



High Ash CE School Weekly Newsletter Friday 4th July 2025



'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16

Grow Together Shine Forever

To all our families,

It has been a very exciting week - we have loved seeing all the children move up to their new classes on Tuesday. There were many smiling faces and a buzz around the school about what they would be doing next year. I have also awarded the first platinum merit badge - a special well done to Ralph Burns!

Help with our school menu...

We are in the process of putting together the menu for when we return to school in September. We'd like to hear your suggestions for new dishes - those meals you cook at home you think other children may enjoy. We're keen to include dishes from different countries and cultures so our menu reflects the wide diversity of High Ash families.

If you have any suggestions then call school and ask to speak to Michelle our Catering Manager or drop her an email kitchen@highashschool.co.uk. We may need to tweak recipes slightly to feed +200 children but we'd love to hear your ideas.

Ned's Resilience - a special assembly for all...

NED's Resiliency Ride is visiting our school on **Thursday 10th July**. The assembly is filled with storytelling, humour, illusions and amazing yo-yo tricks where our kids learn the hidden message in NED's name.

NED's Resiliency Ride, is a character education program that centres around three important messages that have lifelong relevance: Never give up, Encourage others and Do your best. During the assembly, students will learn about the importance of these three life skills while also enjoying storytelling, magic, humour and yo-yo tricks.

www.theNEDshow.com/ned_program.html

Yo-Yo Pre-Order Now Open!

You may now pre-order your yo-yos through the MyChildAtSchool (MCAS) app.

- If you are accessing MCAS via a desktop, please select **'Products'**.
- If you are using the MCAS mobile app, please look in the **'Store'** for all available product options.

There is a wide range of yo-yos and accessories to choose from.

Pre-order dates: 4th-17th July

Orders will be sent home with your child before the summer holidays. Please see the selection below:



NED'S Resiliency RIDE

Hey KIDS and families!

NED's Resiliency Ride is visiting our school! The assembly is filled with storytelling, humor, illusions and amazing yo-yo tricks where our kids learn the hidden message in NED's name:

Never give up
Encourage others
Do your best®



Do you want to learn to yo-yo? A yo-yo is both a learning tool and a tangible reminder of NED's message. While learning to yo-yo, children will make mistakes, try again and improve.

Our school yo-yo sale

Our school received this assembly at no-cost because another school paid-it-forward to us. We want to help pay-it-forward too, and you can help by purchasing a NED-messaged yo-yo.

SALE DATES: 4th July 2025 TIME: 9.00am

ADDITIONAL DETAILS: NED School Assembly Thu 10 July

STUDENT ORDER FORM:

REPLACEMENT STRING PACK

Ten assorted strings to change color or replace a worn out yo-yo string.

£4



£6

YO HOLSTER

Keep track of your yo and have it ready to go. Attach it to your belt loop or backpack (yo-yo not included).

CLASSIC YOS £8

Learn the basics of yo-yoing with assorted fixed axle yo-yos.



NED YO

GOYO

SUPER SPINNERS £10

Great for basic and intermediate tricks. With a strong throw, these auto-return yo-yos 'sleep' at the end of the string & then come back automatically.



MAX

TRIXIE

YETI

SNAPBACK

SPECIALTY SURPRISE SELECTION Assorted professional yo-yos for next level tricks! For younger players, add 5 string wraps around the axle for easy play.

£13



SPARK

FLASH

UFO

XBOT

STARBURST

STORM

GALAXY

EXCELERATOR

Reminder - Y5/6 End of Year Production...

Performances will be on Tuesday 15th July at 2.00pm and 6.00pm, then on Wednesday 16th July at 6.00pm. All Year 5/6 are involved and will need to attend each performance.

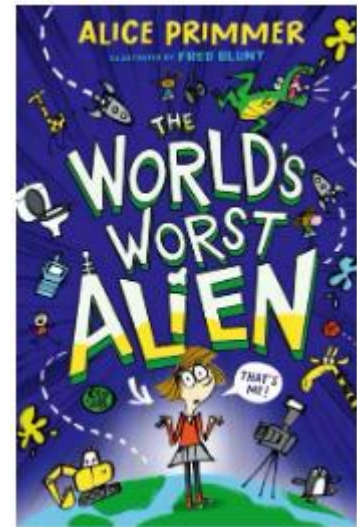
We have a limited capacity to 90 people in the hall per performance and therefore tickets are limited to 3 per family. These can be booked for one performance or split between multiple performances. Small children and infants do need their own ticket due to fire risk procedures and must be included in the allocation of 3 tickets.

