



High Ash CE School
Weekly Newsletter
Friday 15th November 2024
'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16



Grow Together Shine Forever

To all our families,

Anti-Bullying Week...

This week, the children have really enjoyed wearing odd socks and working across the school with different classes exploring what bullying is and what we should do if we are being bullied or see bullying happening. On Tuesday, it was great to see so many children wearing odd socks!



Challenge Partners Review...

Next week we have our review which is a three day, rigorous peer evaluation of teaching and learning, curriculum and outcomes, and leadership at all levels. It has a sharp focus on the experience of all pupils. I look forward to sharing the report with you later this term.

Y5 & 6 Girls football Tournament at Kingsbrook Secondary School...

Our first game was against St Michaels. Emilia, our goalkeeper made some amazing saves that saved us multiple times. Led by our captain Darcey, it was a close match, but we managed to keep a clean sheet with an end result of 0-0. This is a good outcome as they are a strong team.

In our next game, we were against Bedgrove Junior School. With a positive mindset, we managed to play amazingly with two great goals from Emma. These goals were assisted well by the midfield dream team Senara and Cleo. Giving an end result of 2-1.

Going into our third game, we knew we needed at least four goals for a guaranteed place in the final. It was a tough game against Haydon Abbey School. We pressed high and kept possession with this, we went up three to nothing. With an outstanding performance by Indie in midfield and Aria in defence we actually stood a chance against Haydon Abbey. Unfortunately, the referee didn't give a clear goal resulting in 3-0 being the final score.

Out of our group, we were joint top with St Michaels. They had not conceded any goals however we had scored an unlucky own goal in our second match so they went on to the finals. We thought we were out however it turns out there was a third place play off and because we came second in our group we were in it.



In our final match against Thomas Hickman, we had a commanding start, scoring two amazing goals from Cali, with some excellent defending from Darcey we secured a comfortable 2-0 victory. We finished in an impressive 3rd place.

A big thank you to Mrs Stanley who supported us at the tournament and to the parents that helped transport us.

By Darcey and Emma.

Reminder - Flu Vaccinations, Wed 20 Nov...

If you have not already consented to your child receiving the Flu vaccination, please do so **by Tuesday 19th November**.

How do I provide Consent for my child to receive the vaccine?

Please click the link below to complete the consent form and submit it as soon as possible and at least one full school day before the session, to ensure your child can be vaccinated at school. Community clinics will be available across the county if your child is not vaccinated at the school session.

1. Click the link <https://www.buckschildimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu>
2. Enter the Unique School Code EE110419
3. Complete the form (one per child). Please complete even if you are DECLINING the vaccination

Starting School or Moving up to Junior School in September 2025...

Children born between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021 will be starting school in September 2025.

Children attending an infant school and born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018 will be moving up to junior school in September 2025.

The portal is open from 5 November 2024 until 15 January 2025.

Parents can apply here: [Submit your application | Buckinghamshire Council](#)

Please read the attached guidance information.

HASA Disco...

HASA school disco will be held on **Wednesday 27th November**. Tickets are now available to book on ParentPay at £6 per child.

Fdn & KS1 3:30 - 4:30
KS2 4:45 - 5:45

Drink, a snack & all the funky tunes provided!

Limited spaces, so please do not delay booking your child. You will not be able to pay for entry on the door.

Book by Wednesday 20th November.

Parent volunteers are needed to help these HASA events. If you can spare some time, please email highashschoolassociation@gmail.com.

Learning highlights this week...

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

Acorns (Foundation) -

This week we marked Remembrance Day in Acorn Class. We created beautiful poppy transient art and talked about why we wear poppies and why it is important that we remember what happened in the past. We also participated in Anti-bullying week by wearing our odd socks and talking about why it is important to care for each other and choose to show respect, one of our PROUD principles. We explored the story 'How to be a Lion.' We explored the gentle character Leonard the lion who was not a fierce lion but loved to read and write poetry and looking after his friend Marianne the duck. We talked about how it is important to be yourself, that you don't have to change for someone else and that you don't have to roar to be heard. We also explored being unique using the story of Elmer! We celebrated showing our true colours like he does in the story.



