



High Ash CE School Weekly Newsletter Friday 18th July 2025



'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16

Grow Together Shine Forever

To all our families,

We have had another busy week, with the Year 5 & 6 production of 'School of Pop'. It is always a truly moving moment to see our eldest students shine. I am always taken aback with how confident our children are and what amazing talents they have: being able to recite lines they have learnt off by heart, act, dance and sing (some solos!) is really incredible. Well done! Thank you to all the families that came and supported us - these events really do create memories of Primary School.

For the past two days we have been busy doing practical science days. You would think at this late stage of the year that learning was non-existent - this is certainly not the case at High Ash! The children have been learning all about animals and human bodies. They have learnt why exercise is important, they have learnt about the skeleton, muscles, the heart and circulatory system. It has been lovely to see the whole school immersed in science.

Reminder - Clubs - Autumn Term 2025

You can view all clubs available for next term via the website by clicking [here](#). This page also includes full booking instructions.

When booking any clubs available via Bromcom using the MCAS app, please ensure you select **all available sessions for the term** and **pay in full** to secure your child's place.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

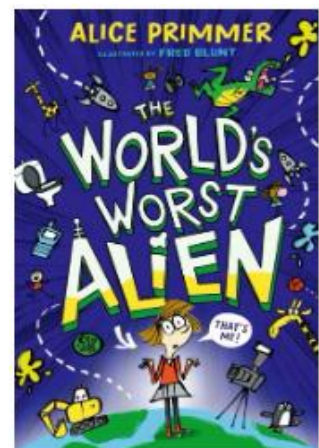
Visit by local author...

We were delighted to have Alice Primmer, a local author visit school today. She discussed her book 'The World's Worst Alien'. Read some of the story to the children and talked about the characters.

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.

We have copies of 'The World's Worst Alien' available to buy online. 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 MyChildAt School. **Online orders will close at the last day of term, Wednesday 23rd July.**



Ned's Resilience Assembly...

Thank you for supporting this valuable message of resilience and growth mindset! All yo-yo orders will have been sent home with your child today. **Online bookings are now closed.**

Stoke Mandeville District Athletics...

Arriving at the stadium, everyone gathered as we warmed up, as we got ready for our events. First up were the field events where Max, Olivia, Albie and Darcey competed in Shotput. Max and Darcey both did really well, coming 5th and 3rd as well as our 3/4 competitors.

Then came the long jump event where Felix, Divine, Campbell and lastly Dixie competed. They all did really well (especially Campbell jumping 4.19 m) and Divine. They both came 2nd place. Next up was the year 3/4 turns at long jump where Dixie and Felix both did amazingly and jumped so far.

Starting us off with the first track events, Zach, Dixie, Felix and Millie did really well in the 60 metres. Then came the really hard 600 metres when Joel came 6th and Connie tried her hardest, however, didn't manage to finish, but was really determined and did brilliant.

Then came the Year 5/6 track events where Christian and Divine both did amazingly well in 80m, Divine coming 2nd and Christian coming 1st. It was the Year 6's turn where Campbell and Sophie ran so fast overtaking everyone, resulting in them both coming first. Now it was time for the longest race of the day. Alissa and Seb S both powered through and finished with an incredible result of 3rd in the 800m.

The final event of the day, relay. Year 3/4 boys and girls both did fantastic, pushing themselves to the maximum. Then, it was time for the boys Year 5/6 relay. Seb started really well, passing the baton to Christian who stormed down the straight. Max ran as fast as he could passing it to Campbell who overtook two people giving High Ash 2nd place. Last but not least, was the girls Year 5/6 relay. Starting the race was Divine already putting us in second place as she passed to Sophie where she ran as fast as she could, putting them in a great position. Alissa then sprinted so fast, overtaking everyone and putting High Ash first for Darcey to then sprint the final length with a position of first.

As a school, we came 4th overall, with the girls team coming 4th and the boys 3rd. We are extremely proud of High Ash and for everyone who took part and obviously the teachers featuring Mrs Derham, Miss Maylor, Miss Webb and Miss Joliffe who gave up their time and supported us through the ups and downs.