To book your seats, please visit your MCAS app and book by the end of the school day Thursday 10th July. Please select 'Products' within your MCAS dashboard via the desktop or if using the mobile app, you will locate it via the 'Store'. Click on the Y5/6 End of Year Productions selecting the performance or performances you would like to book seats for.

Visit by local author...

We are delighted that a local author, Alice Primmer, will be visiting our school on **Friday 18th July** to discuss her book 'The World's Worst Alien'. School visits from authors are a fantastic way to bring books and reading to life, and really help children to engage with stories and boost their literacy.

'The World's Worst Alien' is the story of the alien "Sky", who creates planet Earth as part of a school project. She's delighted by the dinosaurs, but once humans appear, she must reluctantly visit Earth to try to fix the mess they've made. The book was selected as one of Waterstones Best Children's Books for June 2025, and described as "a wild and witty ride packed with great gags on every page". It is illustrated by the award-winning Fred Blunt.



Alice lives locally in Leighton Buzzard and is passionate about engaging reluctant readers with funny books! The event will encourage students to embrace the power of creativity, and Alice will share her writing tips.

We have copies of The World's Worst Alien available to buy. Copies are £6.99 saving £1 on recommended retail price.

If you would like to order a copy for your child, please visit the products page on MyChildAtSchool. Alice will be happy to sign copies during the visit.

Learning highlights this week...

Acorns

We have been exploring our RE Jigsaw work this week in Acorn class! We have been talking about special places and what makes a place special to us. We worked in our House Teams to create a special place for a small world person. We worked together to make a plan and think carefully about what a special place would have. We included walls, tried hard to create roofs and comfy places to sit or sleep and even some swimming pools! We talked about our own special places such as our homes and bedrooms and reflected on what makes them special to us. We decided that what made it special was that it was a safe, comfy place to be and it didn't matter if we didn't have a swimming pool!



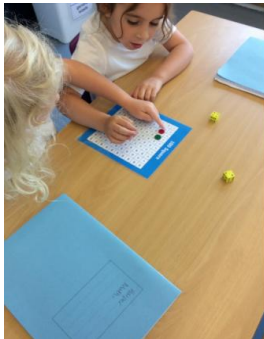
In Forest School, we then created special rooms for our small world person. We used the natural materials around us to create a safe comfy room and the children could talk through what they had included and why. We then reflected that not all special rooms need to be the same and that it can be different for each person. We will be making links between the special places and rooms we have created with the special places such as churches for Christian people, mosques for Muslim people and synagogues for Jewish people.



Year One and Two-

What a fantastic week we have had in KS1! The children impressed us with their resilience and confidence in their move into their new classes on Tuesday. There were lots of smiles and cheerful faces!

In Maths, Year 1 have started a unit looking at place value to 100. The children began by playing games using a 100 square to help in the recognition of different numbers.



In English, both year groups have been completing their postcards based on the story 'Snail and the Whale' by Julia Donaldson. We have been impressed by the fantastic writing we have seen - remembering to use the past progressive tense and the first person.



Year Three and Four-

This week's science lesson had us investigating electricity. We learnt about solar energy and who created the first solar powered invention! To understand more, we watched a video about how to create your own battery using Becquerel's technique. In groups, we thought of questions we could ask to enquire about electricity in a scientific way.



During our music lessons, we have been looking at body percussion. This week, we used tuned percussion instruments to create a sound that would match a rainforest. We thought about the animals that would be in each layer and used our knowledge of melodies and loops to create a recurring tune.



In Maths, we have been learning about shape. We have been using the vocabulary of: faces, vertices and edges. We played a game where we hid the 3D shape and had to get the other person to guess which shape we were hiding based on how many faces, vertices and edges it had.



On **Wednesday 16th July**, Year 3/4 children will be heading back to Alders Farm Fishery to complete their Geography topic on rivers. After exploring all the key learning objectives in class, the children will now be putting their knowledge into action by carrying out data collection and spotting features of a river during their field trip. Please ensure your child comes to school wearing suitable clothing and footwear for the weather. This may include a hat and sun cream if it's hot or wellies and a waterproof coat if it's wet.

Parent Volunteers Needed for this School Trip

We will require **4 parent volunteers** to join us on this trip. We will be leaving school at **9:15am** and should return by **11:15am**.

If you are able to spare some time to help, please email the school office.

