



High Ash C of E School Weekly Newsletter Friday 8th March 2019



Grow Together Shine Forever

'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16

To all our families,

It has been a busy week in school as always! We had a very positive visit from a nationally recognised senior leader in education this week who I had invited in to School to look at our overall curriculum with us. It was good to have reinforced that we are accurately focusing on the key areas that will continue to drive improvement that match our ambitions and high expectations for the quality of education we provide. As mentioned last week, I will be updating parents on this at the next Parent Forum meeting in May. Lots of children talked to our visitor and were great ambassadors for our school. As Headteacher, it is important to me that we remain outward looking, ambitious and evaluative in order to ensure we are being the best we can be for the benefit of your children and visits such as this are a key part of that.

Highlights this week...

Foundation- The children have loved this week reading 'The Gingerbread Man' and basing their learning around this book. Thank you to Roman, Ruby and Henry P who entertained me in the outdoor Puppet Theatre and to Ethan, Miles, Owen and Callum who shared their learning on doubling teens numbers with me too. Impressive stuff! Thank you also to the parents who attended our 'See Us Shine' sessions earlier in the week. It was great to see your children sharing their learning with you.

Year One and Two-

This week, the children have been focusing on Geography and using maps and atlases to identify and name the countries of the UK and their capital cities. We managed to avoid the politics of Brexit when it came to the children asking questions about if Northern Island and Eire were the same country and about the border! Bobbi had completed some super multiplication and division work in Maths and Jacob and Cody had impressed their teachers with the knowledge they had gained on compass directions. Chantelle and Annalise had completed great learning with their map reading and Alfie F was delighted with his addition linked to money in Maths. Rohan C, Alice, Roseanna and Thomas G showed me their poetry where they had used rhyming couplets in their poems - fantastic work. Well done!

Year Three and Four

It would be fair to say that the topic on Ancient Greece has really grabbed the imagination of Year Three and Four and this week they have learnt all about the chronology of this time period and ordered key events. They have then used drama to secure this knowledge, Varsha, Shayan, Ishan and Autumn shared their work with me linked to this. As for Jess, Caylee and Grace, they had used careful observations to sketch Ancient Greek artefacts. Not only that, they have really enjoyed their home learning activities creating a 'mood board' about Greece and a special mention goes to Greta, Harrison, Ben Y, Laurence, Dylan and Alfie G for their super creations! Oscar P had really gone to town and created an amazing display all about the Ancient Greeks - wow! Lorelei, Ishan, Shreyan and Archie F had Gold Stars for Maths and Archie F had another Gold Star for his super positive attitude in English this week. Great stuff!

Year Five and Six

The year groups have been writing biographies based on Henry VIII and other Tudor figures in their English lessons. In Maths, Year Six have been looking at algebra. Kiera came to share with me some narrative writing she had completed as part of her assessment work and it was great to see her progress. The children have also been learning about Tudor music and then performing their own Tudor dances to music. In History, they have taken their knowledge acquisition even further by looking at not only who Henry VIII married six times but why and also studying primary sources from the time to gain an idea as to what Henry VIII was like as a person and a king. Finally, they have read a transcript from Elizabeth I commenting on her parents and learning about Anne Boleyn from a different perspective. Impressive stuff and this is evident from the children's books too.

Year 6 children have been invited to Water Eaton Church Centre to join the Bridgebuilder Trust Team in a fast-moving and interactive presentation entitled 'Easter Cracked' on **Wednesday 27th March**. A letter has been sent to Year 6 parents via ParentPay. **Please ensure you return your consent reply slip to the school office by Friday 22nd March.**

Sporting highlights.....

