



# High Ash CE School

## Weekly Newsletter/Blog

### Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022

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



## Grow Together Shine Forever



### *The Christmas Countdown begins....*

We love this time of year in school as we celebrate Advent and get ready for Christmas. Read on further in this newsletter for our Christmas Countdown planner which will hopefully be of use in keeping organised with all we have going on!

Please also remember to get your Nativity tickets- details of this are on the letter sent home earlier this week.

### *KS2 Christmas Tree Walk...*

Today we had our annual Christmas Tree Walk and it was wonderful to see all of Key Stage Two and lots of parent helpers walk through the woods to the Fisheries to sing carols around the Christmas Tree and remember the meaning of Advent as a time of hope, love, joy and peace. Thank you to the Reflection Leaders for their Advent prayers and to the Fisheries for the donation of our tree which will have pride of place in our school hall as it does every year! There is something quite special and spiritual seeing all of our community come together at this event- thank you everyone!

Here are some photos from today to share with you!



### ***Foundation and Key Stage One Outdoor Advent Service...***

As the woods is a little too far for our younger children, they had their Advent Service outside on the field. We had a lovely time singing some carols and saying an Advent prayer. We have planted a tree to ensure we replace the tree from the Fisheries with another one so we are supporting sustainability.

### ***Good work this week...***

- ✓ Special mention to Alysha, Flora, Freya J and Charlotte for their maths this week and knowledge of multiplication
- ✓ Well done to Rafael, Stokely and Martin for showcasing all the Science knowledge they have learned so far in this topic.

### ***Learning highlights this week...***

Just to mix some things up a bit- let's start with Year Five and Six news first this week!

#### ***Year Five and Six-***

#### ***Update from Mrs Weatherall, Year Five and Six Phase Leader***

*'We have had a busy week, jam packed with brilliant learning. We started the week beginning the construction of our motte and bailey castles, using saws to make precise cuts and designing how to make our palisades stand up. In History, we have learnt about the Peasants' Revolt and the factors that caused it; we staged our own Peasants' Revolt in the playground demanding our rights.'*

*The highlight of the week was our trip to Faith in Queen's Park in Bedford. During the day, we visited a gurdwara, a mosque and an Anglican church. All of the children were fantastic representatives of our school and learnt a lot!'*

Thank you to our parent volunteers for helping to support the children during the day and also to Reverend Waller who joined us on the Faith Tour. The children really benefited from his knowledge too!









### Year Three and Four-

#### **Update from Miss Raval, Year Three and Four Phase Leader**

'During their topic lessons this week, Year 3/4 made observations on animal poo. They took close observations and used their knowledge from Year 1 and 2 of 'Dinosaurs' to work out whether the animal was a herbivore, omnivore or carnivore. As well as this, they understood the technical term for animal poo is faeces but other common terms include dung, excrement, animal droppings, spoor, and scat (though usually for carnivores only - though not always). They also looked at bacteria and microbes which will feed into their learning in Year 5/6 of Royals and Rebels, where they will look at this in greater depth. As a class, they understood how to write a persuasive text, using all the language features and will be writing a persuasive text on a subject of their choice in the coming weeks. In Maths, they have continued to develop their knowledge of times tables'.

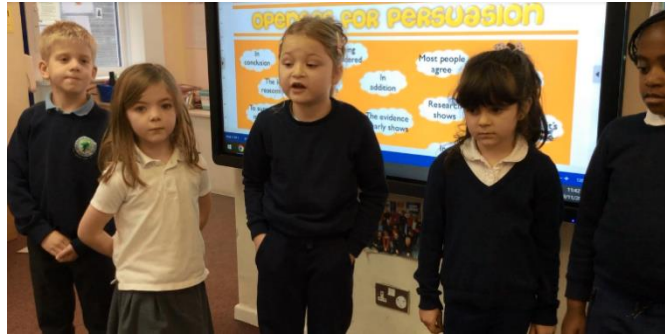


### Year One and Two

#### **Update from Mrs Wadeson/Mrs Crawley, Year One and Two Phase Leaders**

'This week we started our Innovate. The children received a (fantasy) letter from Mr Swan who was planning to cut down 200 acres of woodland in Rushmere Park to make way for 200 houses. The children were so passionate about why this should not take place and recorded messages explaining the impact of deforestation. They have been using all their learning to give reasons why the development should not take place and next week will be writing letters to Mr Swan, persuading him to put a stop to his plans.'





We have been busy getting prepared to write our Hansel and Gretel stories in English this week and have created character profiles on the 'wicked witch' from the story. The children used words such as 'egocentric', 'vile' and 'cruel' to describe the witch's personality.

**Nativity costumes are now due in school; in a named bag please. Thank you to everyone who has brought theirs in. If you are having problems with costumes, please speak to one of the team as we have a few spares in school.**

Foundation- Acorns

**Update from Miss Little. EYFS Leader**

The water tray was a very popular area this week! I put in some oranges and lemons cut into slices and in halves and encouraged the children to work on their motor skills to squeeze out as much juice as they could. This led wonderfully onto creating our very own shop/cafe selling juice for the children who were busy building in the construction area. We got out the pretend money and the children used their coins to pay for their cups of fruity water. The price of the water also increased regularly...! I particularly love the slices of lemon on the sides of the cups. We've also been working all week on creating our own number book consolidating our numbers to ten.







### *Proud Cup Winners this week...*

Well done to Willow and Holly Class who both drew and won the PROUD Cup this week! Great respectful behaviours- keep up the good work everyone!

