



High Ash CE School

Weekly Newsletter/Blog

Thursday 30th March 2023

'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16



Grow Together Shine Forever

To all our families,

This week we have had our STEM week which has been based on 'Planet Earth'. The older children have been applying their skills and knowledge learnt whilst the younger children have been exploring our planet and how we should care for it.

We have also had our Easter Services at church. I have been very impressed with the children's behaviour, public speaking skills and singing - it certainly lifted our spirits and made us all remember what a special time Primary school is.

Learning highlights this week...

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

Acorns -

This week Acorns have been working on our STEM week all about the book 'Here We Are' by Oliver Jeffers. We have enjoyed talking about how special our planet Earth is. We talked about why an alien would want to visit our planet and see our amazing animals, play here and learn different things such as how to dance. We talked about how we feel being on our special world and how we need to care for our planet and why. The children created beautiful planet Earths using collage materials. We also looked at our planet on Google Earth and found where on our planet our school is located. We have also made Easter cards in provision this week. In maths, we have explored capacity, looking at how much something can hold and learning the appropriate mathematical language such as full, nearly full, half full, nearly empty and empty. We hope you have a wonderful Easter break!

Mrs Bird and Mrs Webb



Year One and Two-

We have had a fantastic STEM week thinking about the living planet. We used our prior knowledge on deforestation to think about why we should stop cutting down the amazon rainforest and sorted facts into true or false. We then went onto think about the weather in the rainforest and thought about the water cycle. We created our own rain in jars using shaving foam and blue food dye and the children were so excited when they made the rain appear!

We recapped on our learning of what a plant needs to survive and how plants adapt to different environments. We learnt about the plants in the rainforest and created our own class terrarium. We thought about what the plant would need to survive and where we should position it in the room to allow the plants to grow. We also linked this to looking at why soil was important and went out to find worms. We thought about why worms were so important for the soil and thought about some key questions like, how long is your worm? What type of worm have you found? And our favourite; has your worm done a poo? Worm poo is plant fertilizer and makes plants grow!

The children had a fantastic week and showcased all their prior learning really well!

Mrs Wadeson



Year Three and Four-

As part of STEM week, we have been learning about animal life cycles and making comparisons between them. We were extremely lucky to have Larry the Lamb (aka Steve) visit the school thanks to Mrs Goodger. When visiting Larry the lamb, we learnt about the 'lamb' stage in detail which allowed us to develop our explanations in our books. We also loved creating Robo bugs, thinking about their challenges and how they should be designed to overcome these challenges. Finally, we tested different washing detergents and made predictions to which one we thought would work the best.

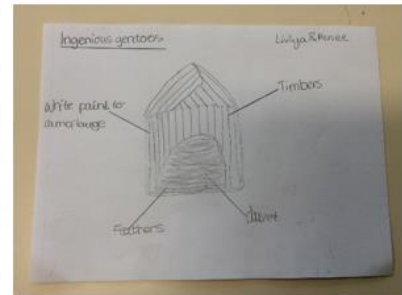
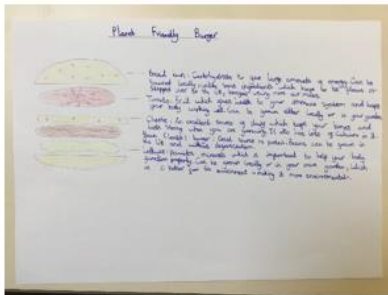
Miss Raval



Year Five and Six-

Year 5/6 have had a fantastic STEM week. We have investigated the most sustainable soaps with an investigation involving mouldy bread. We have considered what a planet friendly burger may look like. We have created popup earths with all layers. We have gone to the depths of the ocean (all 10,000m) and discovered what lies beneath. We have learnt about how to calculate the age of a shark, what food to bring on an Antarctica exploration and what material to use in a nest for a Gentoo penguin.

Mrs Weatherall



Message from HASA...