KS2 Dance Extravaganza

Our Year Five and Sixes performed at the KS2 Dance Extravaganza this week which is an inter-school dance competition and I am delighted to say that all of their time and effort spent practicing has paid off as they came in second place and are into the finals at the end of the month. Huge thanks to Mrs Black who has worked tirelessly with the group. Well done Darcey, Lincoln, Bethany, Olivia H, Keira, Madeleine, Sadie, Evie, Emily C

and Sophie. The finals will be at the Buckingham Secondary School on Monday 25th March and parents are also invited to attend, although tickets are limited to 1 spectator place per child. More details will follow shortly. We will also ask the dance troupe to perform their routine at the end of Star Assembly on Friday 4th April after the finals if you are able to attend.

Year 5/6 Football League Match

The High Ash Year 5/6 Football team played a league match at home against Cheddington School on Wednesday and achieved a very respectable 1-1 draw which has resulted in a reserve win. Well done to the football team Mason, Cameron, Tristan, Charlie, Caleb, Aaron, Matthew, Jason, George and Connor.

World Book Day....

The children should have come home with their World Book Day book token this week, so please check book bags. If you can't locate it, then just check with the class teacher please. Everyone took part in a 'Drop Everything and Read' session across the whole school.

Orchestra @ OU 50th Anniversary Open Rehearsals...

A letter has been sent home to parents of our orchestra children this week. We have secured 20 children places. There are still some spaces available. If your child is a part of our orchestra and wishes to attend this event, **please book to secure your child a place online via our website by Friday 22nd March.**

Summer Term Clubs...

M-Sports run by Gareth Anderson on Thursday's next term for Years 1 to 3 children now has **2 spaces available**. If you have not booked your child to attend this club but wish to, please email the office to secure your place. **These places will be offered first come, first served basis.** The cost is £45.00 for 12 weeks.

Netball Club run by Mrs Wilford (parent helper) on Monday's to Years 4 to 6 children and Choir club run by Mrs Gray on Thursday's to Years 3 to 6 children do have spaces available. If your child wishes to join either of these clubs next term, **please email the office by Friday 15th March to be added to the club registers.**

There are still spaces available for clubs run by external agents as follows: -

Monday - Dodgeball and Friday - Badminton run by Clubs for Schools

Tuesday - Cookery run by SmartRaspberry

Wednesday - Science run by Mother Nature Science

Please see booking flyers on our website for full information.

Spring Adhoc Wraparound...

Please note, there are NO ADHOC spaces for morning or after school wraparound care up to the end of this term.

Summer Wraparound...

We have now received all our advance bookings for next term. All parents will have received their invoice, letter and T&C's via pupil post today. Please ensure you pay your instalments on the dates stated within your invoice and T&C's to avoid receiving any late payment charges. There are some adhoc spaces available which will be charged at the standard rate, please always email the office to check availability if you require the use of this wraparound care service on an adhoc basis.

HASA Events...

Thursday 28th March - Ladies Prosecco & Pamper Evening

HASA would like to invite all mums, grans, friends and ladies along to their Prosecco and Pamper evening 7-9pm. We have the following amazing stalls and beauty therapists booked for the event (with more to be confirmed):

- Fabulous chocolate treats from The Chocolate Mill
- Beauty treatments from Fountain of Health & Beauty, Time for You by Chloe and Serenity Reflexology
- Handbags and jewellery from Jules Fashion
- Clothing and fashion accessories from Dress by Jas & Ben

Wednesday 3rd April - Film Night

We will be holding a film night on Wednesday 3rd April straight after school. Places will be available to book on ParentPay w/c 18th March.

Friday 5th April - Easter Raffle

The HASA Easter Raffle will be drawn on Friday 5th April - there are 3 fabulous prizes to be won: Luxury Easter Hamper, £50 cash prize and a deluxe Easter Egg. Raffle tickets will be sent home next week with more information.

Diary dates coming up....

Tuesday 12th March - KS1 Indoor Athletics 3.45-5.45pm

Thursday 14th March - Football game v Edlesborough School (Away) 3.45-4.15pm

Friday 15th March - Star Assembly @ 2.45pm (doors open at 2.30pm) - all welcome!

Have a great weekend!

Sara J Boyce

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