



High Ash CE School Weekly Newsletter Friday 9th May 2025



'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16

Grow Together Shine Forever

To all our families,

This week we have had two sporting events happening where the children have represented the school as well as celebrating VE day all in four days!

Book School Meals via MCAS...

Please see email sent separately this morning and ensure you book school meals via MCAS for next week.

Census Day, Thursday 15th May...

To help support school funding, we kindly ask that parents of children in Years R-2 book a school meal for this Thursday. While your child is not required to eat the provided hot meal, we will be serving a favourite—Chicken Curry.

If your child prefers to bring a packed lunch from home, they are still welcome to do so. However, if you have booked a school meal through MCAS to support funding but your child will be bringing a home-prepared packed lunch, please inform the kitchen by emailing: kitchen@highashschool.co.uk.

Year 5 Quadkids Event...



This event was held at The Cottesloe School and the people from our school who participated were: Cali Jojo, Azalea, Divine, Theo, James, Seb, Calum and Riley. There were four events: 600m, 75m, standing long jump and javelin. We rotated round each station and our first one, the 600m, was the hardest one. Cali, Azalea and Divine started strong and Divine took first place, Cali second and Azalea third. After that, it was the standing long jump and Divine won a medal for jumping a whopping 1.97m! Calum, James and Seb were astonishing at their 75m sprint and came 2nd, 3rd and 4th.

Cali did an amazing javelin throw: 13 metres! Overall, we came 3rd place and at school we got a well done from the teachers! Thank you to Mrs Stanley for being an amazing support.

By Cali and Azalea

Year 6 Mixed Football Match Report...

High Ash 7-3 North Marston

After a stunning game with a total of 10 goals, High Ash came out on top with 7 goals to 3.

Before kick-off, Mrs Derham and our assistant coach, Zack, gave us an inspirational team talk.

She said we should be confident on the ball and take three touches on the ball before we passed.

Miles, our captain, said we should have faith in ourselves.

The game began with North Marston's kick-off. After Alfie's goal kick we won the ball and pushed forwards. Then, Jerrold provided a big throw-in to assist Henry in giving us a one goal lead. Straight after kick-off, Miles made a through ball to Feranmi, who passed it to Leo and he scored.

The 2nd half started with fire in our bellies. We relentlessly pushed forward until we got our third goal from Leo. North Marston wouldn't quit. They crossed it to their winger, who made a stunning shot out of Alfie's reach. The score was 3-1. We couldn't lose. A smart pass from Jerrold to Henry found our 4th goal. Then they scored two more goals, making it 4-3 and tensions were high! A few more clever passes, and Leo got his hat-trick, Feranmi scored a tap-in, and Callum scored a tremendous shot from outside the box.

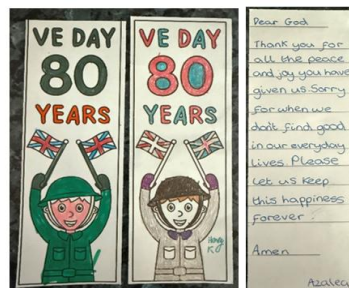
The full-time whistle went and we thanked North Marston for a wonderful game. We decided who got man of the match, which was their goalkeeper and Jerrold got man of the match for High Ash. Thank you to Mr King for refereeing the match and for the supporters all season!

By Feranmi

VE day...

We commemorated VE Day on Thursday 8th May, by wearing red, white, and blue. The children learnt that this day marks the end of World War II in Europe, celebrating peace and remembrance. Through our reflection we watched films of the celebrations in London in 1945 along with Churchill's speech followed by the King's speech. We had a patriotic lunch of traditional homemade sausage rolls.

Thank you to all of you who have made a donation to the Royal British Legion, who support veterans. If you haven't got round to it - the link is still open for donations.
<https://www.justgiving.com/page/high-ash-2>



Learning highlights this week...

Acorns

This week we used our 'Walking in the jungle' book to inspire our own sentences about walking in the jungle and what we might see when we went on our walk. The children had to say their sentence aloud, Fred talk, pinch the sounds in each word and then form their letters correctly. They also had to remember to use a capital letter, put their finger spaces in and finish with a full stop! There is so much to remember and include when writing a sentence. They all worked very hard and we can see how much progress they have made when writing in small groups and how they are writing in continuous provision play learning time.