In Maths, we have been learning all about positional language. We played 'where's the teddy?' where we moved a teddy into different locations and the children used positional language such as under, between, in and behind to describe where the teddy was. We also began learning about four sided shapes. We then identified and compared the shapes that we know; triangles, circles, squares and rectangles.



In Forest school, we created a Pudsey face using leaves that we gathered to celebrate Children in Need. We learned how important it is to give to charity in order to help others who are less fortunate than we are.

Foundation Nativity...

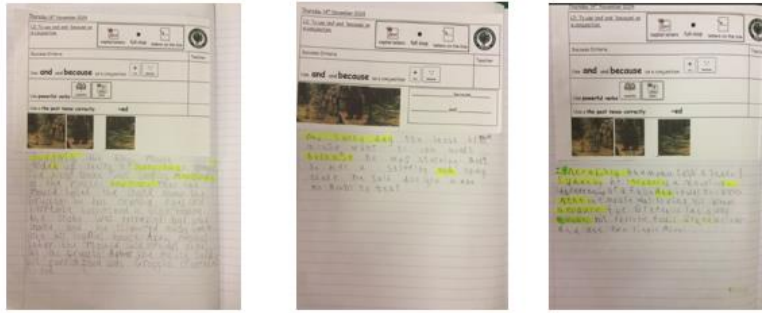
Our Foundation children will now start practicing for their Nativity on Tuesday 17th December at 2.00pm. A costume letter and script will be going home with your child today to practice at home. Please send your child to school with their costume by Friday 6th December. Costumes must be named and in a named bag please. Thank you.

A letter with information on how to book your seats, will be sent to you during the 1st week of December.

Year One and Two-

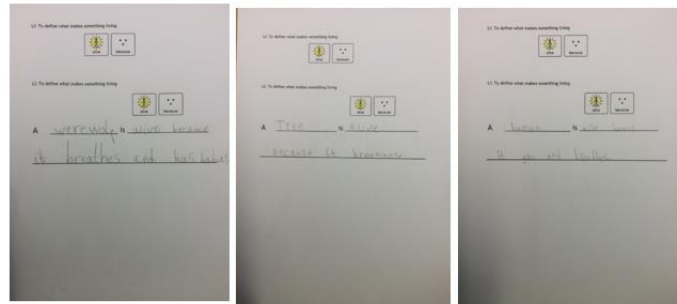
The children in KS1 have had a super week, especially with all the coughs, colds and bugs going around our year groups! The children have been respectful, hardworking and resilient even with different adults in class.

In English, the children have been focused on the story of 'The Gruffalo' by Julia Donaldson. In Year 1, the children have been focused on embedding their time adverbials and sentence openers to retell the story. In Year 2, the children have been developing their ideas using the conjunctions 'and' and 'because'.



In Maths, Year 1 have been exploring the tricky world of fact families. The children have been using part whole models and practical manipulatives to help them find all the matching addition and subtraction number sentences. In Year 2, the children have been learning the addition strategy of bridging ten. They have been using rekenreks, double-sided counters and part whole models to support with this.

In Science, the children have been learning about the qualities which classifies something as being alive. The children identified lots of different examples and did some fantastic writing to explain why.



Year Three and Four-

In Science we looked at the different types of teeth that animals have. We then deduced whether they were a herbivore or a carnivore based on if they had canines for ripping meat or molars for grinding plants. Finally, we applied our knowledge and made a set of dentures to include all four types of teeth.

