



High Ash CE School
★ Weekly Newsletter/Blog ★
Tuesday 20th December 2022
'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16



Grow Together Shine Forever

To all our families,

I just wanted to send you a final newsletter before we broke up for Christmas and also a final thank you from me to you as I leave to take up my new role as HMI.

I need to start by saying a huge thank you for all your kind words, wishes and very generous gifts- I am really appreciative and lost for words (which makes a change!)- it was certainly a lovely surprise to be presented with flowers, cards and vouchers at last week's Star Assembly.

I have loved being Headteacher of this school and I am proud of what we have achieved in my time here. I never thought when I joined in September 2017 that I would lead a school during a global pandemic, as well as overhaul and update the curriculum, rebrand the logo and vision and continue to achieve high academic standards and develop an incredible staff team.

Thank you as parents for your support. I have valued your input and honesty at the half termly Parent Forums and through your emails and conversations. I may not have been able to please everyone all of the time, however, I have always listened and reflected on parent views. I think we have far greater mutual respect between home and school than when I first started here.

Every school needs a great team and I am proud of all the staff who work so hard for the children in their care. I have every faith in Mrs Goodger and the senior leaders as well as the wider staff team to steer the ship until the substantive Headteacher takes up their post later next year. I have completed a full handover with Mrs Goodger and at the end of term she will be accessing the headteacher@highashschool.co.uk email address.

Teaching is not an easy job (as I am sure more people would do it if it was!) so please continue to work with the teachers to support your child. Sadly, more teachers nationally are leaving the profession than joining and so more than ever we all need to work together to ensure teachers feel valued and respected.

Thank you also to the Governors of our school who work hard behind the scenes to provide support and challenge.

Above all else, I shall miss the children. They are a joy to work with every day and never fail to surprise, inspire and amuse me! They really have learned to understand what it means to let their light shine.

I will leave the final words with the children and the *Roving Reporters* this week.

'This week we have been asking people about their favourite memory of Mrs Boyce. We think she is a truly remarkable Headteacher and the Year 6's have pretty much grown in the school with her. Starting in Year 3/4 Jerold said Mrs Boyce was always helpful, Cleo said she is always fun and

happy especially Star Assemblies and Esme really enjoyed the Talking Teas which Mrs Boyce and the Reflection Leaders used to have every week. Carrying on to Year 5/6 Hollie loved getting the Headteacher Star Award because it made her feel like she'd been noticed for something good. Dylan remembers when Mrs Boyce joined and how amazing she was right from the beginning. Finally, Jenson told us that he thought Mrs Boyce was always kind and mindful of others.

This is the last Roving Reporter of the year and I (Lottie) would like to thank Eliza for helping me interview people every week and ask people for their opinions.

I think the whole school would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Boyce - you have shaped our lives in so many ways and we will miss you, Mrs Boyce we are so proud of you!!'

Other highlights from the last two days of term...

- ✓ Well done to everyone for our super KS2 Carol Concert at Church on Monday- the readings and the carol singing was a joy to behold
- ✓ Thank you to the staff and children for my very touching and thoughtful leaving assembly
- ✓ Foundation and Key Stage One enjoyed the Great Gappo entertainer on Tuesday afternoon!

Thank you, take care and remember, once a High Ash Star, always a High Ash Star!

Best wishes for the future,

Sara J Boyce

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Headteacher

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