



High Ash CE School

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2025

*'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16*



*Grow Together Shine Forever*

To all our families,

We have had a super week with lots of great learning happening. The children have been really enjoying their new topics and I look forward to hearing how their knowledge grows over the half term.

#### *Termly Reports...*

Today you will receive your child's termly assessments stapled into your child's diary. A letter to explain what the assessments mean has been emailed to you earlier today via ParentPay. If you do have any questions, please do contact the class teachers as they are best placed to answer them.

#### *Year 5/6 Parents Focus Group Meeting...*

Thank you to the parents who attended this meeting. It was great to see you all and I hope you found the session useful. Please do remember to reach out to the class teachers if you have any concerns or questions regarding anything in Year 5 and 6.

#### *Reminder - Acorn (Foundation) 'See us Shine' morning...*

We are hosting our next 'See Us Shine' open morning this school year on Friday 24th January at 9am. You are invited to come into the Acorn classroom and spend some time with us. The teacher will have activities linked to their learning for you to explore with your children and we will share what we've been learning this term. If you would like to attend, please click below to submit a google form:

<https://forms.gle/mK6rdkM3nA3e8QHq7>

#### *Learning highlights this week...*

##### Acorns

This week we continued learning about the story Jack and the Beanstalk and have been using our story map to orally retell the story in our writing area. We reflected on the actions of both Jack and the Giant and decided that neither of them had made the best choices. We decided that Jack was wrong to go and steal the gold, hen and the magic harp from the Giant but that the Giant should not have chased Jack and scared him down the beanstalk. We received a letter from the Giant telling us how sad Jack had made him feel. We came up with ideas of what Jack could do to make things right with the Giant and make him feel happy again. We scribed these ideas on beanstalk leaves!

We have been working again on our letter formation and making sure that we start our letters from the right place. We have worked on l, i and t as well as h, b and p. We are learning them in letter formation families so that we can see the patterns when forming letters.

Acorn children have been working on learning about height this week. We looked at objects that are long and objects that are short. We then moved on to comparing the length of objects to be able to identify which object is longer and which is shorter. We finished by standing up ourselves and

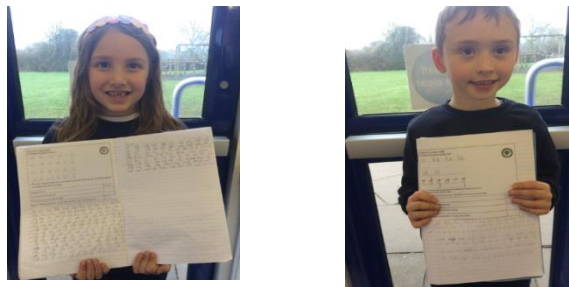
comparing our heights. We stood back to back and identified which child was shorter, which was taller or if they were the same height.



#### Year One and Two-

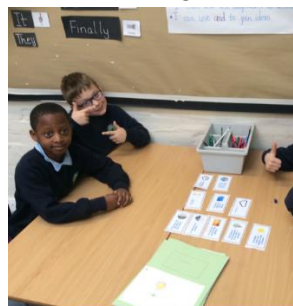
KS1 have had yet another fun-filled week of learning in school!

In English, Year 1 have been exploring the story of the 'Along the Tapajos' which is set in the rainforest of South America. The children have learnt how to use an exclamation mark to show excitement and have used this when retelling the story. Year 2 have been perfecting their joined handwriting skills - the children have shown a lot of determination to succeed.



In Maths, Year 1 have been exploring the numbers of 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 and using a range of practical manipulatives to learn how the numbers are constructed of tens and ones. In Year 2, the children have started their shape unit looking at 2D and 3D shapes.

In Science this week, the children have been exploring the seasons of the year. The children recapped the months of the year and worked on matching the seasons to the correct months.



In RE, we have been exploring the God Brahman and how they consist of different elements. We completed an experiment to learn about what this means using an egg and some salty water - ask us all about what we have learnt!

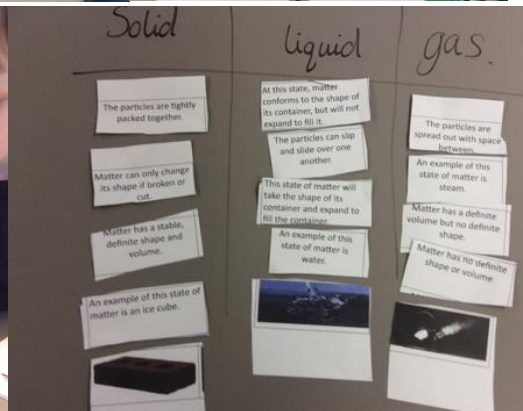


### Reading Books and School Diaries

Please can all Year 1 and 2 children make sure they bring their school diaries and reading books into school every day. Can we also ask that everyone has a check for any RWI books which may still be at home - we seem to have quite a few books which have not been returned. Thank you!