If we have more volunteers than needed, we will draw names out of a hat.

Thank you for your support!

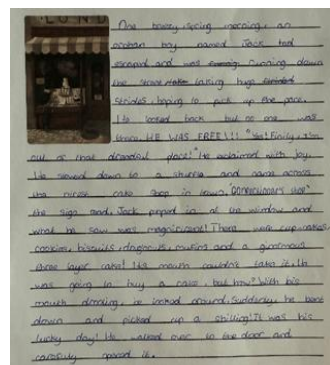
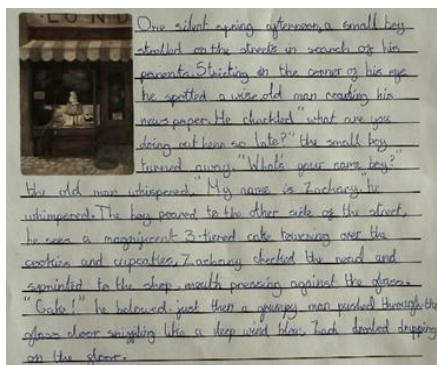
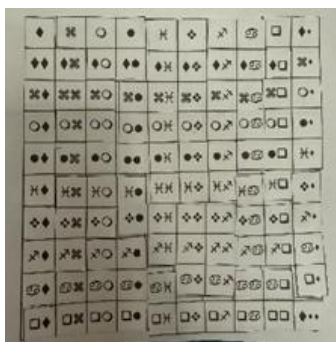
Year Five and Six-

This half term, the children in Years 5 and 6 have been analysing a selection of well-known songs, including Reach for the Stars, You've Got a Friend in Me, and Never Forget, using them as inspiration to create their own leavers' songs. Working in groups, they gathered memories, selected backing tracks, and as a class, created a catchy chorus. This week we have been working on creating melodies and lyrics for the verses to the song. They have thoroughly enjoyed sharing their ideas and collaborating with one another.

In RE, we were discussing what our ten commandments would look like, to show commitment to God. Once we had considered the ten, we ordered them with the most important at the top of the diamond. Many of us included praying as a way to show our commitment to God in addition to showing treating others how you would want to be treated and telling the truth.



We had a wonderful transition day on Tuesday. It was fantastic to welcome new Year 4s into Year 5/6 and the Year 5s certainly enjoyed being 'top of the school' for a day! We enjoyed writing a short story about a young boy at a cake shop and all of the teachers were super impressed by the quality of the writing that was produced. We are certainly looking forward to English lessons next year. In maths, we had to solve a puzzle in pairs, which was extremely tricky yet was achieved by a handful of students - well done to you!



In PE, we completed our volleyball topic and applied our skills to games. It has been fantastic learning a new sport and the techniques required, yet it was so hot we didn't manage to get any photos this week!

Year 2 Lunchtime Gardening Club...

Thanks to some of our Year 2 children, with the wonderful support of Mrs Northen, we are delighted to share the results of all their hard work in our school garden. Please see below for a snapshot of their amazing efforts!



Reflections this week...

This week we have studied the Shield of Faith from God's armour. How faith protects us from fear and doubt. We thought about how and who we trust - remembering that it can take a while to trust someone. We then read the bible story Daniel and the Lions. Thinking about the faith Daniel had in God. The children then went on to write on their own shields about who they trust and they also thought about how you begin to trust someone. ***In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows Ephesians 6:16.***

Attendance...

This week's attendance is 93%, please keep on sending the children into school, remember every day counts! Remember to always email absence@highashschool.co.uk for every day your child is absent from school.

Annual Reports...

This will be sent home with your child towards the end of next week.

Autumn Term Clubs...

Information will be sent you via MCAS on Monday when clubs will go live at 7pm Monday 7th July for booking.

Year 6 Transition games...

All our Year 6 children will be travelling to Cottesloe School on **Friday 11th July** to take part in some fun transition games. They will be transported by coach funded by school. The children will return to school for lunch. Please send your child to school in their PE Kit. If you have not yet consented, please complete the google consent form by clicking [here](#).

Diary dates w-c 7th July...

Thursday 10th July - NED's Resilience Yo-Yo Assembly
Friday 11th July, 10.00-1.00pm - All Year 6 Transition Games at Cottesloe school
Friday 11th July, 2.45pm - Dbl KS2 Star Assembly, doors open at 2.35pm. Invitation only.

Have a great weekend.

Kate Goodger

Mrs Kate Goodger
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