



SEND Mental Health Support Team
[Free Workshops for SLD Families](#)



Hertfordshire's Children and Young People's Mental Health Services Survey
 Please [click here](#) to complete.



SBLO Consultation
 Hertfordshire County Council are proposing changes to the Short Breaks Local Offer (SBLO).

There is a consultation ongoing until Thursday 17th December for families to give their views. Further details are on the website: [Short Breaks Consultation](#)



SPACE – Change of Location

SPACE is no longer based in Stanstead Abbots and will be opening a new community hub in Hitchin. In the meantime, they have pop-up lending libraries across Hertfordshire.

[Lending SPACE – SPACE Hertfordshire](#)



Half Term Events

Halloween SEN Sessions in Ware

Halloween *Train & Track Play* event in partnership with CHIPS this half term at Allenburys in Ware. Monday 26th October – Allenburys, Ware 12:20–1:20pm – SEN-friendly session, up to 11 years 1:30–2:30pm – SEN session, 11+ Please [click here](#) for more information.



[Halloween at Church Farm Ardeley](#)

Play and Learn Hub - a Saturday group for primary-aged children with Down Syndrome

[DS Achieve's Play and Learn Hub](#) is a weekly Stay and Play group for primary-aged children with Down Syndrome and their parents or carers, held on Saturday afternoons in -Welwyn Garden City.

When: Saturdays, 2:15pm-3:45pm during term time
 Where: Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire



All Abilities Active

Inclusive sports and activity sessions for children with SEN. A pressure-free, judgement-free space to move, play and have fun.

[Click here](#) for their website

Instagram [@allabilitiesactiveuk](#)

Sensory Stars

Please [click here](#) for more information on their Halloween Special. [@sensorystars_1](#)





Charity Shop 10th Anniversary

This year marks the 10th anniversary of Amwell View School's Charity Shop, a significant milestone in what has been an incredible journey of community support, inclusion and fundraising.

Located close to the main school site in Stanstead Abbots, the Charity

Shop provides valuable opportunities for some students to visit and participate in community-based activities with staff support. The shop not only raises vital funds for the school but also helps increase public awareness and understanding of learning difficulties, strengthening the school's connection with the local community.

Reflecting on the anniversary, the **Charity Shop Manager, Cheryl Goodey** said: "Wow, 10 years! What a journey and a good one at that.

We started with Shop Number 1, then took on Shop Number 2 a year later, followed by Shop Number 3, which we call the Annex, in April 2023. I have to say that I never knew what the shop would bring to the village. Not only is it a charity shop, it has become a real hub of the community, with no two days ever being the same.

I am very proud to have such amazing volunteers, my little family, who all work so hard and go above and beyond to help run the shop. I couldn't do any of what I do without them, and I really can't thank them enough for everything they do.

Of course, a massive thank you also goes to all the customers. We simply wouldn't be here without your support.

So, here's to the next 10 years and, from me to you, THANK YOU!"

As the Charity Shop celebrates this special anniversary, Amwell View School would like to thank everyone who has supported the shop over the past decade, including volunteers, customers, donors, staff, students and the wider community. Their continued support has helped make the Charity Shop an important and valued part of village life.

Modeshift STARS East of England School of the Year Winner!



Local Authority
School of the
Year 2026/27
WINNER



Regional
School of the
Year 2026/27
WINNER

We are very proud to announce that Amwell View School has **WON** the Modeshift STARS East of England School of the Year for SEND Schools for our Travel Plan. The awards celebrate schools that have shown an outstanding commitment to promoting sustainable, active and safe travel. This year, Hertfordshire schools took the top regional award in three categories:

SEND School of the Year – Amwell View School

Primary School of the Year – High Wych CoFE School

Secondary School of the Year – Katherine Warrington School

We will also keep you updated on the news about the invitation to the National STARS School of the Year Award ceremony being held in London in March 2027!



REMEMBRANCE DAY
Let No One Forget

Remembrance Services

Wednesday 11th November

Lower School 9:45-10:15am

Upper School 10.45-11.15am

Tonwell 2:45-3:15pm

Commemorative poppy items are available at school.

If you wish for your child to choose an item, please send your donation into school in an envelope (marked 'Remembrance Day' with your child's name).

Amwell View School Events Calendar

OCT / NOV / DEC 2026

October

- **Thursday 22nd October** Halloween Parties
- **Friday 23rd October** INSET Staff Training Day - School closed to pupils
- **Monday 26th–Friday 30th October** Half Term

November

- **Monday 2nd November** Occasional Day - School closed
- **Tuesday 3rd November** School opens to pupils
- **Wednesday 11th November** Lower School Remembrance Service 9.45-10.15am
- **Wednesday 11th November** Upper School Remembrance Service 10.45-11.15am
- **Wednesday 11th November** Tonwell Remembrance Service 2.45pm

December

- **Wednesday 2nd December** Christmas Carols Event 6-7pm
- **Tuesday 8th December** Xmas Fest for pupils
- **Wednesday 9th December** Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day
- **Tuesday 15th December** Lower School Christmas Service 9.45-10.15am
- **Tuesday 15th December** Upper School Christmas Service 10.45-11.15am
- **Wednesday 16th December** Tonwell Christmas Service 2.45pm
- **Wednesday 16th December** Father Christmas, Parties and Disco
- **Friday 18th December** Last day of Autumn term
1.15pm Parent Pick Up / 1.30pm Pupils Break Up



Thank you to all our families, staff, governors and community partners for their ongoing support. We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable half term break and look forward to welcoming pupils back on **Tuesday 3rd November 2026**.



Plate making workshop at Tonwell

Each pupil rolled their clay and chose an autumnal leaf to print with to create their very own personalised piece.

[Click here to see how the pupils got on.](#)

