



High Ash C of E School Weekly Newsletter Friday 9th November 2018



Grow Together Shine Forever

'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16

To all our families,

I am always proud of the children here at school and this week was no exception! Our Year Six children acted as fantastic tour guides for our second Open Morning to parents of children due to start school in September 2019 and it was great to hear their enthusiasm for their school and learning. Lots of our visitors commented on how knowledgeable and polite they were and they are clearly a credit to our school and of course their parents!

Highlights this week....

Foundation- A bit of damp weather did not stop the Foundation Bonfire Party on Wednesday this week and the children had a great time as you can see from these photos.



They have also been learning about Diwali and have made colourful Rangoli patterns and jewelled clay pots. They also have learnt about Diwali celebrations and traditions.

Year One and Two- In Maths, the children in Year One have been looking at doubling numbers and in Year Two looking at how addition and subtraction are linked. I was super impressed with Emilia Wh who had persevered with some Maths she found tricky until she cracked it and showed the PROUD principle of being determined to improve. Thank you to Cedar Class for the lovely and thoughtful prayers they wrote for display in the hall.

Year Three and Four- It is clear from all the good work I have seen this week, how much the children are enjoying their topic this half term! Well done to the following children for their excellent recounts of their Hook Days in their homework books- Skye, Reggie, Alex H, Varsha, Ethan and Imogen- wow! Alex L had even got his Dad to help him make a model of a Viking long boat and Kaitlin had completed super homework as well! In topic, the children in Hazel Class had looked at placing Anglo Saxons on a time line and many got Gold Stars for their work- Holly K, Oscar, Herbert, Caylee and Ethan. In English, the children were learning about the role of paragraphs in their writing and I was proud to see the efforts of Anya, Varsha and Madeleine E. Likewise, Alex S-M, Harrison and Bella were able to show me how well they had understood the difference between informal and formal language and the need to use more formal language in an information text. Jack B, Alex H and Lottie have made super progress with fractions in Maths this week- well done!

Year Five and Six- The 'Frozen' topic continues to capture the children's curiosity and this week they have written postcards home as passengers on the Titanic as part of their homework. The teachers were blown away by how well the children had applied their learning and knowledge to this task and it was a real treat to read their writing. A massive well done to Elliot, Isaac C, Kiera, Darcie S, Mason, Willow, Rohan and Sadie for their postcards. They had really captured the mood and language of 1912! Elizabeth shared her writing with me and Darcey B, Beth and Olivia H were rightly proud of their progress with fractions in Maths. Olivia B, Emily N and Darcey D-M demonstrated their knowledge of food chains in Science. What a busy week!

Year Two and Year Six SATs information evening...

Reminder to all Year Two and Year Six parents that myself, Mrs Burrows (Y2) and Miss Beech (Y6) will be holding a **SATs information evening next Wednesday 14th November at 6:30pm** here at school. Children are also welcome to attend, there will be an opportunity to understand the SATs process, dispel any myths about these assessments and answer any questions you may have. Please be assured that we keep a sensible balance between ensuring children (especially in Year Six) feel ready for the tests, yet also ensuring they still all follow the full curriculum in these two year groups.

Remembrance Sunday....

We have discussed the importance of Remembrance Day in an assembly last week (as I shared on last week's

newsletter) and the children have shown real respect and sensitivity in remembering the brave men and women who gave their tomorrow for our today. I have received some very poignant letters from the children as to what remembering this part of history means to them. Four names were pulled out of a hat as to who should be chosen to represent our school and lay our school wreath at the **memorial by the church in Great Brickhill as part of the Remembrance Day service this Sunday 11th December (which starts promptly at 10:50am if you wish to come along).**

Emma, Emily, Olivia and Issy will be representing our school as wreath layers and escorts. Thank you to Sophie F and Rohan for coming up with the words to write onto the wreath- very touching and heartfelt. A special mention also to a lovely letter from Sophie L and to Sam B who had researched the history of his great uncle who had fought in World War One. Lest we forget never rings more true at these occasions and I am honoured our school is taking part on Sunday.



James and Hannah L will be laying a wreath at St. Mary's Church, Little Brickhill on behalf of all the children who attend High Ash.

Thank you to everyone who has bought a poppy and made a donation too!

Orchestra at the Open University...

Today, 20 children from our Orchestra had the exciting opportunity of going to watch an open rehearsal of the Open University's Symphony Orchestra at the OU building in Milton Keynes. What a treat to see how an orchestra rehearses and performs and hopefully will inspire the children to keep playing in our orchestra!

