



# The Ashington Post

Issue 12: February 2026

## February Edition

Welcome to our February edition of the Ashington Post 2025-2026! February was another busy month at Ashington including our annual musical, this year - *Frozen Jr.*

We have been sharing lots of sports successes both in and outside of the school and students have been working hard practising for the latest school production!

## Frozen Jr Production

Ashington Academy has had the great pleasure of celebrating the hard work, dedication, and resilience of students from across all year groups as they took to the stage in this year's production of *Frozen Jr.*

Over the course of three sold out evening performances and a special matinee, our talented students delivered a series of outstanding shows. Each performance highlighted their musical and acting abilities, as well as their commitment, teamwork, and determination throughout months of rehearsals.

The enthusiasm and professionalism displayed by everyone involved both on stage and behind the scenes was evident in every detail of the production.

Staff and students worked tirelessly to bring this enchanting story to life, and their efforts resulted in an event that was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

We are exceptionally proud of our students and deeply grateful to the staff who supported them. *Frozen Jr.* has been a resounding success, and we look forward to many more opportunities to showcase the incredible talent within our academy community.





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## Learn with the Lords

In February we were delighted to welcome Lord John Shipley to our school as part of the *Learn with the Lords* programme. His visit provided a unique and inspiring opportunity for our students to engage directly with a member of the House of Lords and gain first-hand insight into the workings of Parliament.

Lord Shipley delivered an engaging presentation to our Year 12 and Year 13 Law students, deepening their understanding of legislation, democracy, and the role of the Lords in shaping national policy. He also took time to meet with some of our newly appointed Year 10 student representatives and our three newly elected Youth Cabinet members, offering thoughtful answers to their questions about leadership, politics, and the daily working of Parliament.

The visit sparked thoughtful discussion, challenged our students to think critically about civic participation, and reinforced the importance of young voices in public life. We extend our sincere thanks to Lord Shipley for giving his time so generously and for inspiring the next generation of active citizens and future leaders.



## Bank of England Visit

Our Year 12 and Year 13 Business and Economics students had the fantastic opportunity to hear directly from a representative of the Bank of England, who delivered an insightful session on the Bank's role, responsibilities, and its importance in supporting the UK economy. Students gained valuable, first-hand understanding of how this vital institution works to maintain financial stability, manage inflation, and influence economic growth across the country.

The talk deepened their knowledge of key economic and financial concepts and provided excellent real-world context to support their learning.

This experience has been particularly beneficial as students continue preparing for their upcoming mock exams and assessments.



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## Youth Cabinet

Every year young people in Northumberland have an opportunity to elect individuals to both the Northumberland Youth Cabinet and National Youth Parliament.

At Ashington Academy we have a proud record of our pupils representing the area and this year is no exception!

Congratulations to Cameron-James S (Yr 8), Meredith S (Yr 8) and Charlie L (Yr 9) who were all successfully elected to form part of the Youth Cabinet for Northumberland.



## Celebration Station

Our celebration Station came back with a bang after half term! Students across all year groups have been working incredibly hard and showing fantastic motivation in their lessons.

A special shoutout goes to our Year 11 students, who continue to attend interventions and prepare with real determination for their upcoming mocks.



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## Sporting Success

### Area Athletics !

Recently, our Year 7 and 8 Girls have competed in the Area Athletics at Blyth in both track and field events. The girls competed with enthusiasm running fast and throwing and jumping far. A huge well done must go to the Year 7 Girls who picked up a bronze medal for their brilliant effort throughout the day!!!



### Football Fixtures!

Our Year 7 Boys have continued their run of football fixtures with games against Blyth and Ponteland. It has been brilliant to see students play, grow, and enjoy some incredibly competitive games over the past few weeks. Both teams are looking to finish their seasons on a strong note with the final fixtures all lined up.



### Trampolining Triumph



Our KS4 students have also triumphed recently in the area trampolining competition at Wansbeck.

A special mention must go to Naomi B and Alicia B in Y10 who won Silver and Bronze respectively in their category, as well as Poppy C in Y11 who wowed the judges with her spectacular routine in the Advanced category picking up a well-deserved Gold Medal with one of the top scores of the entire competition!!



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## Is your child eligible for free school meals?

As a family you are entitled to free school meals if you access any of the following:

- Income support
- Income-based jobseeker's allowance or Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI (6) of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State 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, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month).



Scan the QR code to apply or visit [northumberland.gov.uk](http://northumberland.gov.uk)

## Dates for your diary

Here are upcoming dates for your diary in February. Please do keep an eye on our social feeds for further details!

Date	Event
18th March 2026	• Year 12 parents Evening
19th March 2026	• Year 8 Coffee Morning
2nd April 2026	• Year 11 Results Evening
3rd-5th April 2026	• DofE Final Expedition (Year 11 and Year 13)

## Reward points

Three cheers for the students who have collected the most reward points in February—well done and keep up the fantastic work!



7	Darcie R
8	Eve P
9	Grace D
10	Jaymi-Lee C
11	Finlay L
12	Riley E-T
13	Lily A



## Finally...

If you have any questions about the information above, or if you have any issues or worries, please get in touch with us and we would be happy to help.



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### Keep in touch

We would love to hear from you if you have anything to share about your child or if there is something that may be happening in the community that you think we should be aware of and could feature in our newsletter or in our social media posts.

Also, please do let us know what you think of our newsletter! We'd love to hear from you!