



High Ash CE School
★ Weekly Newsletter / Blog ★
Friday 20th January 2023
'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16



Grow Together Shine Forever

To all our families,

Parent Forum...

Thank you to the 38 parents who gave up their time to join me at the Parent Forum. We were able to discuss staffing and I was able to gather views about homework which I will take back to the teachers. We also discussed the upcoming Teacher strikes and the impact that may have. A separate letter has been sent out today to cover this in more detail.

Parents Evening...

Our next Parents' Evenings will be on **Tuesday 7th at 3:30pm-6pm** and **Wednesday 8th February at 5pm-7:30pm** where you will be able to book time to see the teacher for English (English group teacher KS1 and Class Teacher for KS2) and Maths (Maths group teacher). Acorns will be seeing Mrs Webb. Please see separate letters sent home today providing you with full information and how to book. **The online bookings will be live tonight at 8pm.**

Update on KS2 Reading...

We have been reviewing our reading in KS2 and asking the children what motivates them to read! It was decided by the children that they no longer find the bookmarks motivating and instead wanted a class vs class competition. Therefore, the class that reads the most books by half term will receive a prize! Alongside this, each class in KS2 has come up with their own individual reward system for reading, for example collecting a reward every time they read 100 pages or collectively trying to read a number of books by the end of the term. We hope that this way all children will want to contribute and will be motivated to read more books at home! Happy reading!

Learning highlights this week...

There has been great learning taking place this week, here are some of the highlights.

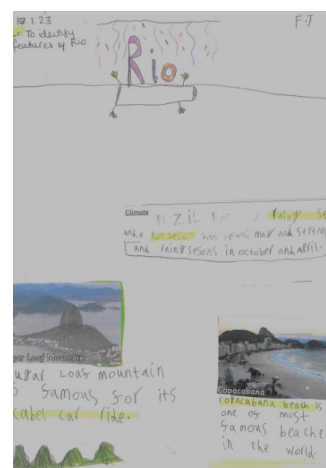
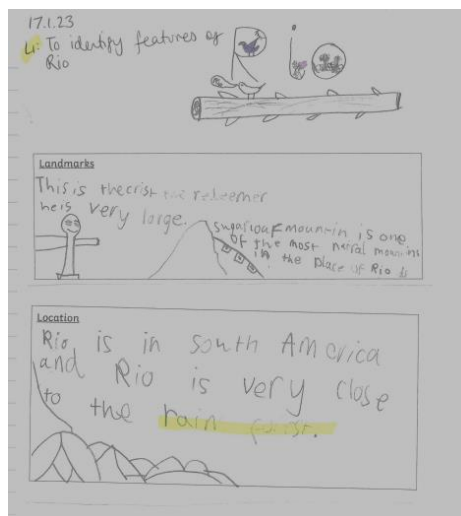
Foundation- (Acorns)-

This week in Acorns, we have been looking at the story of Little Red Riding Hood. Discussing the different ways in which stories are started and the language used. The children have enjoyed focusing on the beginning of the story and recreating it using objects from around the classroom. We have also been planning, then building Grannie's house outside, although it was a little cold to sleep in it. We have been using our cutting skills and fine motor skills to make Little Red Riding Hood's basket. We learnt to create repeating patterns by weaving coloured paper in and out. I was really proud of how the children persevered as they had to think about the pattern as well as the skill of weaving. The children also enjoyed writing their own list of what would be in their basket for Grannie. We had quite a few interesting items. In Maths the children have been working hard, they have been looking at numbers to 15 and writing addition number stories using the correct symbols.



Year One and Two-

This week in KS1 we have been on an adventure to South America and have been learning all about the sights and landmarks of Rio! The children enjoyed exploring Rio on Google Earth and looking at Christ the Redeemer, the Copacabana beach and Sugarloaf Mountain. The children had to research different aspects of Rio and then made posters to share what they had found out! The children also used their knowledge in English, to describe what 'Blu' from the film 'Rio' saw as he flew over the city of Rio. They watched video clips and described what they could see.



Year Three and Four-

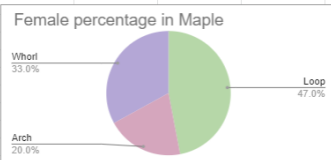
In English this week, the children have been busy planning and writing their own biographies. They started by interviewing another child in Year Three and Four, which was randomly selected by asking questions such as when they were born, early years, family and key events in their life. The children learnt many new facts about a peer in their year group, including nicknames and big achievements. In Topic, the children have become increasingly confident with their star words through a range of starter activities including STAR WORD BINGO. They developed their understanding of evaporation and condensation through a balloon investigation and then looked at how states could be mixed by creating their own bouncy balls by mixing baking soda, PVA glue, water and food colouring.



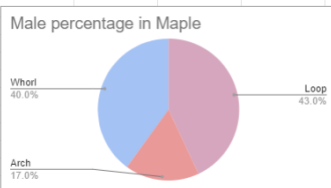
Year Five and Six-

This week we have continued to collect data about our identity in Science and have developed our Computing skills by creating tables and graphs based on that data. We have also used software to create posters all about the different inherited traits there are from curly hair to being able to roll your tongue. In English, we have written our first versions of our suspense stories, focusing on surprising the reader with cliff-hangers and tense vocabulary. In Hockey, we have been working hard on passing with increasing speed and accuracy. In French, we have learnt the words for different facial features.

Fingerprint type	Percentage
Loop	47
Arch	20
Whorl	33



Fingerprint type	Percentage
Loop	43
Arch	17
Whorl	40





Reflections this week...

Continuing with our theme of #BeAGoodSamaritan, the children have been looking at what stops us. They identified reasons such as peer pressure, differences of beliefs and values, fear, believing they were better than others to help. Once they identified the barriers each class have made a pledge about the actions they are going to take to be a Good Samaritan. We discussed how easy it is to say things that we will do yet it is much harder to put those words into practice!

A fundraising message from Dominique Eastwood...

I'm Oliver (Holly) and Grace (Acorns) Mum and I'm soon to undertake the huge challenge of running The London Marathon for The British Heart Foundation in memory of my Father. I have a challenging fundraising target to hit so I've arranged some really exciting things, a silent auction with some amazing items closing in a couple of weeks, a children's disco with super entertainment at the beginning of March and a brilliant raffle in March too. If you'd like to know more please get in touch with me on 07725 468364 or if you'd like to donate, my page is:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/dominique-eastwood>

All donations and support very gratefully received for this wonderful charity.

Thank you Dominique x

Finally, our Roving Reporters Lottie and Eliza!

This week's Roving Reporter has asked students about lunchtimes - we've asked Year One to Four about their favourite dessert as we know desserts are always popular, and we have asked Year Sixes about their new role as play leaders.

Starting with Year One and Two, Sophie likes the waffles the Ash Tree serves. Jumping over to Year Three and Four, William and Henry seem to have very similar tastes because they both like Brownies and Smores. We can't forget the Ash Tree's famous Apple crumble which is a favourite for Mylo.

Moving to the role of Play Leader, all the Year Sixes who are volunteering to be a Play Leader have really enjoyed being able to help with the other year groups and choosing games to play with the younger children. The Play Leaders think it is an honour to have a responsibility and be allowed to socialise and play with children in younger year groups.

Have a good weekend!

Kate Goodger

Mrs. Kate Goodger
Acting Headteacher

headteacher@highashschool.co.uk