



High Ash CE School
★ Weekly Newsletter/Blog ★
Friday 27th January 2023
'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16



Grow Together Shine Forever

To all our families,

First off I just wanted to say thank you to everyone making it safely into school this week - we've never known black ice like we had on Wednesday morning, so thank you to all parents/carers for making sure your children got up the hill to school....and then perhaps worse, bravely making it back down the hill!

We've seen some great learning in school this week including finding the perfect temperature for a cup of tea - very important to many of us! As well as the children's learning this week, the newsletter also includes information about parents evening, some good news about staffing as well as diary dates for the next couple of weeks.

Parents Evening...

If you have not yet booked your appointments, please click on the link below:

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

Online bookings will close Thursday 2nd February.

Year 5 and 6 Badminton Tournament....

When we arrived at Waddesdon School, we were given a section of the court to practice/warm up in before we went to a corner to put down our coats and bags. Then a lady came over and told us that we were lucky for having the hot section but as soon as we began playing we realised that we really were not! Our first match was against Oak Green and both the boys and girls won both of their matches after that until we played Ickford School. They won but we kept our heads high and moved onto our next match, using our training from Mrs Stanley. The boys and girls played a 'round-robin' style tournament on separate courts at the same time. We had eight matches, the hardest definitely being against Ickford School, but altogether we had an amazing time. Overall we came 3rd out of 8 schools. Well done to Iris, Oscar, Lottie, Tom, Cody, Angelina, Sophie, Alex and Blythe.

By Iris and Oscar

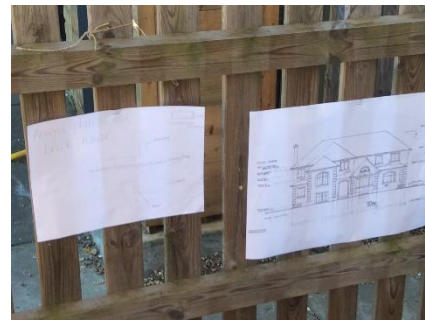


Learning highlights this week...

There has been super learning in class, here are some of the highlights.

Foundation- (Acorns)-

Acorns have had another exciting week. We have been exploring the story of The Three Little Pigs. Outside the classroom we planned and then built brick houses, we also experimented on which house was the strongest and wasn't blown down by the huff and puff machine. Was it the house made out of lego, sugar cubes, straw or sticks? As you can imagine the sugar cubes were very popular! In the classroom we made houses out of straw and sticks, sequenced and retold the story of the Three Little Pigs. Some of the children decided to make a book of their own and wrote words or captions under their pictures from the story. The children also enjoyed retelling the story in the small world area.
Mrs Webb



Year One and Two-

KS1 have been learning about the seasons this week. We learnt that in summer the Northern Hemisphere is tilted towards the sun, which gives more sunlight and longer days. In winter, the Northern Hemisphere is tilted away from the sun, which gives less sunlight and shorter days. In groups, we created short role plays that demonstrated the Earth's journey around the sun and how this causes the seasons.

In topic we have been comparing Rio to Great Brickhill and discussing the reasons for the similarities and differences. We then presented these in groups to the class. We used our key vocabulary such as 'climate', 'continent' and 'ocean' to help us compare. We then used all our knowledge we had acquired to create a travel video about Rio. We worked in groups to put a narration to a video with no words!

Mrs Wadeson



Year Three and Four-

Year 3 and 4 have started learning about diary entries as part of their new English unit of work. They began by identifying the features of a diary entry and have placed themselves in the shoes of Harry Potter to recount a short scene from our class novel. In Maths, they have started to learn about fractions and identifying fractions that are unit and non-unit fractions. Their topic lessons have been a real interest to them this week, investigating the perfect temperature for a cup of tea. They understood the boiling point of water and had to predict what they thought would be the best temperature to drink tea at. Following this, they recorded the temperature of a cup of tea, every minute to understand the range of degrees that would make a perfect cup of tea and why. In Computing, they have learnt what a template is and how to use a program called 'Canva' to edit one. They were extremely inventive and creative with their designs.

Miss Raval



Year Five and Six-

This week in Year 5/6 we have completed our suspense stories full of scary settings and mysterious figures which we have included our improvements made throughout the week. In Computing, we have continued to work on 3D modelling, using our skills to design a nameplate. We have been using Google forms, in science, to collect data about one another for our Innovate presentations. Our focus in PE has been on jumping. We have practised different types of jumps from different heights.

