



High Ash CE School

Weekly Newsletter/Blog

Friday 25th November 2022



'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16

Grow Together Shine Forever

To all our families,

It has been another busy week at High Ash and again we have lots to share with you this week from school and our community. Thank you for taking the time to read this weekly newsletter as we are proud to share the learning highlights with you.

Introducing the PROUD Cup....



This week we added a new reward to our weekly Star Assemblies- the PROUD Cup. This replaces the weekly class behaviour award that we used to have.

Each class works in the week to focus on some key behaviours linked to our PROUD principles.

A tally is kept of when we see these behaviours in school and the class with the most ticks at the end of the week are awarded the cup. Each week the winning class get to take a folded piece of paper out of the cup that will reveal the special treat they have won!

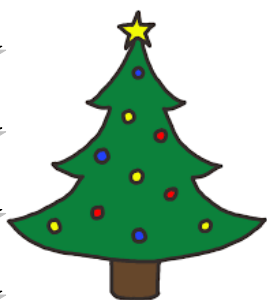
Our theme for the rest of this half term is the R in PROUD which is RESPECT.

The winner this week is Cedar Class!

Reflections next week...

Next week we start to focus our Reflections onto Advent as we then build up to our Nativities, Christingle and Carol Services.

This countdown all starts next week with Advent and then of course the ever popular Christmas Tree Walk next Friday for Key Stage 2 pupils!



KS2 Christmas Tree Walk 9am...Friday 2nd December 2023...

We are looking forward to walking down to the Fisheries next Friday for our annual Christmas Tree Walk and to start off advent in school. We will be leaving school just after 9am. Children will need to come to school in warm waterproof clothes to wear over their uniform and suitable walking shoes/wellies. They will also need a clean pair of shoes to change into back at school.



There is no need to take a snack as we will be handing out homemade biscuits once we arrive- thank you to Michelle and Lizzie in the Ash Tree for making these!

Thank you to parents who have volunteered to walk with us already- we are still looking for more, so please sign up via this link to help out!

<https://forms.gle/3VfmCZky9XMYHjk88>

If you are helping to walk with us, please come to the hall at 8:50am on Friday morning and collect your high viz jacket.

The walk will go ahead unless the weather conditions are too adverse to do so safely- we will let parents know this by 7:30am on the day of the walk via text.

Foundation and KS1 Christmas Tree Advent Service at school Friday 2nd December at 2.00pm followed by Foundation and KS1 Star Assembly at 2:30pm...

Foundation and KS1 pupils will have their Advent Service on the school field near a tree we have recently planted and we will sing two carols and say advent prayers. We will then have the Star Assembly outside too for these year groups!

If you wish to attend the Advent Service only, please click on the link below to submit a Google form:

<https://forms.gle/1vfgFoUhPQnsdKKq5>

If you are unable to come for the Advent Service but can attend the Star Assembly at 2.30pm, please book online by clicking on the following link:

<https://highash.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

For parents that are attending both the Advent Service and the Star assembly, if you have booked by completing the Google form, there is no need to book for the Star Assembly separately. Thank you.

Learning highlights this week...

Well done to the following people that I have seen for great learning this week...

- ✓ Ava Rose and Alfie in Holly Class for great science explanations
- ✓ Tadi in Hawthorn for her excellent newspaper report
- ✓ Liviya in Willow for amazing work showing her understanding of bacteria from her Science lessons
- ✓ Eliza, Fleur, Xanthe, Liviya, Roseanne and Blythe for showing their understanding of the Magna Carta
- ✓ Theo, Tom, Renee, Toby, Ben N and Jenson in Year Six for their division of fractions in Maths
- ✓ Phoebe, Libby, Emilia, Dylan W and Harrison H in Maple for writing informative non-chronological texts about motte and bailey castles in English
- ✓ William B, Riaan and Mia in Year Two for super sentences in English- well done!
- ✓ Ben L, Emilia, Libby, Beau, Liviya A and Finn H for their fraction problem solving in Maths

Foundation- Acorns

Update from Miss Little EYFS Leader

'Well the big highlight for Acorns Class this week was going to a forest school! We had so much fun exploring and experiencing the woods. We were working on our physical development skills by climbing, hanging and swinging from the ropes and trees. We were digging and looking for bugs, using our imagination in the mud kitchen to make Gruffalo pie and also read stories and made owl crafts with feathers. We learnt that male and female owls make different 'hoots' at night time... the girls make the 'twit-twoo' noise whilst the boys only make the 'twoo' noise! So much fun and thanks again to all of our volunteers'.