In the creative area, we experimented by making salt paintings. We started with glue that we used to create a picture and then sprinkled on salt. We are waiting for them to dry so we can add watercolour paints to them and see the effect that it has.

In maths, we have been looking again at the rules of counting. We have helped our friend Whizzy to understand how to count, counting only one thing at a time, saying the numbers in order, counting beyond ten and stopping when he reaches the total. We have been practicing pronouncing the teen numbers clearly so that we know which numbers we are saying and can count accurately. We have also been finding objects in our provision and counting them to make collections of twenty.

This week we celebrated VE Day by wearing red, white and blue. We talked about the history behind the celebration and watched a video in collective worship showing the celebrations that were 80 years ago. We learned that our flag is called the Union Jack and coloured in flags. We also made spitfire paper aeroplanes.



Year One and Two-

In English, we have been looking at the story 'Too Much Stuff' by Emily Gravett. In Year 1, we have been learning to write the days of the week with a capital letter. In Year 2, we have been using the suffix 'ly'

In Maths, Year 1 have continued our unit on measurement by looking at mass, volume and capacity. In Year 2, the children have been impressing the teachers with their knowledge of fractions.

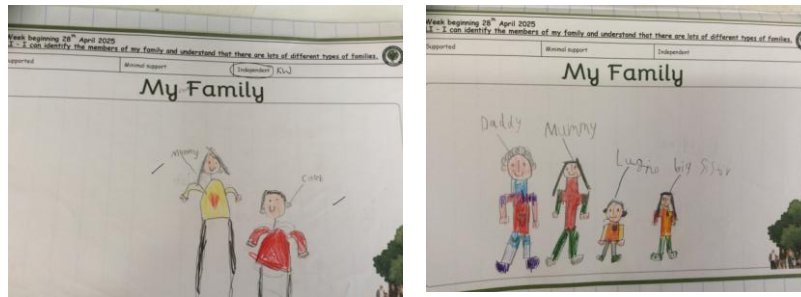
In Science, we explored how we can classify and sort animals into one of 5 different animal groups; mammals, fish, birds, reptiles and amphibians. We explored the features which these animals have.



In RE, we have been learning about the story of Rama and Sita and why it is important for Sanatanis during the celebration of Diwali. We used character cards to retell the story.



In PSHE, we have been looking at our families. We have been exploring who is in our families and how all our families are different.

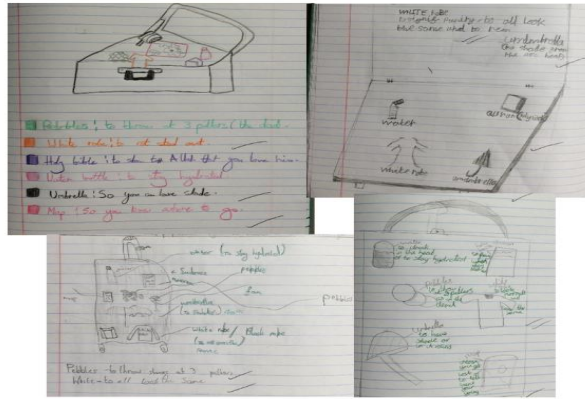


Year Three and Four-

In Science this week we have looked at parts of plants. We went on a plant walk and identified the leaves, stems and flowers of common plants like daisies and buttercups. We also dissected lilies to see the reproductive parts like anther and stigma.



Our RE lessons have been looking at the pilgrimage that Muslims take to Makkah - The Hajj. We discussed essential items that would need to be taken - white robe, pebbles, The Qur'an, an umbrella and a water bottle. The pebbles are taken to throw against 3 pillars that represent the devil. The white robe is worn to avoid attracting attention and to make everyone seem equal. The umbrella and water bottle would help in the possible 40 degrees heat!

