



High Ash C of E School Weekly Newsletter Friday 2nd November 2018



Grow Together Shine Forever

'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16

To all our families,

Hope you all had a great half term and took the chance to rest and relax ready for the next seven and a half school weeks before Christmas!

The children have certainly come back with their usual positive attitude to learning and I know that the teachers have already sent home Curriculum Overviews as to what the children will be learning about this half term. If you have not received this, please check book bags and/or ask the class teacher!

Highlights this week...

Foundation- The children have loved finding out about fireman and firewomen this week and have had a great time in the role play and small world areas being these people that help us. Thank you to Edward who showed me how the fire station worked and to Evie who was all dressed up very proudly in her fire safety jacket. We are seeing the impact already of phonics on the children's emerging writing and I was really impressed with how the children are starting to not only sound out words, yet also having a go at writing sentences! Well done to Alayna, Emma, Evie, Esme, Jessica and Ethan for sharing their writing with me - wow!

Reminders: -

Bonfire Party - If you have not already done so, **please return your reply slip consenting to your child taking part in the Bonfire Party to the school office on Monday 5th November.** This event is due to take place on Wednesday 7th November during school hours. You can find a copy of this letter on our website attached to the diary date.

Phonics sessions for parents at 9.00am - Red Group, Monday 19th November and Blue Group, Tuesday 20th November - if you have not already done so, **please make sure you have booked your attendance via our website by Monday 12th November.** Select the 'Parents' tab then the 'book in school event' tab to book your attendance - only 1 adult per child can attend to provide enough spaces for quality work to take place.

Year One and Two- The main highlight of the week was obviously the Hook Day on Monday with the children (and parent helpers- thank you!) walking to the woods to launch their 'Enchanted Woodland' topic. They had a great time collecting and naming leaves, finding out all the different types of twigs, branches, soil and creatures that live there. They also made 'boggarts' which are fantastical spirits found in woodlands. Here are some of their tree designs in the photos below!



The topic is Science focused and they are going to be using all the materials they collected to begin to classify them according to scientific properties as well as using in art work too.

In English, the classes have started to look at instruction texts as over the next few weeks they will be writing their own, linked to making woodland crowns- can't wait to read them! In Year Two Maths, Mrs Burrows was completing work on balancing equations with her group and Theo R came with a huge smile to show me his progress with this- keep up the good work!

Year Three and Four- On Tuesday, the playground became a training ground for Anglo Saxon battles as part of their Hook Day. The children spent the day dressed as Anglo-Saxons making their weapons and learning about life in Anglo Saxon and Viking times. They all really enjoyed the day as they soon realised life then could be pretty gruesome! Shreyan had a gold star for his wonderful drawing of a Viking long boat and had labelled all the key features. Sam H had completed some excellent home learning too- all great stuff.



A huge well done to Lola R, Sakhile, Nelka, Ethan, Georgia, Peter and Polly for super Maths progress too. Also Harrison had completed some fantastic reasoning about fractions.

Year Three and Four have lots of curriculum enrichment opportunities this year and this started with this week with a specialist basketball coach taking them for PE. Next week, Bucks Music Service will be taking a class each term to teach them an instrument.



Year Five and Six- It was all aboard the Titanic on Monday when our first and third class passengers boarded the liner and re-enacted the fateful journey. The photos show what a great time they had!

'After a welcome speech from Captain Smith and arrival drinks ("wine" or water depending on class), the children took part in activities throughout the day including learning the waltz and an Irish jig, looking at menu items for 1st and 3rd class passengers and re-enacting the tragic event. The children had great fun. Thank you to families for your costume efforts!' Miss Beech



In Maths, Year Six have been learning about algebra, with Year Five focusing on fractions. English work is linked to the topic this week and they have written diary entries from the perspective of being a passenger on the Titanic. Alex W produced a fantastic research project on the Titanic that clearly showed a great love of the topic. Connor M also chose this week to produce some super handwriting and presentation- well done everyone!



Remembrance Day...

In assembly this week, we talked about Remembrance Day and how it is important to remember the men and women who have served to protect our country. We also spoke about some soldiers from Great Brickhill who served in the First World War. We are honoured this year to be involved in the Remembrance Day Parade and Service at St Mary's Church, Great Brickhill on Sunday 11th November and three of our children will be selected from a hat to take part in the wreath laying on that Sunday.

PE Kit reminder...

We still aim to continue with outdoor PE this term unless weather is particularly adverse. Please can you therefore ensure that your child has winter PE kit of plain blue sweatshirt and plain blue jogging bottoms to ensure they have warm clothes. Many thanks!