By Sophie, Alissa and Darcey

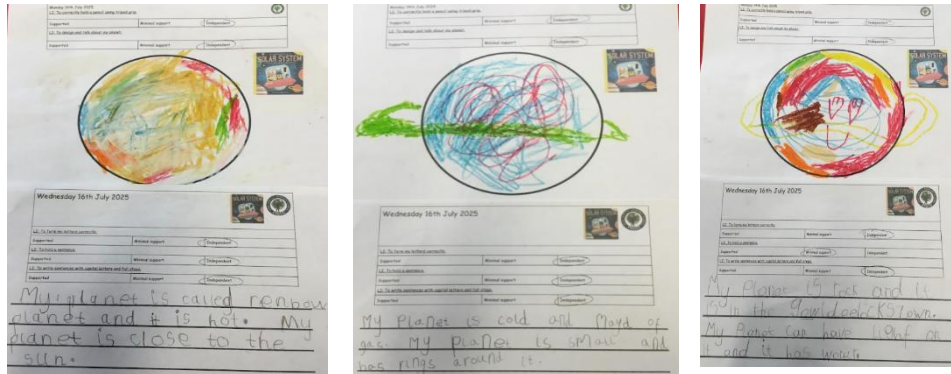


Learning highlights this week...

Acorns



We have been astronauts in Acorns this week! We have designed planets that we have imagined that we have discovered up in space whilst exploring. We used oil pastels as our media to create vibrantly coloured planets and the children then described them, explaining their size, temperature, position in the solar system and anything else that made them special! Following on from this, the children then wrote sentences describing their planets.



We have also been scientists this week! We talked about how craters were created on the moon and used cornflower mixed with baby oil and then chose our own stones as meteors to create our own craters. We worked scientifically to find out if the height we dropped the meteors from made a difference to the size of the craters. We found out that if we held them high but not too high it made the best craters.



Year One and Two-

We have had so much fun this week in KS1 making our own delicious fruit smoothies. We selected the fruits, chopped them into small pieces and got to use the blender all by ourselves! (Some of us thought the blender was a little noisy though!) We all then got to taste our smoothies and evaluate against our design criteria.



In Geography and Science this week we consolidated all our learning about coastlines. We collaborated in groups to create posters to showcase all of our knowledge about physical features, human features, freshwater habitats and saltwater habitats.



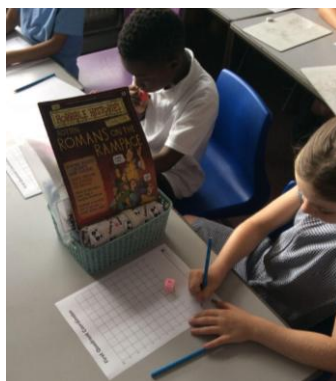
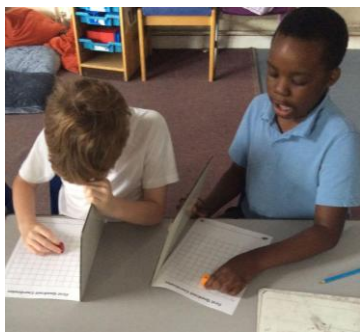
In Computing, we have been completing our unit looking at creating pictograms on a computer. The children worked on a chrome book to independently create their own pictogram online to show some data.

In PE, Year 1 enjoyed a football rounders session where Mrs Fox's and Miss Webb's teams competed against one another. We explored how to be tactical in the game and think about how we could work together to field and defend. Well done to Mrs Fox's team for winning this week!

Don't forget to bring in your 'A Year of Memories' homework next Monday 21st July as we will be sharing these on Monday afternoon.

