



# High Ash C of E School Weekly Newsletter Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2018



*Grow Together Shine Forever*

*'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16*

To all our families

As we are now into Advent we can officially mention Christmas! All our assemblies are focused on this important and wonderful time of year. Our aim is to mix in the excitement of Christmas and all it brings in modern times, with the history and real meaning of why we celebrate this time of year. This week the children have been remembering the significance of Advent and the lighting of the Advent candles. The first Advent candle is for 'Hope' and we shared a story about this in Monday's assembly. The children also learnt how Advent and Christingle are different and the symbolism behind both of them.



It was also lovely to have the 'Open the Book' assembly perform the 'First Christmas' story and I know that Foundation and Key Stage One have been learning about the Nativity in their RE lessons and of course through their Christmas performances. We also have our chocolate Advent calendar in school, which the children love too! They really do make it a magical time of year and reminds us of how we care about each other.

Our Christmas tree looks wonderful in the hall and if you have a chance to see it, you will see that it is covered in decorations made by the children in the theme of 'All Things Bright and Beautiful' - it really was a creative effort from everyone and looks amazing in the purple and white colours of the church calendar.

### Highlights this week...

Foundation- The children continue to make great progress in phonics. Some of the children are now moving on to apply their phonics to help write sentences- wow! They have been looking at space and aliens this week, reading 'Aliens Love Underpants' as their main stimulus. They have made some fantastic alien models out of clay and have turned the role play area into a space station!

### Year One and Two-

The children have completed assessments for the end of term and have continued to work hard on their Nativity. It really is coming together well and I am very proud of the teaching team for all of their efforts on this. In Guided Reading, the children have been looking at adjectives and shades of meaning. Well done to Isabel for this! In Topic, the children had their 'Innovate' project to confirm their understanding of what they have learnt about woodland animals. They had to study their animals then write questions to test their knowledge, and then write all their key facts down on post-it notes!



The teachers had sourced real, stuffed animals from a museum for them to look at and analyse. The hedgehog proved very popular!

### Year Three and Four-

This week, Year Three and Four had their Basketball Festival this week following their terms training with Coach Jenner. They have really enjoyed improving their skills, teamwork and resilience!



Well done to the following children for great home learning and their gold stars- Olivia S, Maha, Angelica, Ishan, Luca, Jack B, Dylan and Orla- very impressive! Imogen had two gold stars this week for homework and for her RE writing. This shows how she is following the PROUD principle of being determined to improve. Thank you to Millie and Maddie E for their lovely Christmas design using the church colours for Advent and Christmas of purple and white.

### Year Five and Six-

Thank you to Maple Class for sharing their learning in the Class Assembly this week and it is clear they have learnt a lot from their 'Frozen' topic. The year groups have been writing complaint letters in English from the viewpoints of animals in the Arctic who feel humans are threatening their habitats. I have seen some great examples from Mrs Goodger's group and well done to Elliot, Darcie S and Elisha for their very persuasive letters! In Maths, they have been learning about area and well done to Tristan in Miss Beech's class for persevering with a tricky bit of reasoning on area and then getting to the answer.

### ***Huge thank you and well done to our Year Six Librarians....***

Many thanks to everyone who supported the librarians' Cake Sale last Friday. Their enterprise skills meant they raised an amazing £165.60 which they are going to put towards some new equipment for the library. I am so very proud of all of them!

### ***Foundation 'See us Shine' mornings...***

Thank you to all the parents that have booked to attend one of the morning sessions next week, Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> or Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December from 9.00-10.00am. The online booking form is now closed. If you would to attend one of these sessions and have not yet booked, **please email [office@highash.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@highash.bucks.sch.uk) by 10am Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December** to be added to our parent registers.

### ***Good Companions Concert...***

Our Good Companions concert as taking place next week, Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 1.30pm, doors open at 1.15pm. All parents of successful children performing a solo/ensemble piece of music should have received a letter inviting you to book seats to attend this concert via our website. All choir and orchestra children will be performing and parents have been invited to reserve their seats. Thank you to the parents that have already reserved their seats. If you wish to come, **please ensure you have reserved your seats by 10am Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December**. Log on to [www.highashschool.co.uk](http://www.highashschool.co.uk), select the 'Parents' tab followed by 'Booking In-School events' then click on the Good Companions Concert tab, complete and submit your booking form. Thank you.

### ***Foundation and KS1 Nativities...***

There are seats available for the Foundation Nativity on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December @ 2.00pm and for the KS1 Nativity on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 2.00pm and 5.30pm. **If you require additional seats, please email the office by 10am Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December.**

### ***Autumn Clubs...***

All clubs will have now finished. Please ensure you collect your child from school at 3.20pm for the rest of this term. If your child is to travel home on the bus, please make sure you have emailed the office to confirm your child's home arrangements on the bus. Thank you.

### ***The Ash Tree Restaurant..***

Please see attached next week's menu and don't forget to book your child's hot school meal via Parentpay. You can book up to 9am the same day.

### *Diary reminders/Christmas Countdown...*

I hope you found the Christmas Countdown useful. This was included in our weekly newsletter emailed to all parents last Friday. If you have misplaced it, don't worry as you can view this on our website. All weekly diary date reminders are on our website on the homepage when you log in, please scroll to the bottom of the page. All weekly newsletters are also uploaded to our website under 'News and Events' section. Please do keep referring to our website as it will have all the information you need.

### *Class Behaviour Awards...*

Well done to Hazel and Cedar class for their super behaviour towards all the adults in school. Thank you.

### *End of term reports...*

We are just in the process of finalising our end of term assessments. Your child's progress and attainment termly report card will be sent home on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January so please look out for it then.

Think that is all for this week and I look forward to seeing many of you over the coming couple of weeks at Nativities, Christingles, Star Assembly and at church events.

Have a great weekend!

Best wishes

*Sara J Boyce*

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