Well done to Imogen and Alfie for their amazing maths work and to Gianna for her fabulous homework.

Mrs Weatherall



Industrial action - Wednesday 1st February...

Please see letter sent out separately this morning outlining the plans to keep the school open on Wednesday for all children.

Staffing update...

I am delighted to welcome Mrs Emily Gough to the teaching team. Mrs Gough will be teaching Hazel class after half-term. Mrs Gough is an experienced teacher who has relocated to the area from Shropshire. Also I am delighted to welcome Mrs Vicki Holden to our LSA team. Mrs Holden will be working part-time in Year 3 and 4, she has a great deal of experience of working with children and will be a great asset to our staff team.

I hope you all saw the letter from our Chair of Governors on Monday sharing news of the appointment of a new Headteacher. Mrs Ruth Lewin will join us after Easter. I know she is very excited about getting to know the staff and children.

Reflections this week...

This week our key question has been 'How do we put things right when they go wrong?' The play leaders and I have introduced 'Restorative justice' to the children. At playtimes and lunchtimes, should there be any fallings out, the children (with help from the older ones) have a restorative conversation following prompt questions.

1. What happened?
2. What were you thinking about at the time?
3. What have your thoughts been since the incident?
4. Who do you think has been affected by your actions? In what way were they affected?
5. What do you need to do now to make things right?

The children saw this in practice as the Reflection leaders acted out scenarios and then a play leader asked the questions to restore the friendship. Then in class the children have had a go at using this technique to resolve differences and to empower the children to independently solve friendship issues. This will take time to become an independent response yet we are supporting the children to take more ownership for their behaviours and the consequences that may arise.

Request for considerate driving and parking in the village...

Please can our school community all ensure that they are driving carefully in the village, abiding by the speed limits and consideration being given to all. Also please park respectfully and sensibly. I have had a few reports of poor, reckless driving going too fast and then inconsiderate parking which impact on pedestrians trying to cross over the road and residents trying to access their properties.

We also recognise that the zigzag lines have gone from the corner of Rotten Row - we have been in touch with the Parish Council and they have given us the following update after being in contact with Transport for Bucks; *It seems that the markings were not in line with current DfT guidelines so the lines have to be changed and then signs put in place. Not sure how long this will take but we are keeping an eye on the situation.*

We try to ensure that children can cross the road safely and that the school buses are able to come up to the school so we use our yellow no parking cones to mark off areas. Unfortunately, we keep having to replace these as they are being taken. So far this academic year we have lost 8 cones! This is money we could spend on something else to support children's learning. Please help us by keeping an eye out if you see anyone taking our cones. Many thanks.

Parent Governor Nominations

Nominations to fill the vacancy for a Parent Governor close on Monday 30st January. If anyone is interested, please make sure **you return the completed nomination form to the school office by 9am on Monday 30th January.** No formal qualifications are required, just enthusiasm and a commitment to working as part of a team to make a difference for all the children at our school. If you would like more details or a nomination form please email clerk@highashschool.co.uk

Finally, our Roving Reporters Lottie and Eliza!

This week in Roving Reporter we have asked pupils for their thoughts about the Walking Bus. From Year One and Two Aria likes it because she can have a talk to someone that she wouldn't normally be able to have a chat with and Sarah likes the walk uphill to get to school as it is good exercise before school. Over to Year Three and Four, Alfie and Ethan thinks it's a great time to be with their friends and have a chat before they get to school and Cordelia likes the Walking Bus because she gets to see a friend from a different class and have time to catch up. Walking Bus sounds very friendly!

Here are some diary dates to look forward to as well....

Friday 3rd February - Foundation and KS1 Star Assembly @ 2.45pm, doors open at 2.30pm
Tuesday 7th February - Parents' Evening with Maths and English Teachers @ 3.30-6.00pm
Wednesday 8th February - Parents' Evening with Maths and English Teachers @ 5.00-7.30pm
Friday 10th February - Acorns Class Assembly @ 2.00pm, doors open at 1.50pm
Friday 10th February - KS2 Star Assembly @ 2.45pm, doors open at 2.30pm
End of Term!

Have a good weekend!

Kate Goodger

Mrs. Kate Goodger
Acting Headteacher

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