Year Three and Four-

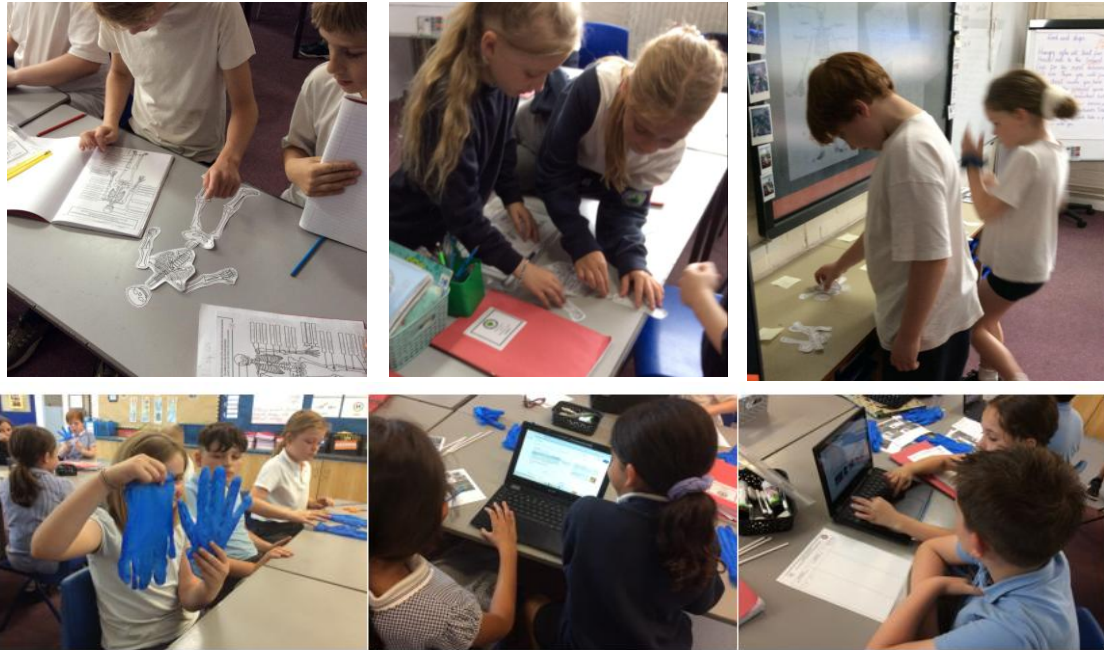
This week in maths, Year 4 have been looking at translations and plotting coordinates. We played a game of 'battleships' using coordinates and translations. Our partner had to guess the translation correctly to sink the battleship!



For our last lesson of Geography, we went on another trip to Alders Fisheries to complete our last fieldwork lesson. Before we left, we completed a checklist of features we should find at a lake using all of our prior learning. When we got to the lake, we had a look at what we could see. Using our checklist and likert scale, we collected data about the environment. Finally, we sketched what we could see around us. Thank you to the Monk family for letting us visit again!



At the end of the week, we had our Science Days. We were learning all about living things and what makes them survive. We learnt about our bones and muscles and why they are so important as well as what they need to be maintained. We learnt about different animal skeletons and how they differ from our own. We learnt about what makes a healthy diet and how to balance a meal.



This week in History we have been learning all about the Ancient Mayan civilisation. To get us started, we discovered how they first settled in the rainforest and later learnt all about how much they valued and used cacao beans. To do this, we looked at Ancient Mayan artifacts and used our inference skills and prior knowledge of looking at artefacts to discuss their purpose.