Whole Class Behaviour Awards...

From this half term we have introduced a weekly class behaviour award for a class (or classes) who show outstanding behaviour. This will be awarded in a Star Assembly. At the end of the year we will look at a class/school reward. The children are very excited by this!

Parking reminder...

We have had several residents contacting us with concerns that there are several parents parking at the top of Pound Hill and Rotten Row running their engines from as early as 8.20am in the morning! While we appreciate that the mornings are getting colder, we would like to politely remind all parents of the parking exclusion zone in the village and also to request that if you are going to arrive by car that you park at the Parish Hall car park and walk up to school. Thank you for your understanding and support with ensuring we maintain positive relations with the village residents.

[Home/School Agreement....](#)

Please note that our updated Home/School agreement is on our website and attached to this newsletter. We are sure that all parents will support us with this partnership agreement. Thank you for your ongoing support.

[Invitation from Open University....](#)

We would like to bring to your attention the 'Moon Night' event that will be taking place on the evening of Friday 7th December 2018 in the Berrill Building. This family-friendly event is particularly suitable for age 11 plus but all are welcome. The audience will have an opportunity to learn about our nearest neighbour in space and the world-leading research taking place at the OU in the field of lunar and planetary sciences. We will engage with various stakeholders and a wide cross-section of the community interested in STEAM subjects. Some of the activities will be live cast and archived for later viewing for those who are not able to attend in person.

We have put together a very exciting programme for the evening! Please visit the following links to find out more and book a place. These links went live yesterday afternoon and so far, we have already received over 100 bookings. Tickets are being allocated on a first come first serve basis, so we will stop taking bookings once we reach the seating capacity of the venue.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-open-university-presents-moon-night-2018-tickets-51958955635>

Thank you to Mr Anand for bringing this to our attention!

[Foundation to Year 5 Flu Immunisation...](#)

You have today been sent a reminder to consent to your child receiving this immunisation. If you have not already done this, please do following the link provided on the letter attached to the email **by Monday 5th November**. **If you have not consented, your child WILL NOT receive this Flu immunisation which is a nasal spray.** The NHS Immunisation Team will be visiting our school on the morning of Thursday 8th November and will only administer this vaccination to those children whose parents have consented. Thank you.

[Spring Term 2019 Wraparound Care...](#)

For those parents that have booked in advance for the wraparound care requirements for next term, we have today issued an invoice to all parents via pupil post. Please read the Terms & Conditions on the back of this invoice. Please make your payment via your parentpay account selecting the payment item "Spring Wraparound Care Advance Bookings". You do have the option to pay in full or pay the agreed amounts set out in the instalment plan on your invoice by the dates provided. **Do not be alarmed when you see the maximum amount of £1,234 next to the payment item - this is not the amount you are due to pay.** This is a Repeatable, Variable Amount i.e. you can make Multiple payments of any value between the minimum (£1) and maximum (£1,234) amounts. If you are paying using childcare vouchers, please ensure you email the office attaching your payment receipt when completed. **The first instalment is due on the 4th December 2018. Please make sure you have read and understood the new Terms and Conditions that you have now agreed to by confirming your bookings. Thank you**

[Open University Orchestra Trip...](#)

Some of our orchestra children will be visiting the **Open University on Friday 9th November** during the school day to watch the Symphony Orchestra perform in an open rehearsal. This an exciting opportunity for them. We do still have some places available. **If you wish your child to attend and have not yet returned your consent reply slip, please do so by Monday 5th November.** Places are limited and are offered on a first come first basis. If you do not have a copy of this letter, you can download a copy via our website. The letter can be found attached to the diary date.

[Diary dates coming up next half term...](#)

Tuesday 6th November - 9.30am-12.00pm - Open Morning for new prospective parents

Wednesday 7th November - Foundation Bonfire Party

Thursday 8th November - Foundation to Year 5 Flu Nasal Spray Immunisation

Friday 9th November - Orchestra @ OU Open Rehearsals

Friday 9th November 2.45pm - Star Assembly (Doors open at 2.30pm). All welcome!

Sunday 11th November - Remembrance Day Service at St. Mary's Church

Wednesday 14th November - 6.30pm - Years 2 and 6 SATs Information Evening for parents - All welcome!

Thursday 15th November - 8.45am - Individual and School Sibling Photographs only to those pupils attending High Ash (no photographs will be taken with younger siblings not already at school)

Friday 16th November - Hazel Class Assembly followed by a chance to look in the classroom afterwards (Doors open at 2.30pm)

Have a great weekend!

Best wishes

Sara J Boyce

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