



High Ash CE School

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 11th October 2024

'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16



Grow Together Shine Forever

To all our families,

We have had a great week. I have seen some super writing and was very proud to show our school off to prospective parents who attended our open morning on Wednesday.

A visit from Callum Anderson our MP...

Next Friday we are going to be welcoming Callum into school in the afternoon where he will meet with Key Stage 2 children, talk about his background and what being an MP means. He will then tour the school and meet with myself and Governors to discuss the challenges we face in the current climate.

Harvest festival in Church for Key Stage 2...

We are looking forward to visiting St Mary's Church for our Harvest festival with for Year 2 to Year 6 children on **Wednesday 16th October**. Year 3 and 4 will be leading the service. If you are able to help walk the children down to the church, please can you let the office know by emailing the office if you have not already indicated this when reserving your seats online. We will be leaving school at 1.30pm for a 1.45pm start in the church. Space is limited yet it would be lovely to see some of the parents join us in our worship. Please click [here](#) to book your seats. Thank you.

Harvest Festival collection...

This year we will be collecting again for the MK Food Cupboard. We ask all families to help us 'Let out light shine' by bringing to school at least one tin or packet which will then be sent to the food bank and distributed to a family in need. Please bring your tin or packet to school from next week, Monday 9th October. **Let's really show those families in need that we care.**

Parents Evening...

This year our Autumn parents evening is being held on Tuesday 15th October 3.30pm - 6pm and Wednesday 16th October 5pm - 7.30pm. We look forward to seeing you all next week and sharing the super work your child has been doing this term.

Learning highlights this week...

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

Foundation (Acorn) -

This week we have reviewed what we have learned this term about ourselves! We've talked about how we are all amazing in our own special ways. We created 'super mes' in provision where we could show how super we are and talked about our talents and special powers. We also talked about how we are all unique!

We talked about how to calm ourselves, how even super heroes can become angry, upset and sad sometimes. We learned about breathing, how to use rainbow breaths to regulate our feelings and how to use our calm corner in the classroom to help us to feel better when things go wrong.

In phonics, we have learned more of our sounds this week and have begun learning how to blend our sounds to build and read words! We all had so much fun using the magnetic letters to build words to Fred talk and read. We will be changing reading and library books every Thursday. If your child does not want to change their library book and would prefer to keep it for another week that is also absolutely fine.

We have also been doing music lessons this week, we learned how to use our voices to make music, then how to use our bodies and we even got to use musical instruments!

In Maths we have been looking at number composition. We know that 1 and 1 makes 2, that 1 and 1 and 1 makes 3 and that 1 and 1 and 1 and 1 makes 4! Learning how numbers are made from other numbers is an important skill and fundamental for all the maths we go on to learn in the future.

In Forest School, we have also looked at the signs of Autumn! We found that even more leaves have changed colour and that more of them are on the ground having fallen from the trees. We also used clay to create sculptures on the tree trunks.

Reminder! If you haven't sent back your permission for Tapestry, please do so as soon as you can via the office so that we can ensure it is fully launched for everyone. If you need a further copy of this form, please email the office. Thank you!

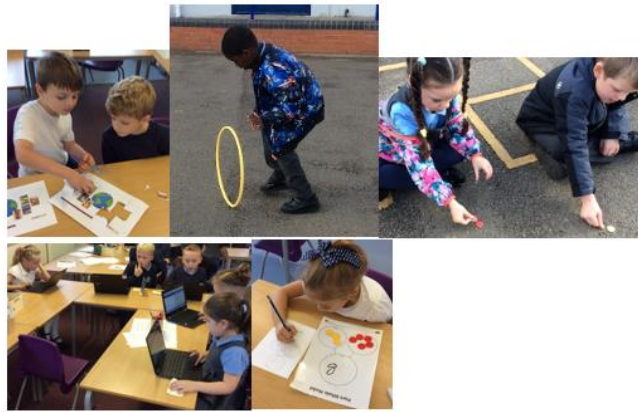


Year One and Two-

KS1 are really starting to see the benefits of our new 'I am a Clever Writer' approach in English. The children are loving adding new skills to their Clever Writer's checklist. Year Two have been including questions with question marks to their work on 'Lost in the Toy Museum' and Year One have been impressing everyone with their use of time adverbs to start their sentences retelling the story of Dogger.

Year Two are enjoying developing their keyboard skills on the Paintz.app in computing and are working really hard to be able to log in to their Chromebook independently. Year One enjoyed a History lesson outside when they investigated Victorian playground games. 'Pass the Slipper' and Tiddlywinks are now firm favourites but they found the skipping and hopscotch a bit tricky!

In Maths Year Two are continuing to compare two digit numbers to 100 while Year One are learning all about Part Whole models to help partition numbers to 10.

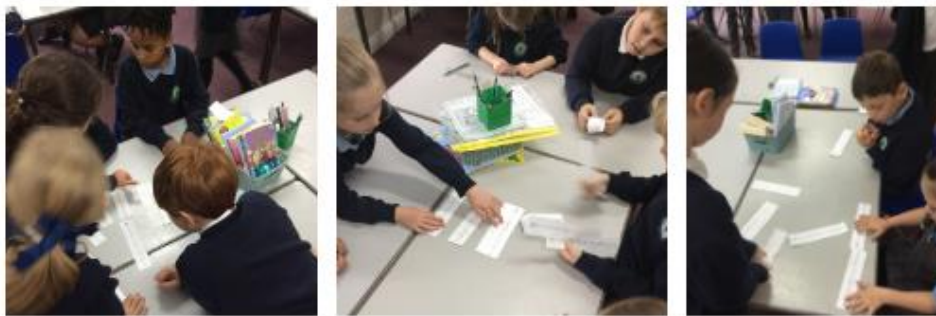


Year Three and Four-

This week in Art we have been making our very own papyrus paper! We started with a mix of glue and water, brown paper and some greaseproof paper. To create our papyrus, we layered strips of brown paper (covered in our glue mix) and placed them on the greaseproof overlapping. Everyone created their own piece of papyrus and worked very hard to get their pieces of paper to cross in a straight line.