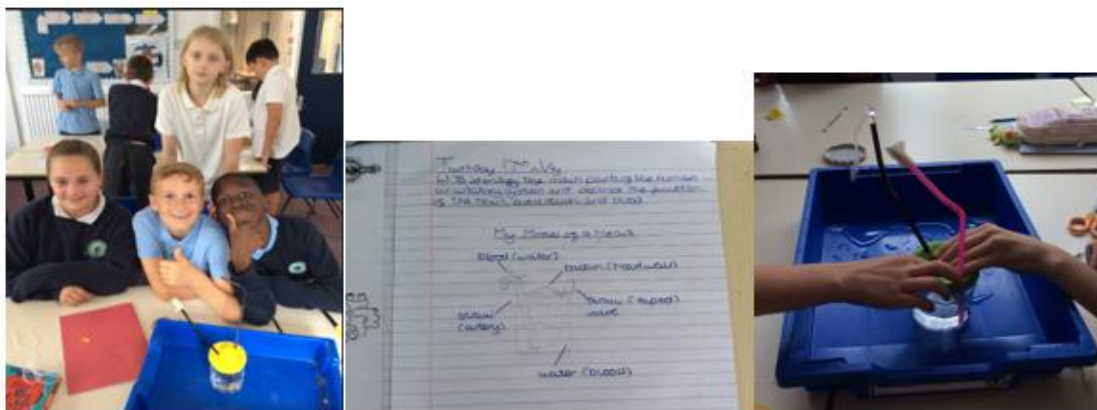


Year Five and Six-

Year 5/6 had a fantastic time during our Science days, exploring the circulatory system in a fun and hands-on way. Pupils acted out the journey of blood around the body using red and blue cards to represent oxygenated and deoxygenated blood. They also created models of the heart using straws, balloons, and jars to investigate how arteries and valves work. Later, they explored how the body absorbs nutrients by using Skittles and water in a colourful and engaging experiment. What a busy and exciting day of scientific discovery!



We've had fantastic science lessons this week including making a model of a heart! We've been learning about the circulatory system of animals (including humans) and learned that the heart is a pump which sends blood - which is a delivery system - around the body. To make our model heart, we half-filled a jam jar (the heart) with water (blood). We then covered the jam jar with a balloon (heart wall), cut two small holes in it for straws (blood vessels) and taped closed one of the straws (as a closed valve). When we 'pumped' the heart wall - the 'blood' actually pumped out of the 'blood vessel' - it was really exciting!



We took our learning further and created our own blood, using everyday items to represent the different parts that are in our blood: red blood cells, white blood cells, plasma and platelets.



We would also like to congratulate the Year 6s for their incredible performance of 'School of Pop'. They learned and delivered their lines with such professionalism and the singing, with the support of Year 5, was wonderful. It was brilliant to be a part of and they should be extremely proud of their confidence on stage and commitment to their part. A huge thank you to all parents who came and watched the performances, provided costumes/props and rehearsed lines at home.





Golf Equipment Sponsorship - Can You Help?

As we look ahead to next year's PE curriculum, we are excited to introduce golf as a new activity for our children. Golf is a fantastic sport that teaches patience, concentration, and coordination - and it can be enjoyed for a lifetime!

To make this possible, we are seeking support from our parent community to help us acquire a set of beginner-friendly golf equipment. If you, your family, or your business would be interested in sponsoring this initiative, we'd be incredibly grateful. Alternatively, if you have any contacts at a local golf club who may be able to assist with equipment donations or support, we would love to hear from you. We have set up a Crowd funder page if you or anyone you know would like to make a donation please click here: <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/golf-equipment>

Your help could make a real difference in offering our students a new and enriching sporting experience. If you can help, please get in touch with Mrs Derham or Mrs Northen. Thank you!

Reminder - KS2 Learning to Play Guitar or Ukulele...

If your child is in Years 3-6 from next September 2025 and would be interested in learning to play either the Guitar or the Ukulele, please email davidallenguitarservice@gmail.com.

Mr David Allen is an experienced guitarist and teacher who offers individual and group lessons on the guitar and ukulele during the school day. he has been working with High Ash for many years. He has recorded and performed in many different genres including classical, jazz, funk, folk, rock and pop and teaches all these styles to his students.

Reflections this week...

This week we have continued to study Ephesians 6:17 *Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.* The children thought about how to define spirit. They come up with some great explanations - *it is the part of you that thinks and feels, it's you without skin, bones and muscles, it is your soul.* The children then thought about what is the 'spirit' of the school...

Attendance...

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

Diary dates next week...

Monday 21st July, 1.45pm - Year 6 Leavers Blessing at Church - Parents invited

Tuesday 22nd July, 7.00-9.00pm - Year 6 Leavers Party

Wednesday 23rd July, 2.00pm - Year 6 Leavers Assembly - Parents invited, doors open at 1.50pm.

LAST DAY OF TERM - SCHOOL FINISHES AT THE END OF THE NORMAL SCHOOL DAY, 3.20-3.25pm.

Have a great weekend.

Kate Goodger

Mrs Kate Goodger

Headteacher

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