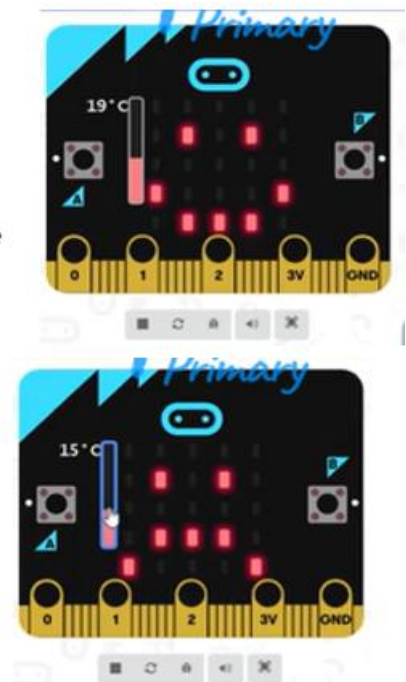


In PSHE we were learning about what it takes to be a good friend and what a good friend might do. We also looked at the 'solve it together' technique to find ways to work together in a disagreement. To make sure we understood how to do this we did some role play. The children were very empathetic when discussing their ideas about how each person might feel in the situation.

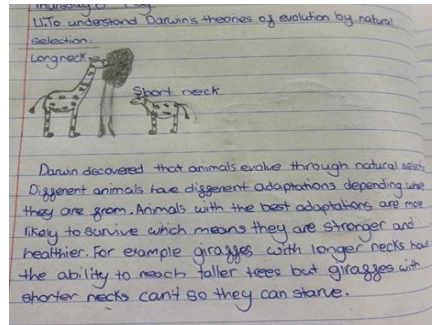
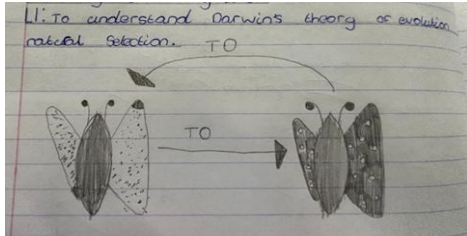


Year Five and Six-

In DT, we have designing monitoring devices, to monitor the temperature for an animal we have researched. From our research, we have identified the maximum and minimum temperature that their enclosure should be. We have then applied this to programming our micro:bits, using Microsoft Makecode. We programmed our electronic devices to alert the owner both through LED symbols and sound, if the temperature reaches too hot or too cold.



The children in Year 5/6 thoroughly enjoyed learning about Charles Darwin and his famous journey aboard HMS Beagle. They have been fascinated by the discoveries Darwin made and are now making exciting links to our science lessons, where this week we have been exploring the concept of natural selection. Using computer simulators, the children were able to model how natural selection works in different environments. We then focused on the evolution of the giraffe's long neck—not through stretching, as some might think, but through natural selection. Giraffes with longer necks were more successful at reaching food and survived to breed, meaning that, over time, giraffes with shorter necks gradually disappeared. Fascinating!



In PSHE this week, Year 6 have been considering the nature of the relationships we have with others. To illustrate this, I kept hold of the end of a ball of yarn and passed the main part of the yarn ball to someone in the group saying how they are connected to that person, e.g. 'I am connected to Alayna because we both love learning at High Ash'. Then Alayna kept hold of the piece of yarn and passed the main ball to someone else in the class again saying 'I am connected to because.....' and this continued until all the children had found someone they are connected to and had said why.



We went on to discuss how having relationships with others can support us in maintaining a healthy mindset and in supporting ourselves and others when times are tough.

Reflections this week...

This week in reflection, we have looked at the bible reading from John 14:27. 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid'.

We also made a peace pledge together:

- We remember the past.
- We are thankful for peace.
- We will be kind and help others.

Attendance...

This week's attendance is 95%, please keep on sending the children into school, remember every day counts!



Bucks Children's Choir...

Please view the attached flyers and click on the link for all the information and to sign up.

The choir is open to anyone in school years 4-8 who enjoys singing. Led by Fay Hayhurst and supported by staff from Bucks Music Trust, it will take place on **Thursday 29th May 2025 at The Buckingham School from 9:30-12:30.**

The cost is £15.

Children don't need any previous experience but they need to enjoy singing! Parents and carers are invited to a short sharing performance at 12:15.

Diary dates for next week, 12th May:

Mon 12-Thu 15 May - Year 6 SAT's breakfast mornings in Maple Class from 8am.

Thursday 15th May - Census Day

Friday 16th May - KS2 Star Assembly at 2.55pm, doors open at 2.45pm. Invitation only!

Have a great weekend.

Kate Goodger

Mrs Kate Goodger

Headteacher

headteacher@highashschool.co.uk