



High Ash CE School

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 24th May 2024

'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16



Grow Together Shine Forever

To all our families,

Another half term has gone by - time is certainly flying! The children have been working hard on their innovates this week - showcasing all that they have learnt.

Transfer Test Parents Information Evening...

We are holding an information evening predominantly for our current Year 5 parents, although Year 4 parents are welcome to join us. This will take place on **Thursday 13th June @ 6.00pm** in the school hall. If you wish to attend, **please click below to submit a google form by Monday 10th June.**

<https://forms.gle/LXrRU1QErk9MucHJA>

Parent Focus groups...

Following my letter sent yesterday relating to the Ofsted update, I will be holding a series of Parent Focus Group meetings next half term with the relevant phase leaders. If you wish to attend one of these sessions that relates to your child's current year group, **please sign up below by Monday 3rd June:**

<https://forms.gle/jLj3fbkY19pDJ8aRA>

Match report - 17/5/2024 CUP FINAL...

Our final game against Weston Turville was hosted at a neutral ground - Bierton School - on Friday 17th May. We had a neutral referee who explained the rules to us and allowed us to show sportsmanship by shaking hands before kick-off. Annoyingly, Weston Turville had exactly the same kit as us, which meant we had to toss a coin to wear bibs - sadly we lost and were forced to wear red bibs. The game started off well for both teams with High Ash having multiple attempts on goal but none of them being a goal. The opposition had a chance to score a goal in the first half as they dribbled past all our defenders but our brilliant goalie dashed out of the goal and slid to the player as he took a shot and it was saved. Some excellent link up play down the wing provided some hope of a goal, as did some excellent shots which hit the post from Jaiden. The first half had finished but the score was still 0-0 - both teams had a team talk and we were good to go again. We were all motivated to score the first goal of the game. Both teams ran on the pitch with confidence but as shots were taken and goals were saved, the score remained 0-0. Elliot, our goalkeeper, made some fantastic saves and so did the opposition's keeper to somehow keep the score level. The game ended with no goals being scored and we headed into extra time. Both teams wanted it, but who was going to snatch the win? In the first half of extra time, three goals came from nowhere from the opposition, and High Ash were stunned. Nothing happened in the second half of extra time and the game ended up 3-0 to Western Turville. We were devastated but were proud to have reached the final and play in such an end-to-end match. We were presented with our medals and applauded the winning team.

By Elliot and Reuben



I am so proud of all our players who have represented High Ash over the season, thank you to all the parents for your support and of course a huge thank you to Miss Whitehead who has led our team this year.

Arts Week...

The first week after half term we are having an Arts Week based on the Olympics which is being held in Paris. We are focusing on different artists across the school. In Foundation, they will be exploring the collage created by the French artist Henri Matisse. They will be studying his piece called 'Beasts of the Sea' and will create their own masterpieces in his style. In KS1, they will be studying the work of Marc Chagall and his famous painting of the dream. The children will be designing and creating their own piece of artwork centred around this painting using mixed media. Year 3/4 will be creating ocean biome art using Anna Sheversky, who studied in France, as inspiration. They will be using water colours to create different moods, resist paint techniques to draw coral and marbling inks to create patterns. They will then use collage to layer patterns, colour and texture to create marine biomes. Year 5 and 6 will be studying French artist Monet. They will look at the skills needed to produce a 'Monet style' painting including using perspective. They will be embracing the Olympics even further in their writing, where they will be looking back at the 2012 Olympics and Bolt's famous 200m win. They will be commentating on it and considering the emotions before creating a recount from the perspective of Bolt or another athlete in the event. They are also excited to take part in a dance activity with a local dance company. Finally, in music, they will be learning the French national anthem before creating their own verse, representing the values of the Olympics.

Exciting news - a new boiler...

We're really pleased we're having our boiler replaced over half-term. The old boiler has done well to last so long but the new boiler will be much more efficient, good for the environment and good to help us save money. Work will start over half-term when the old boiler will be removed. Installation of the new boiler will start from Monday 3rd June and last until early July. The grassed area to the side of the boiler room will be fenced off but we're hoping disruption will be kept to a minimum.

Year 5 and 6 Girl's football tournament...

In our first match we played against Whitchurch Combined School taking a proud victory. Imogen scored a brilliant goal around 30 seconds into the game. Midway through the match Emma scored an amazing goal putting High Ash in the lead by two goals. Sadly Whitchurch scored a goal in the last couple minutes making the score 2-1 to High Ash school. As we kept playing we lost by two goals but a penalty was saved by Senara. We drew many games. Unfortunately, only the top 3 were announced meaning we didn't make it 1st, 2nd or 3rd. Despite the loss, we still had loads of fun and laughter.

