



High Ash CE School Weekly Newsletter Friday 4th April 2025



'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16

Grow Together Shine Forever

To all our families,

Can you believe that the Spring term is over! What a term it has been - we have had lots of great highlights which we have shared over the term with you in the newsletter. This week, we have had High Ash's very first Gymkhana. It was amazing - the children loved it, the dressage was fabulous. Mrs Barrasford has hidden talents in this discipline and organised a fabulous event! The two Easter services this week at St Marys were also very special - the children worked hard to learn their words and their singing was beautiful which culminated in two very uplifting services.



Whole School Trip to Woburn Safari...

Thank you to everyone who has contributed. I am delighted to say that we have now got enough contributions for the trip to go ahead. We now need you all to wish for fabulous weather!

Hobby Horse...

The children had a lot of fun acting out dressage, show jumping, flat race with their hobby horses they created in class. The children and teachers had an amazing time acting out these events. Can we please remind you to return your sponsorship form and money the first week back after Easter or please use the justgiving link: www.justgiving.com/campaign/hobbythehorse

Ride High is a charity which uses horses to transform the lives of disadvantaged and vulnerable children in our community.

Learning highlights this week...

Acorns

Acorns have enjoyed all of our Easter work this week, we had a wonderful time celebrating down at the church. The children walked to and from the church sensibly and sang beautifully in church. They made us very proud!

As part of our Easter learning, Acorns went outside and explored the natural world that God has created for us. We took out cardboard heart frames and took photos of parts of the natural world that we love and to show how grateful we are for all the wonderful things we have in our world. The children were inspired by the Easter story to create crosses in provision in many different ways.

In Maths, we explored odd and even numbers. We used cubes to build them and look at how even numbers were flat on the top and odd numbers had an extra odd block on the top. We talked about the pattern of odd and even numbers when we count.

We are looking forward to our trip to Woburn Safari Park on the first day back after Easter! All children will need a packed lunch in a rucksack. Please ensure they have appropriate clothing such as a hat and a raincoat if needed. They may even need sun cream if we're lucky! We will be learning all about wild animals in our new topic after half term.

Please send in any boxes, clean plastic bottles and tubes that we could use in junk modelling in our creative area. We cannot have egg boxes or milk cartons or milk bottles due to allergies. Also, please check at home for any books that you have borrowed from school that need returning. We hope you all have a wonderful Easter break and look forward to seeing you all next term.



Year One and Two-

This week we have been swashbuckling pirates - learning how to read a compass and innovating our own pirate ships.

In Geography, we explored the compass points **north**, **south**, **east** and **west** and used this to locate different places on a map of the United Kingdom.

In Science, we completed this half term's innovate task. We used junk modelling materials to create our own pirate ships with the objective of making sure that our ships were waterproof and buoyant. We enjoyed the sunshine, making our ships outside, and then tested them in the water trays. We were excellent scientists as we were problem-solving and using our knowledge of the properties of materials.



In Maths, Year 1 have been exploring number lines and using their skills of estimation. We had a lesson outdoors this week where we worked in teams to label numbers on a blank number line using chalk.



Year Three and Four-

It has been a busy week for us! We have had so much fun creating hobby horses, taking part in a Gymkhana event, going to church for our Easter Service and even having enough time to write and perform our raps for Innovate.

Our innovates this half term have been based around Horrible Histories songs. We used these to inspire us when creating our own Horrible Histories inspired rap to explain everything that we now know about the Greeks. We've had some fantastic and informative raps created.



Democracy women couldn't vote
Democracy only men could vote
Democracy slaves couldn't vote
This was democracy

I'm a Greek
And I'm a Greek
I'm a Greek as well
We are all Greeks. We're all unique.

Zeus is the god of sky and thunder,
Poseidon is his brother
And the god of the sea
Athena is the one who is mean, mean, mean
Apollo is the one of poetry and sun
They like to have fun, fun, fun.

This week we created Hobby Horses in aid of a charity called Ride High based in Milton Keynes. The children had so much fun making them and they all look absolutely fantastic! We have used recycling to create our horses which means they're environmentally friendly too!