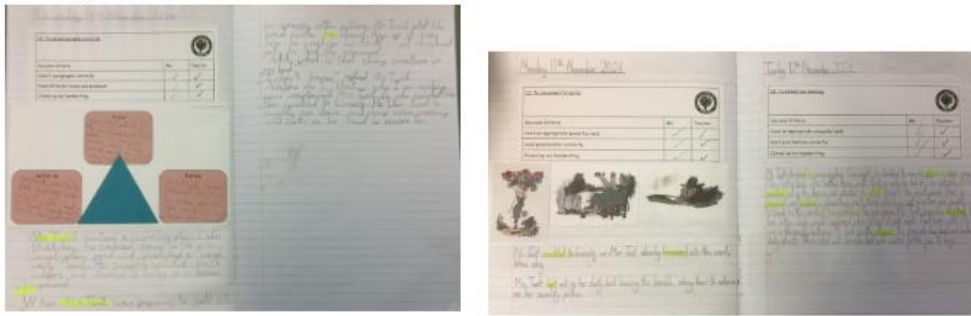


In RE we looked at various Christmas presents, we had to guess what was inside. Once revealed we talked about the significance of each object in the Christian festival of Christmas.



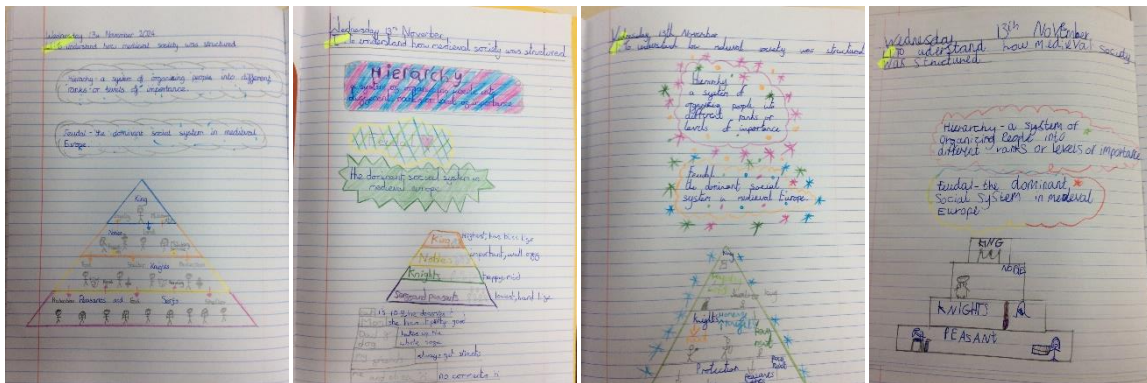
In English, the children have been excitedly writing about Mr Twit's devious plans to scare Mrs Twit. The children have been focusing on powerful verbs, speech punctuation and paragraphs. To help them understand paragraphs, they used a story mountain to help them understand when a new one

should begin. To make their writing more entertaining, they have used some amazing powerful verbs in their writing.



Year Five and Six-

In history this week, we learned some new key vocabulary, hierarchy and feudal - this helped us to understand the societal structure of medieval society throughout most of Europe. We chanted, 'King, nobles, knights, peasants' to help us remember the correct order - and sadly realised that most of us would have been peasants!



In our second history lesson this week, we discussed and found out more about the legend of Robin Hood before retelling the basics of the tale to each other. Next week, we are going to consider the evidence around the legend of this enduring hero and consider why society has retold this story for over eight centuries.

This week in Computing, children were introduced to the concept of data packets. They learned the key parts of a packet: the header and the data payload, learning this through the analogy of a letter within an envelope. They completed a practical activity which showed how a message and other forms of media like images and videos are shared across the internet in the form of data packets.



In DT, we began our unit looking at structures, particularly bridges. We were evaluating different methods to reinforcing a structure to improve its strength. Using resources from the classroom and pieces of card, we considered how different shapes in the bridge structures could be used to withstand a certain amount of weight (we used blocks). We recognised that a beam bridge was weak, especially compared with an arch bridge and the best result was when we corrugated the card, as we were able to load the most number of bricks onto it.



Year 5/6 Faith Tour...