Charity update...



The volunteers from the Winter Night Shelter MK wanted to extend their huge thanks for all of your generous donations and it has been such a success that they currently have enough clothing and blankets for their current storage capacity! What a brilliant effort from our families and I am sure that it will make a difference to those receiving them.

Spring 2019 Wrap...

Thank you to all the parents that managed to get their booking forms for Spring Term to the school office by the deadline. You will have now received your invoice together with the updated T&C's which you will have agreed to adhere to by confirming your bookings. You can now log on to your parentpay account and pay your first instalment for your wraparound care bookings by selecting the following payment item: -

'Spring 2019 Wraparound Advance Bookings'

Please ensure you have paid your first instalment by the 4th December to avoid receiving a £5.00 late payment charge. Thank you to those parents that have already either paid in full or part paid no less than their first instalment amount. If paying using childcare vouchers, please remember to email the office attaching your payment receipt when completed.

We are full for morning wraparound on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday next term, but do still have spaces at the standard rate for some Monday dates and Friday. We do have a few spaces available for the after school wraparound care Monday to Friday. If you are interested, please contact the school office, but all bookings will be charged at the standard rate.

Spring 2019 Clubs...

There are still spaces for Dodgeball, Netball and Badminton clubs run by Clubs for Schools. If you wish to book and pay for your child to attend either of these clubs next term, please see the booking flyers on our website under the 'Wrap/Clubs' tab followed by 'Clubs'. You can view and download these flyers for booking your child a place directly with the agent running the clubs. The same applies for Cookery clubs run by SmartRaspberry.

Choir at Young Voices...

Thank you to the parents that have booked and paid for their child to attend the Young Voices concert, Birmingham on Tuesday 22nd January 2019. If you have not already done so, please ensure you have completed and returned your consent form to the school office by Friday 30th November. **Your T-Shirt order form and Parent Ticket order form, if required must be returned completed to the school office and paid for via your parentpay account by Friday 16th November. If consenting only and paying your contribution towards the transport, please ensure you have paid via your parentpay account by Friday 30th November.** Thank you.

Foundation & KS1 Nativities...

You can now log on to our website and reserve your seats for the Foundation and KS1 Nativity performances. Seats are limited to 3 per family for the Foundation Nativity and 3 per family for the KS1 Nativity, 'Lights, Camel, Action!' overall. There are three performances for the KS1 Nativity, therefore, you can spread your 3 seats over all three performances, 1 seat per performance if you wish. **Please reserve your seats online by Monday 3rd December.** There will NO recording of the performances by parents permitted as the performances are being

professionally filmed by Ultimate Visuals. You will be able to experience your child or children's production from a smart phone, tablet or computer which can be downloaded if required, but you will have to pay £10.00 via your parentpay account to obtain the link and password to access the personalised Online Portal. The portal is a place where you can securely access the film and download for archiving in a far superior quality than anything we have previously experienced with Ultimate Visuals. If you wish to purchase this link and protected password, **please pay via parentpay by Monday 3rd December** selecting the following payment item: -

'Foundation/KS1 Nativity Production Recordings'

Please read the letter attached to our email for full information.

Parent Forum...

Our next Parent Forum will take place on **Thursday 29th November at 9.00am and repeated at 6.00pm**. If you wish to attend, please book online via our website selecting the 'Parent' tab followed by 'Booking In-School Events' then selecting the Parent Forum tab and book the time you wish to attend. **Please book by Tuesday 27th November**. Thank you.

Christmas Tree Walk Parent Volunteers...

Our Christmas Tree walk will take place on **Friday 30th November** leaving school straight after morning registration. We are looking for parent volunteers to help walk the children to and from this event. If you are able help please complete the online booking form via our website. To book your attendance, please click on the 'Parent' tab followed by 'Booking In-School Events' then the 'Christmas Tree Walk Volunteers' tab. **Please book your attendance by Monday 26th November**. Children will be provided with a biscuit and tea and coffee will be offered to the parent helpers at the end of the walk. Thank you once again for your anticipated support.

Diary Dates coming up....

Wednesday 14th November - 6.30pm - Years 2 and 6 SATs information evening for parents

Thursday 15th November - 8.45am - Individual and school sibling photographs in school

Friday 16th November - 2.45pm - Hazel Class Assembly. Chance to look in class afterwards - doors open at 2.30pm

Friday 23rd November - 2.45pm - Star Assembly - doors open at 2.30pm all welcome!

Have a great weekend!

Best wishes

Sara J Boyce

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