This week in Music we have been learning about notation. We looked back at the notes that we learnt last week: crotchet, minim and quaver. To put our knowledge to the test we arranged some bars of music with different notes on them to form our very own Viking song! We then added some percussion instruments so it would sound like a Viking battle in the background.



In Computing we represented a computer network passing messages from one computer to the other until the message reached its destination. We did this by passing pieces of paper with information on it around the carefully thought out web of children.



In History, we started our Innovate project of designing a tomb for an Egyptian Pharaoh, we designed what would be inside and what location the tomb would be in. In lesson 1 we looked at designing the tomb on a piece of paper and thinking about what materials each object would be made of.



Year Five and Six-

This week in Computing we have looked at the many features of a typical webpage and in groups the children have tried to incorporate these into their own designs on paper. The children then had the opportunity to decide which other groups' "webpage" they wanted to link to. Finally, the children got to assess their "webpage" similar to algorithms that search engines use to rank web pages.

In Science, we have been separating materials through sieving, filtering and discussing how evaporation can also be used. We were given a range of different mixtures and trialled our methods of separation after discussing the best methods to do so.



In PE, as we near the end of this half term, we have started to apply our attacking and defending skills to game situations in netball. Although we haven't started to include positions, we effectively marked to defend and moved into space to help attack. Scores were low which demonstrates how close the games were!



This week in music, the children composed tunes using notes C, D, E, G and top C. They carefully wrote their tunes using correct stave notation. Many of us used the letter names too to help us remember which notes to play. Others used rhythmic variation and harmonies!



In English, we have been busily using techniques to describe settings including metaphors, similes, personification and onomatopoeia. We have also been selecting our adjectives carefully to portray a mood whilst also thinking about interesting sentence openers. Here are excerpts of early draughts.

When Veridian had a nightmarish dream of abandoning his daughter, and then a ~~ghost~~ ^{ghost} couple is paddling seconds Lili heard BOO! Lightning smacking on the cascading sea. After the prey capturing waves started running at the miniature boat on the like ^{rough} hull. Lili was distressed by the woshing waves. Now they ^{was} seeking for victory. "Wahaha haha!" ~~ext~~ exclaimed Thor. The thunder in Thor's voice.

The End

After reading the Alchemist's letter, Veridian had a bone-chilling vision of him abandoning ~~the~~ his daughter, Lili. Crash! Bang! Thud! Waves slapped against the wooden boat. Snakes of lightning crackled, roars of thunder filled the air. Foaming waves showed no mercy against the powerless boat with a weeping Lili around. The ~~dash-dash-dash~~ ^{dash-dash-dash} dashing boat was tossed about by the gashing ocean. Ominous clouds floated above the disconcerting scene below. Thunder growled while hungry lightning scanned the ocean for its next victim.

Attendance...

This week's attendance is 93.2%. This has gone down again from last week. I really want to keep attendance above 96%. Please remember to use absence@highashschool.co.uk if you need to report an absence.



Reflections this week...

This week our big question has been 'Are we bothered about other people?' and 'Why are others important to us?' We read the book 'Kindness Grows' and thought about the bible reading from Ephesians 4:32

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

We have also been introduced to all the members of our Junior Leadership Team who have been tasked with the mission of deciding on a charity that they would like to support this year. The children have chosen the Christian Charity World Vision. They will be updating you with what events they are running to raise money over the next few weeks.

Advance warning for Reflections for the week beginning the 21st October...

During assembly on Monday 21st October we will be talking to the children about how to keep themselves safe. The assembly aims to give children:

- An understanding of different forms of abuse, including bullying,
- An ability to recognise the signs of harm or abuse,
- Knowledge of how to protect themselves from all forms of abuse,
- An awareness of how to get help and sources of help, including Childline.

The assembly will be led by myself and the content delivered in a sensitive and age appropriate way. A copy of the slides we'll be using for the assembly is available on the website. <https://www.highhashschool.co.uk/page/?title=Safeguarding&pid=28>

If you'd like further information you may wish to view additional materials from the NSPCC:

- NSPCC, information for parents - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/>
- Video link, to NSPCC Pantosaurus campaign - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>

Through our curriculum, including assemblies like those next week, we teach children to stay safe and happy. We encourage the understanding that any problem or worry they may have is legitimate, and to share their worries, big or small with a trusted adult; at home; school or with an organisation like Childline.

Half Term Swimming Lessons - Leon Leisure Centre...

Please see attached flyer for booking, if you are interested.

Community Breakfast...

Community Breakfast this month takes place this coming Saturday 12th October, in the Community Centre as usual. It would be lovely to see you, especially if you've not been before. You're assured of a warm welcome and are bound to know someone there. We cater for all types of diet and start taking orders from 8.30am and last orders are at 10.30am sharp. There is no charge, but you may donate what you wish. We are very happy to receive items for the Food Bank at the breakfast, but we would equally appreciate any financial contribution for the food bank fund. Thanks to everyone who helps with it in any way. Let me know if you'd like to help out financially and feel free to get back to me if you'd like to play a part in the breakfast, or with any of St Luke's other community activities.
Dave - 07711 026193

Enjoy the weekend.

Kate Goodger

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