### Year Three and Four-

This week in Science we have been looking at an experiment that involves mixing solids, liquids and gases called 'dancing raisins'. We had to pour lemonade into a cup and while it was still fizzing add some raisins. To help us understand what was happening we looked at a ballooning experiment first. Learning how, when some solids and liquids mix together, they form a gas. Our raisins were surrounded by gas bubbles, therefore 'dancing' up to the surface and floating back down again.



Later in the week in Science we explored the different melting points of solids. We placed wax, jelly, butter and chocolate in an aluminium tray floating in hot water. As we added more hot water we recorded the temperature and observed what happened to the solids.



Year Five and Six-

Now that the frost has finally melted away, we were able to get outside and begin our basketball lessons. We refreshed our knowledge of dribbling and applied our skills to various activities, including moving around the playground and rolling the balls through gates.



In our topic lessons, we have been using the data collected on Hook Day, along with our pieces of data to create spreadsheets. Within the spreadsheets, we have learnt the terms 'formula' and 'format'. The children were very impressed with the efficiency of using Google Sheets for multiplication!

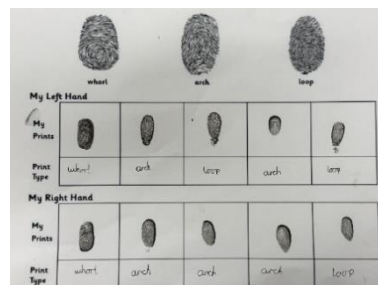
fx =SUM(D2\*E2)

A	B	C	D	E	F
Attraction	Location	Travel duration	Distance in miles	Cost per mile	Journey cost
Alton Towers Theme Park	Staffordshire	1:47:00	86.1	£0.12	£10.33
Harry Potter Studio Tour	Watford	3:38:00	207	£0.12	
National Space Centre	Leicester	2:22:00	130	£0.12	
Buckingham Palace	Westminster	4:00:00	232	£0.12	
Science Museum	London	3:56:00	233	£0.12	
LEGOLAND®	Windsor	3:39:00	218	£0.12	

This week, in PSHE, we began our unit titled 'Dreams and Goals'. This week we focussed on setting ourselves a goal for inside of school and outside of school, discussing the importance of setting ourselves a challenging but realistic goal as well as the benefits of writing it down/sharing it verbally with someone.

Name	Mia	Anya	James	Alex	Abdulla	Diabel C. (Dog)
Age	11 1/4 yrs	3 5/8 yrs	15 2/4 yrs	4 8 1/2 yrs	53 1/2 yrs	7 3/2 yrs
Height	148 cm	156 cm	189 cm	175 cm	167 cm	91 cm
Colour of eyes	Hazel	Hazel	Brown	Blue	Brown	Brown
Hair length	Short	Long	Medium	Short	Long	Short
Skinn colour	Peach/pink	Peach	Tan	Pale	Brown	Brown and white
Hair colour	Black	Dark Brown	Black	Light Brown	Black	Black and white
Finger print type	Radial loop	uniar loop	central pocket loop	Central pocket loop	Radial loop	mix of plain arch and radial arch
Gender	Male	Female	Male	Male	Female	From book my dog is 18
Arm span	149 cm	156 cm	198 cm	173 cm	167 cm	Extra Large
Size of feet	Medium	Small	Medium	Large	Medium	Definitely No
Wears glasses	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Full name	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes

The home learning that has been completed in Year 5/6 during the first week has been brilliant! There have been so many examples of different data collected about family members (and pets) which have been recorded in a variety of creative ways and have displayed a good level of understanding from our topic lessons in class.



Attendance...

This week's attendance has improved to 96% which is where we want to be. Thank you.



*Reflections this week...*

I introduced our new theme for the term which is 'have hope'. We talked about what hope was, how hope came with expectations but no guarantees. We talked about that there are small hopes and big hopes - for example that they hope it is spaghetti bolognaise for dinner as a small hope and a big hope would be an end to all poverty in the world. For our bible reading we focused on Jeremiah 29:11, for I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

*HASA...*

Pre-loved uniform can be ordered online here ready for collection from the treat Friday stall or school office.

High Ash School Association (HASA) online store

We have taken the decision to only offer High Ash school logo jumpers and cardigans from now on. We would welcome any donations, particularly of the larger size jumpers. Thank you.

*Bucks MHST...*

Bucks Mental Health Support Team have organised some webinars for parents to attend. The webinars are 1.5hrs each and are being run throughout the year. They will focus on common Mental Health themes, as well as transition and exam stress. Parents can use the QR codes to express their interest and sign up. All Webinars are free to join but you must have a child/children attending an MHST school.

Please see attached a timetable for the MHST Parent/Carer Webinars for 2025.

- *Please note that there is an error on the attached flyer - 'Understanding Child Behaviour & Development' will take place on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2025.*

Have a lovely weekend.

*Kate Goodger*

Mrs Kate Goodger  
Headteacher

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