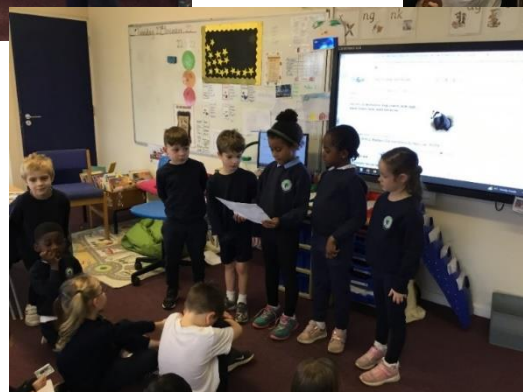
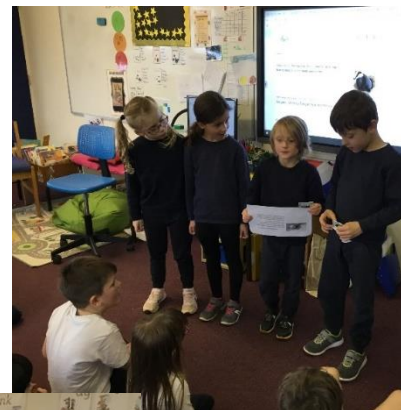
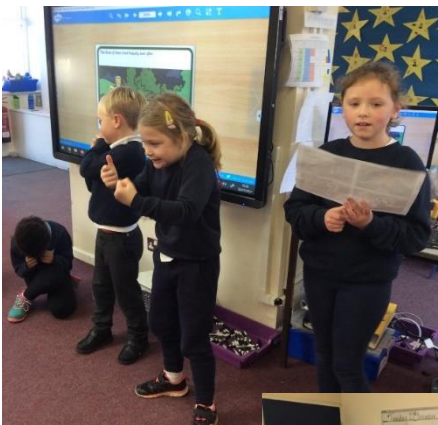


Year One and Two

Update from Mrs Wadeson and Mrs Crawley, Phase Leaders

'This week we have been looking at woodland animals and their habitats. We researched different animals and where they lived and then presented our findings to the class. We also spoke about how animals adapted to their environments and were surprised to learn that sometimes foxes have dens that are 300 meters long! We learnt about deforestation and how this affects our wildlife, including the loss of homes, decrease in food and the migration of animals. We thought about why deforestation happened and ways we can help to stop it.'

In English this week we have been using drama to retell the story of Hansel and Gretel. We worked in groups to act out different parts of the story and created story maps to help our retelling. We learnt about the different characters and next week will be looking at story language to help us write our own versions of Hansel and Gretel'.



Year Three and Four

Update from Miss Raval- Phase Leader

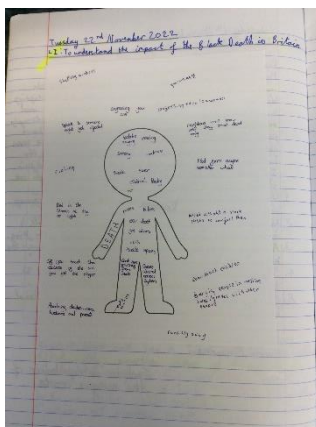
'This week, the children have played the roles of doctors during their topic lessons. They began the week by learning about the different ways our digestive system can be affected. Following this, they read a range of letters from patients with different symptoms. Using their knowledge from the lesson, the children then diagnosed the patients and advised them on the treatment they needed to help their digestion problems. As well as this, they understood how to make our bowels healthy by creating an informative poster. In PSHE, they learnt the importance of internet safety, displaying their understanding in different ways. In English, they have started to learn about persuasive texts, focusing on the features and language to persuade a reader. Finally, in Maths, they have been consolidating their understanding of times tables and applied their knowledge through a range of different problems.'



Year Five and Six

Update from Mrs Weatherall, Phase Leader

'This week Year Five and Six have been learning about the Black Death in our topic. We have learnt about the physical impact on people as well as the emotional impact on England. We have learnt about the cures people believed in, from snakes to fire and had a go at making one of the most common cures: a mix of vinegar, garlic and spices. We have continued reading Sir Gawain in Guided Reading and created a conscience alley to infer his thoughts about his dilemma in the story. In English, we have been preparing to write biographies about famous scientists by looking closer at Louis Pasteur. In Maths, all groups have done brilliantly working with fractions this week.'





Year Five and Six Queen's Park Faith Tour...

In order to enhance their understanding of different faiths, most of the Years Five and Six children will take part on a **faith tour on Wednesday 30th November**. We will be leaving school at 9am and will be back before the end of the school day.

In order to respect other religions and cultural traditions, we ask everybody including the parent volunteers to:

- Ensure shoulders and legs are covered
- Bring a vegetarian packed lunch which does not include meat, fish or eggs **(If you have booked a school meal for this day, please remember to cancel your booking via your ParentPay account to avoid being charged.)**
- Please have a headscarf with you (no hats or handkerchiefs)

All children will need to be in full school uniform ensuring they have a coat in case of poor weather conditions.



Sports News...

Well done to our football team who played an away match with Newton Longville. It was a tight game and we came away with a 2-3 result. The team were disappointed after a run of wins, however we talked about resilience and character development and the team have been even more determined in their practice sessions this week- onwards and upwards and I am proud of them all!

School Choir visiting Linden's Care Home...