As part of our RE curriculum, we have organised a visit to take part on a faith tour on **Wednesday 11th December 2024** in order to enhance our understanding of different faiths. This visit will include a tour of three different places of worship and interactive question and answer sessions. There will be a small voluntary contribution of £11.00 per child to pay via your Parentpay account to help cover the cost of transportation. **Please see a separate letter with full information that has been sent to you earlier this week.**

Year 6 Christmas Cracked...

On **Thursday 19th December**, we will be taking the Year 6 children to Water Eaton Church Centre to join the Bridgebuilder Trust Team for a fast-moving and interactive presentation entitled "Christmas Cracked" which includes:

- Individual workbook designed with a variety of activities
- The Christmas story told through different media
- An explanation of what Christmas means to Christians
- A Christmas activity.

We will travel by coach, the cost of which is being met by school. A separate letter with full information will be sent to all Year 6 parents via ParentPay towards the end of the month.

Christmas Tree Walk...

Once again the whole school will be walking to Alders Farm Fisheries on **Friday 6th December** for our Annual Christmas Tree walk. We aim to leave school at 9am and should be back in school by 11am (ish!). We do require parent volunteers to help walk the children to and from the Fisheries. If you can spare some time to join us at this festive event, please click on the link below to submit a google form by **Tuesday 3rd December**. Thank you for your anticipated support.

<https://forms.gle/7KiN7tkM8tJX68ne7>

Christmas Craft Fair...

We are really looking forward to our **Christmas Fair on Friday 6th December** which we are running alongside HASA. The children will soon be busy making lots of Christmas decorations to sell on the stalls and HASA will be providing festive refreshments for parents/carers. All are welcome and we hope it will be a fun-filled afternoon following the Christmas Tree walk in the morning. Sadly, we cannot fit everyone in the hall at the same time, so the children will come down to the fair in year groups, a bit like they did for the MacMillan coffee afternoon. There will be opportunities for children to spend time with their parents/carer as well as visit the stalls. Parents are welcome to attend at the same time as their children, and if you have children in more than one year group you can of course stay in the hall to see each of the children.

If you wish to attend, please indicate this by completing the same google form above. This will give us an idea of numbers for refreshments etc.



Schedule:

2.00 - 2.20pm - Years 5/6

2.20 - 2.40pm Years 3/4

2.40 - 3.00pm Years 1/2

3.00-3.20pm - Foundation (Acorn)

HASA will remain in the hall until 4pm selling refreshments and we hope our Choir and some of the older children will be in the hall to sing some carols and entertain you whilst you enjoy your refreshments. Please don't buy refreshments for your children as there won't be time for them to sit and enjoy them.

All children will be able to buy something from the stalls. The stalls will be replenished during the afternoon so no year group will miss out. All items will cost £1. If your child/children wish to buy from the stalls we ask that you send them into school with a maximum of £2 so they can choose two different things, regardless of whether or not you plan to attend yourself. Parents are welcome to buy decorations from the stalls too - and whilst I'm sure all the decorations will be so beautiful you will want to buy enough to decorate your entire house, maybe stick to one or two so there are enough for the children!!

The children can only accept cash at the stalls for buying handcrafted decorations. HASA can accept both cash and card when buying refreshments and raffle tickets. We usually run a Christmas Fair just for the children, selling decorations and treats the children have all made themselves. It always seems such a shame parents and carers don't see the children's hard work. We are delighted HASA wanted to help make this an event for parents and carers too. The Christmas Tree walk is always special - a great High Ash tradition and a start to our Christmas celebrations. I hope that a Christmas Fair the same afternoon will bring even more Christmas cheer!

Attendance...

What a week it has been with absence! We have had some very poorly staff and children over the week. I am hoping that we will all be well next week. This week's attendance is 87.5%.

Reflections this week...

Are we bothered about how others feel? Is there ever a good reason to be unkind to others? These are questions we have been thinking about this week. We thought about how as part of anti-bullying this week - we choose respect. The older children loved going down to the younger years to share their thoughts and ideas about what bullying is and what we should do if we are being bullied. We have also looked at the bible reading from 1 Corinthians 13: 4-7, Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kate Goodger

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