Thank you Mrs Stanely for being with us and being the amazing LSA you are. Well done to Imogen, Emma, Senara, Isobel, Darcey, Aimee, Evie, Alissa and finally Cerys.



By Imogen and Emma

HASA Disco...

Thank you to all of you that supported this event. We hope everyone enjoyed the disco on Wednesday, it was a great success with some fab outfits & dance moves! Special thank you to the parent volunteers who we couldn't have done it without. Please let us know if any of you would like to join HASA for future events!

highashschoolassociation@gmail.com

Learning highlights this week...

Acorns and Berries -

We have been celebrating our learning this week by preparing for our class assembly. The children shared facts that they have learned and we used those to create our assembly script and all of the children have practised saying their lines clearly for everyone to hear. We have also practised our special poem and our dance as well. We have been very proud of how well all our children have tried their best to make our assembly super.

We have explored sharing and grouping in Maths this week by using objects within provision to reinforce concepts and understanding. We have been playing Mathematical games within provision by using our understanding of numbers to 20 to add and subtract amounts and also identify if they are an odd or even number.

In provision, we looked at the Van Gogh painting 'Starry Night' and looked at how the artist had used paint to create a beautiful night's sky. We looked at the story Katie and the Starry Night where she went in to the painting and explored it. Inspired by this, the children created their own versions of 'Starry Night' using paints.

Mrs Bird and Mrs Webb



Year One and Two-

We've had another fun packed week in KS1! All of the KS1 teachers are very proud of our Year 2 children who have shown high levels of resilience and strength in completing their SATs challenges. Everyone has worked tirelessly - well done!

Last Friday, KS1 were treated to a session all about the Jewish celebration of Shabbat when a visitor came into school. We were able to watch a Shabbat blessing of the candles and Challah bread as well as being able to have a taste ourselves! The visitor brought along traditional Kippur to wear too and we learnt a Shabbat song to end. All the children were very respectful and curious - asking fantastic questions!



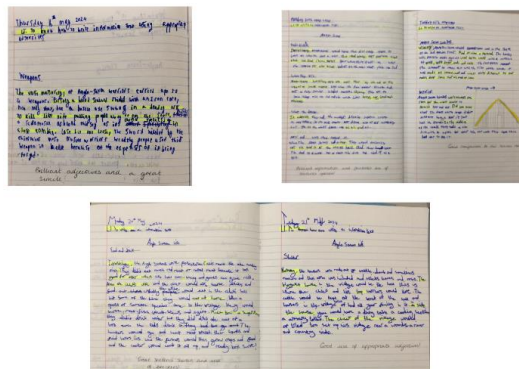
We have been completing our innovate projects this week where we have been devising our own sports or fitness programme which targets specific muscles in the body. We have then written a letter of recommendation for our fitness programme to Max Whitlock the Olympic gymnast. We also had to devise a healthy meal to help Max when he is competing in sporting events.

In Year 1, we have been focusing on our phonics in preparation for our phonics screening next half term. We will be sending out a QR code booklet at the end of this week so the children can practise more at home. A paper copy will have been sent home today with your child. We will send you a link via ParentPay over the half term. If you scan the QR codes, they will take you through to some online RWI lessons to do from the comfort of your own home!

Year Three and Four-

In English this week we have been writing information texts about the Anglo-Saxons. We have been using all of the skills that we learnt last week including compound sentences and varied sentence openers to create interesting and educational texts. Some of our texts even included brilliant drawings and diagrams.

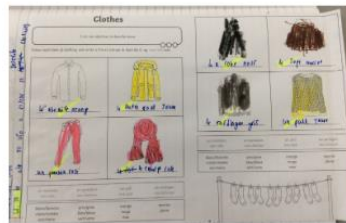
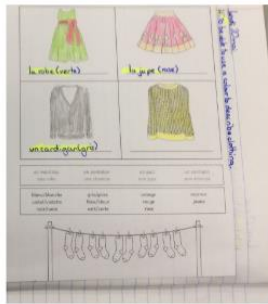
Miss Webb, Mrs Boyd and Mrs Barrasford



Our Topic lessons this week have been building up to our Innovate. We have been thinking about where we would settle if we were an Anglo-Saxon chief and how to explain to our villagers why we have settled there. To make sure the villagers are aware of the choices we have created a leaflet to explain and a map to show where and what everything is. We have some future Anglo-Saxon chiefs in our midst!



Our French lessons in Year 3 have been full of learning about French celebrations and comparing them with British celebrations. In Year 4, we have been completing our topic about clothing and adding colours as adjectives, knowing how to change them from masculine to feminine.