- Did you know making a charitable donation or gift to charity **is classed as a business expense**? So why not give and support your local school, High Ash C E Primary, at the same time as reducing your income tax bill before the fast-approaching end of the tax year?
- High Ash School Association (HASA) works very hard on a voluntary basis to raise funds to support and supplement the school's ever decreasing budget, in ways that directly benefit all the children that attend. For example, HASA has funded the purchase of vital resources such as whiteboards for every class, play equipment, school books and school trips to name a few. Without our help, fundraising events and support from you, the school really will be impacted financially.

High Ash Summer Cinema - Sunday June 11th 2023

To be able to run the planned High Ash outdoor Summer Cinema event, we are seeking sponsorship. **Please** support **our** school and build **your** business with one of our sponsorship packages.

- **Tier 1 £1000** - Your company logo on all promotional materials, social media promotion to the High Ash school community, promotional material at the event, AV advertising on the big screen in advance of the film screening
- **Tier 2 £500** - Your company logo on all promotional materials, social media promotion to the High Ash school community,
- **Tier 3 £250** - Your company logo on all promotional materials

***Donate by Wednesday 5th April to qualify for the 2022/23 tax year*.**

To donate, please contact highashschoolassociation@gmail.com

Message from St Luke's church...

Our **Palm Sunday Family Service** is this **Sunday 2nd April** (led by Dave Webber) is at 11am and we will be taking on a role playing dramatisation in the service and handing out palm crosses.

Our service on **Easter Sunday 9th April** is a **9.30am** service with Holy Communion and will be led by Rev Steve Barnes (a very jolly retired Chaplain!) - Easter eggs will be available after the service.

A reminder that the foodbank is still operating in the Church Porch for anyone in need.

This week's report from our Roving Reporters Lottie and Eliza!

In this last week of term, Roving Reporter has asked students about their favourite part of STEM week. In Year 1/2, Georgia enjoyed making clouds in a jar and Arya has just enjoyed all the new things they have learnt. Darragh and Freya from Year 3/4 liked researching the different life cycles of various animals. On Monday, Mrs Goodger brought a baby lamb to school to show children from Year 3/4. Christopher said he really enjoyed seeing the lamb. Phoebe really enjoyed scrubbing dirt out of tea towels because she thought it was really interested to see how well the tea towel cleans and dries. In Year 5/6, Sophie liked searching for facts about penguins and their habitats, Fleur enjoyed looking up how many miles ingredients from burgers travelled to be on our plate and that it was useful to see how we use locally sourced vegetables and meat instead. Last but not least Alfie liked making the pop up cards to show the five layers of the earth.

My final words as Acting Headteacher...

Thank you to all the parents who have supported me over the term as I stepped in to be the Acting Headteacher whilst we have waited for Mrs Lewin to join us. It has been quite a term - staff retention is proving challenging for all schools and we are no different. Teachers are leaving the profession or looking to see if different schools can offer different experiences. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that you have a great school here at High Ash (I know I am biased!) yet at times I think people forget that we are human and have feelings too. No teacher at High Ash has ever deliberately done anything to upset children or to make school a terrible place. We occasionally make mistakes, yet we will own them and do everything we can to put them right. To keep High Ash a special place, I would like to ask you all to support our teachers and teaching assistants, let them know that you appreciate them. I know the world is a different place after Covid, yet there really is no place for anger or aggression in school, we openly want to work in partnership with you. Recruitment is incredibly challenging, yet I am confident we have recruited well. Please help us retain staff by cherishing what we have, respecting the adults in school and creating happy, special memories for our children. I hope you all have a fantastic Easter holiday and look forward to seeing you after the break as Deputy Head and SENCo. Please join me in giving Mrs Lewin a warm welcome and embracing her into our High Ash community.

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

Tuesday 18th April - Year 5 Swimming
Thursday 20th April - Year 3-4 Woburn Safari Trip
Friday 21st April - Foundation & KS1 Star Assembly
Friday 21st April - #LetGirlsPlay with MK Dons Year1-6

Have a great Easter break!

Kate Goodger

Mrs. Kate Goodger
Acting Headteacher

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