The children had a wonderful Gymkhana session on Thursday morning. We had an 'arena' set out with jumps, dressage and even a mini race. Well done to everyone for creating such wonderful horses and showing the PROUD principles while in the arena.



Year Five and Six-

This week, year 5/6 have been looking at shape in maths. Miss Whitehead's maths class have been studying perimeter and area. Using our knowledge of counting squares from Year 4, we applied this to the calculation $length \times width = area$ for rectangles. We then developed this into measuring triangles, realising that this is just half of the measurement of area of a rectangle. We took it one step further by applying this to measuring parallelograms!

For our innovate this half term, we have been creating concertina pull-out leaflets about King Henry VIII and his six wives. We have studied the influence and impact his wives had on Henry and England as a whole and presented them beautifully after drafting and writing up in neat. We ensured we used as many star words as possible: treason, which was Anne Boleyn's crime; accusation; execution; dynasty, including Henry's desire to continue the Tudor name and legacy.

In guided reading, we finished our brilliant book 'Treason' By Berlie Doherty. We've loved following the adventures of brave Will from being Henry VIII's favourite to running away to find sanctuary in France. We then answered questions about the book and decided it was one of our favourites:

Is this the ending you expected?

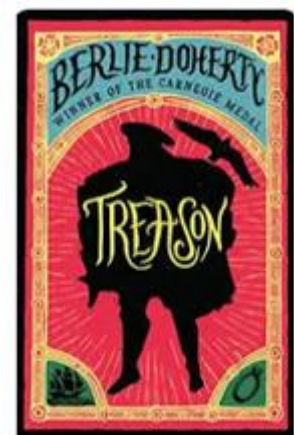
What do you think the future holds for each of the characters?

What is the significance of the title - would you have given the book a different title?

What were the main themes of the book?

How important was the time setting to the story - do you think it was accurately portrayed?

Which location in the book would you most like to visit and why
Are there any sections of the book that really stand out to you?
Why is this ending so important?



On Thursday, Year 6 visited Water Eaton Church to learn more about the Easter Story. The children had clearly been listening very carefully in our reflections and during RE lessons as their clear answers and thoughtful insights impressed the church volunteers no end! During the visit, the children took part in an interactive quiz - every single question was answered correctly; they had to find jigsaw puzzle pieces outlining significant events in the life of Jesus which they identified and explained the relevance of (well all except one rather oblique one). Towards the end of the morning, a volunteer miraculously folded and tore a piece of A4 paper to create a cross and the word life - you could ask your child to show you how; then finally, we all learned how to say Happy Easter and thank you in sign language. Here they all are:



Reminder - Photo orders...

Please place your order by The 23rd of April for free delivery to school. Orders placed after this date will still be processed, but home delivery charges will apply. Please visit Kittle website <https://v6.kittleorders.com/kp/Home>, click on 'add a photo' and enter the photo ID and password.

Summer Term Clubs...

All Summer 2025 club's information and external club booking flyers can be found on our website. Please click below to view the full list of the clubs.

<https://www.highashschool.co.uk/page/?title=Clubs&pid=44&action=saved>

Please book all club spaces by Friday 11th April.

Attendance...

This week's attendance is 91%.

Aylesbury Family Hub...

Throughout April some of their universal play sessions will have a school readiness focus where they hope there will be a range of activities and conversations happening with families to promote this topic, share resources, and embed key messages! Families can click the link to find their local centre or search the BFIS directory for our local groups. Please see the flyer attached.

<https://familyinfo.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/familycentres/>

Diary Dates for w-c 23rd April...

Wednesday 23rd April - Whole School going to Woburn Safari Park

Friday 25th April - F/KS1 Star Assembly at 2.55pm, doors open at 2.45pm. Invitation only

Have a lovely Easter break and we look forward to seeing the children on Wednesday 23rd April - ready for their trip to Woburn.

Kate Goodger

Mrs Kate Goodger

Headteacher

headteacher@highashschool.co.uk