### *Christmas Countdown Planner...*

Here is a useful countdown planner for you for the next two weeks and two days of this term:

Date and time	Event	Notes
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> December (afternoon)	Good Companions Concert	This is when we invite the senior members of the community to our school for a Christmas music performance. If your child is taking part, please ensure they have their instrument in school this day
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Deadline for booking Foundation and KS1 Nativity tickets	Please refer to the letter sent home about this
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2:45pm (doors open at 2:30pm)	KS2 Star Assembly	Usual Star Assembly format and booking as normal
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Nativity dress rehearsals in school	This is a dress rehearsal to other pupils in school
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Post Box	Children can post their Christmas cards to each other in our Christmas Post Box in reception. Please note we cannot give out class lists though for data protection reasons.
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Foundation and KS1-Please send your child into school with an orange to make their Christingle for church this week	
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2pm (doors open at 1:30pm)	Foundation Nativity to parents	Please ensure you have booked your tickets online. Seats are limited to 2 per family.  Please note children will go back to class after their performance and will be collected at the normal time of 3:25pm.
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December 5:30pm (doors open at 5pm)	KS1 Nativity  <b>FULL. NO AVAILABLE SPACES.</b>	All children must arrive at 5pm please and will go to class to get ready.  If you are not attending the performance, please can you return to pick up your child from the hall fire exit door at 6:30pm

		You will need to have booked tickets as per the letter.
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2pm (doors open at 1:30pm)	KS1 Nativity	Please note children will go back to class after their performance and will be collected at the normal time of 3:25pm.
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 5:30pm (doors open at 5pm)	KS1 Nativity  <b>FULL. NO AVAILABLE SPACES</b>	All children must arrive at 5pm please and will go to class to get ready.  If you are not attending the performance, please can you return to pick up your child from the hall fire exit door at 6:30pm  You will need to have booked tickets as per the letter.
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December (morning)	Y6 Christmas Cracked	Letter will be released next week
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 1:45pm (leaving school at 1:30pm)	Foundation and KS1 Christingle Service at St Mary's Church, Great Brickhill	Parent helpers to walk to church with us will be needed- there will be a google form available next week to book onto- thank you
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day! This year we are raising money for World Visions' Christmas Appeal so please if you can donate a £1 to wear a Christmas jumper!	Please just wear a Christmas Jumper and then wear the rest of your uniform- thank you!
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December- lunchtime	Christmas Lunch in the Ash Tree!	To book you will need to go onto Parent Pay for school meals.
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2pm (doors open at 1:50pm)	Foundation and KS1 Star Assembly	Parents to book as normal
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2:45pm (doors open at 2:30pm)	KS2 Star Assembly	Parents to book as normal
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	KS2 children please come to school with an orange to make their Christingle	
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> December at 1:45pm (will leave school at 1:30pm)	KS2 Carol Concert at St Mary's Church Great Brickhill	Parent helpers to walk to church with us will be needed- there will be a google form available next week to book onto- thank you
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December afternoon	Great Gappo Magician to entertain Foundation and KS1- funded by HASA	
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December		Break up from school at normal finish times.

#### **Reading Breakfast reminder....**

We are looking forward to seeing parents at our **Reading Breakfast** next Tuesday morning at **8.15am** in the hall. Please see letter sent home about this. **Places are limited so please book by clicking on the following link:** <https://highash.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

*Christmas is coming and an update from our Churches...*

*In case you missed this last week- here is another reminder of what is on our local churches in the lead up to Christmas...*

As we approach this magical time of year, our three local churches would like to make you aware of their services that you are all more than welcome to attend.



***St Mary's Church, Great Brickhill....***

***Advent Family Service at 10am***

**Sunday 27th November - Advent Sunday**, the start of four weeks of Advent, a time to prepare and reflect on the real meaning of Christmas. An all-age service, a chance to explore the traditions of the Advent season with a mixture of well-known traditional Advent hymns and some more modern worship songs.

***Advent Windows***

The first Advent Window will be lit up on 1st December and a new window will be lit every day until the final one at the church on Christmas Eve. The windows will light up the village until 31st December.

***Christmas Coffee Morning***

The Christmas Coffee Morning will be held in the church on **Saturday 3rd December, from 10.00am - 1.00pm**. There will be a variety of stalls including a St Mary's stall with cakes, preserves, Christmas decorations, plants etc. Also raffles for a Hamper and a Christmas Cake, tombola, lucky dip, and much more.

***Carol Singing***

Carol Singing around the village will take place on two evenings, weather permitting on:

- **Thursday, 15th December, 5.30 - 7.30pm (meet at Holts Green)**
- **Monday, 19th December, 5.30 - 7.30pm (meet at the church)**

***The Village Nativity, Sunday 18th December at the Cricket Club at 11am***

An enactment of the Nativity Story with carols and readings - Mary and Joseph in the stable in Bethlehem with the shepherds and the kings.

***Christmas Eve*** Nine Lessons and Carols at 5pm

***Christmas Day*** Holy Communion at 11am

***St Mary's Church, Little Brickhill...***

If you live in Little Brickhill, then the **Family Carol Service is at 5pm on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December**. If you would also like to take part in this service, I know the church wardens are keen for children volunteers to help be puppeteers to tell the Nativity story- if you are interested please let us know and we will pass their details to you!

***St Luke's Church, Stoke Hammond...***

Our KS1 children are decorating a tree for the church so look out for that in the next couple of weeks. Please look out for details of their Crib Service for children and families which I believe is on Christmas Eve. Please also see the flyer attached as to what is on this Christmas at St Luke's Church. They also still have their food bank if anyone would like to donate or to also use this service for themselves.

Hope you all have a good weekend and see you Monday!

*Sara J Boyce*

Mrs. Sara Boyce

**Headteacher**

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