Miss Maylor, Mrs Gough, Mrs Wood and Mr Devitt

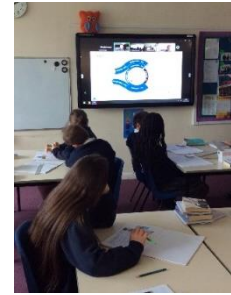
Year 5 and 6

In Art this week, we have composed and created our final pieces of artwork using watercolours inspired by the Northern Lights. The children have applied the different techniques we have practiced. The results are fantastic as shown by the examples below:



We were fortunate to have a zoom call this week with scientists who work on the Princess Elizabeth research station in Antarctica. Sadly, they weren't there as it's winter in the southern hemisphere

but they were able to share with us the work that they're doing, including their PEACE projects and how they protect the environment of the continent through being zero-emissions.



On Wednesday Year 5 and 6 visited Olney where they took part in a range of activities during an event named Lifepath Newton, organised through Bridgebuilder. These activities were based on the hymn *Amazing Grace* and the life of the person who wrote it, John Newton. The children learnt of his early life, how he made bad choices in the life that he led and what he did to redeem himself. The children also learnt the meaning behind the lyrics of *Amazing Grace* and how it is about his life. The children completed a wide range of activities ranging from calligraphy to playing the drums to other well-known hymns. The children had a great time and were a credit to the school in how they conducted themselves.



Attendance...

Attendance this week is 93.88% - it's holiday season... ☹️

Reflections this week...

This week's big questions were 'What is anxiety and is it OK to feel anxious?' The children thought about waiters and how they have to approach tables and be friendly and interested in their diners when they have no idea whether the guests are going to be kind and happy or cross and grumpy. If the diners are rude to the waiter than that may cause the waiter to feel anxious and they might worry about doing their job. In Thessalonians 5:24, we are reminded that we can trust God no matter what we're going through. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it. We then looked at the story of Joseph and thought about whether we thought Joseph felt anxious while living in Egypt? He had been sold into slavery by people he trusted—his brothers! He was accused of a crime he didn't commit and thrown in jail. What might happen to him next? But Joseph put his trust in God, who equipped him to serve the *entire nation of Egypt*, as well as *the family that had sold him into slavery*, during a famine. Joseph must have known that God could be trusted through all the ups and downs of his life—even through anxiety and fear. The children thought about what skills Joseph showed throughout his life.

Diary Dates for the rest of the Summer term....

Monday 3rd June - Back to School

Monday 3rd - Friday 7th June - Year 6 Residential Trip

Monday 3rd - Friday 7th June - The Arts Week

Tuesday 4th June - Year 5 Voltage Dance Session

Wednesday 5th June - All Year 2 children at Multi-Skills Sports Festival

Thursday 6th June - Year 5 Cricket Tournament

Friday 6th June - KS2 Star Assembly at 2.55pm, doors open at 2.45pm

Monday 10th - Thursday 13th June - Year 5 Bikeability Training in school

Monday 10th June - Year 6 Handball Session in school

Thursday 13th June - Year 5 Parents meeting re Transfer Tests at 6.00pm, Year 4 parents are welcome

Friday 14th June - F/KS1 Special Men Assembly for one male family relative at 2.55pm, doors open at 2.45pm
Sunday 16th June - HASA Circus Event
Friday 21st June - Sports Day 9am-2.00pm
Wednesday 26th June - All Year 3/4 Multi-Skills Festival
Friday 28th June - Foundation See Us Shine 9.00-10.00am
Friday 28th June - KS2 Star Assembly at 2.55pm, doors open a 2.45pm
Monday 1st July - District Athletics Event
Thursday 4th July - Summer Music Concert from 6pm
Friday 5th July - Year 5/6 Rounders Event
Friday 5th July - F/KS1 Star Assembly at 2.55pm, doors open at 2.45pm
Monday 8th July - Athletics Festival 4.00-8.00pm
W/C Monday 8th July - Annual Reports sent home towards the end of this week
Tuesday 9th July - Year 5/6 End of Year Production, 2.00-3.00pm and 6.00-7.00pm
Wednesday 10th July - Y5/6 End of Year Production, 6.00-7.00pm
Friday 12th July - Final F/KS1 Star Assembly @ 2.25pm, doors open at 2.15pm
Friday 12th July - Final KS2 Star Assembly - 2.55pm, doors open at 2.45pm
Monday 15th July - Year 6 Transition Games at Cottesloe
Tuesday 16th July - Year 1/2 Waddesdon Manor trip
Wednesday 17th July - Year 6 Leavers Blessing at Church, 1.30-2.30pm
Thursday 18th July - Ice-cream Van Treat
Thursday 18th July - Year 6 Leavers Party, 7.30-9.30pm
Friday 19th July - Year 6 Leavers Assembly at 2.00pm, doors open at 1.45pm
End of Term

Have a lovely half term and we look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 3rd June and waving our Year 6 children off on their week long residential.

Kate Goodger

Mrs Kate Goodger
Headteacher

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