All members of our school choir will be visiting Linden's Residential Care Home on **Friday 2nd December at 2.00pm**. They will entertain the residents performing Christmas Carols and will return to school before the end of the school day. We will be travelling to and from this event by coach.

All children will need to bring their full school uniform to school with them to change into after the Christmas Tree Walk in the morning. Please, NO Christmas accessories for this performance.

Parent Forum...

Just a reminder that next week is Parent Forum- this will be at **9am on Thursday 1st December in the hall (with coffee and biscuits!)** and then repeated at 6pm via Zoom.

Please see link below to book in if you have not done so already.

<https://forms.gle/uo2sJ8SUZTczCvFF>



Myself and Mrs Goodger will be there (as it will be my last Parent Forum before I move on at the end of term). So we will be just talking about how the transition will work and an update on school at present and from January 2023.

We hope to see as many of you as possible.

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

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 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 Little Brickhill...

If you live in Little Brickhill, then the **Family Carol Service is at 5pm on Sunday 18th 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 Stoke Hammond...

Our KS1 children are decorating a tree for the church so look out for that in the next few weeks. Please look out for details of their Crib Service for children and families which I believe is on Christmas Eve.

Roving Reporter...

This week we've been asking about people's favourite things about school. In Year One/Two, Sophia and Alisha are really enjoying English and reading stories with interesting cliff-hangers. Niamh likes the happy and supportive teachers she works with in school. From Year Three/Four, William likes the fun and interactive parts of their lessons, Callie B likes lessons and activities when other classes mix together with her own and Josephine likes the Treat Box (...don't we all!). Finally, from year Five/Six, Molly enjoys the variety of lessons, Isabella loves the people and the community feel of the school, and Tom likes PE because it was fun and good to exercise. Every time we ask this question people always give us different answers - there are lots of things to like about our school!

HASA update...

Another week closer to Christmas and so HASA are, as always, working behind the scenes getting fun activities organised for the purpose of raising lots of money for our school, and ultimately our children.

Upcoming events...

Foundation and KS1 Christmas Crafternoon - Straight after school Tuesday 6th December - 3.30-4.30pm

For the cost of £5, your child will have festive themed craft activities to take part in with finished articles to be taken home. To book a place for child at this event, please login into your ParentPay account. **We have limited spaces, so please do not delay to avoid disappointment.**



KS2 Festive Film Afternoon - Straight after school on Thursday 8th December - 3.30-5.00pm

Elf & 101 Dalmatians are this year's film options, so if your child is interested in either of these films, please once again book a place via your ParentPay account. For the cost of £5 your child will also receive a drink and a snack. **Again, we have limited spaces available, so please do not delay booking to avoid disappointment. Please note that Elf is a PG film.**

Apologies but we won't be able to take any children arriving to a session on the day who have not managed to book on ParentPay, as there are strict protocols around adult to child ratios that must be adhered to.

Volunteers very much Needed in order to run these Christmas events!

We have a very committed 10 strong HASA committee who regularly give up their time to help plan and run all the HASA related fundraising events. However, when it comes to things like the Christmas Crafts and Film afternoons there are simply not enough of us to make them happen. If you feel you could spare a couple of hours of your time to help us run the Craft & film sessions on either the 6th or 8th December, then please email us at highashschoolassociation@gmail.com. If we do not get enough volunteers then sadly the above Christmas events will simply not be able to go ahead, which would be a real shame for the children and for our fundraising efforts.

Bags2School

Please remember to bring all your bagged good quality, unwanted clothing to school next **WED 30th November**. A member of the HASA team will be waiting to take your bags from you at the playground gate at morning drop off. **Bags to be left no later than 9am please. Black bin bags accepted but please no carrier bags.**

Message from Bucks Council...

Motorists in Bucks are being asked to think of the safety of pedestrians, as part of a new Bucks Council campaign focusing around schools.

Vehicles blocking pavements and footpaths often means pedestrians, which can include young children, those with limited mobility and older people, are forced to go into the road to get past, which can be extremely dangerous. Equally, part blocking a private driveway or lowered kerb can prevent larger vehicles including emergency ambulances and fire engines from getting through and pulling into a bus stop can lead to unnecessary traffic queues.

The ***#Beconsiderate*** campaign seeks to give a gentle reminder to think carefully about where they stop.

Steven Broadbent, Buckinghamshire Council's Cabinet Member for Transport said: *"The sentiments of this campaign should apply to all motorists. We all know, it's so easy to pull up onto the kerb if you are quickly dropping someone off or dashing in somewhere to pick something up but have you considered the impact your actions could have on a wheelchair user, a parent with a pushchair or any pedestrian walking on the pavement, especially on a narrow lane or busy road? We know most people don't deliberately try to cause issues for pedestrians, but inconsiderate parking can be dangerous for everyone, so we are asking people to think carefully about where they stop and to try and avoid blocking access for those on foot or in a wheelchair."*

That is all for this week- next week we will include our Christmas countdown planner so look out for that as well as details on how to book Nativity tickets!

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

Sara J Boyce

Mrs. Sara Boyce
Headteacher

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