



High Ash CE School Weekly Newsletter



Friday 19th September 2025

'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16

Grow Together Shine Forever

To all our families,

Macmillan Coffee Event...

We would like to invite you all to our Macmillan Coffee Event which will take place on **Friday 26th September from 2pm**. We will be appreciative of any donations of cakes to have at our event. Parents, grandparents and members of the community are invited to come. Please do come. The whole school community is invited. This will take place in the hall. Please see below the timetable of when parents are invited to join us with the children:

- 2.00pm - Year 5/6 parents
- 2.20pm - Year 3/4 parents
- 2.40pm - Year 1/2 parents
- 3.00pm - Year R Acorn Parents

We are asking for a donation, the children have been asked to bring in some pennies to buy a cake. As Tesco says 'Every little helps!' You are welcome to come for the whole afternoon or just part of it.

Drinks will be available for adults and the children will bring their water bottles with them. If you are able to provide cakes, **please can you send these into school on Friday 26th in the morning**. We look forward to seeing you there, raising money for a fabulous charity whilst having a good natter and enjoying delicious cakes.



Save the date... PARENTS' CONSULTATIONS

Please make sure you have put aside some time on either **Tuesday 21st October 2pm-6pm** or **Wednesday 22nd October 4.30-7.30pm**. It is really important that you prioritise your time and attend parent meetings. We always want to share what amazing work your child is doing in school and the children really enjoy sharing this with you. Sadly, it has become increasingly difficult for the teachers to meet with you as many of you are unable to attend the consultations and then are requesting an alternative day and time. This is really not fair on the teachers and their workloads. If there is an exceptional reason why you are unable to attend, (for example if you were having surgery) then of course we will do our best to accommodate an alternative. Last year, some of our teachers were still doing parent consultations 3 weeks after the set date. This is not fair and teachers have other priorities such as assessments and planning. Please support us with this - we just ask you to prioritise your child twice a year and attend the parents' consultations on the correct day. Thank you.

Limited Parking at The Parish Hall Car Park on Thursdays...

An exciting new market is being held in the car park at Great Brickhill Parish Hall on Thurs 25th Sept. If it's successful it may run every Thursday. The market will be held in the afternoon so will reduce the parking available at the Parish Hall at pick-up time. Please leave additional time to find alternative parking when collecting your children from school.

The stalls include fresh bread, chocolates, fruit and vegetables, fish from Lowestoft, plants, meat, eggs, ice cream, and sausages so it could definitely be worth a visit!

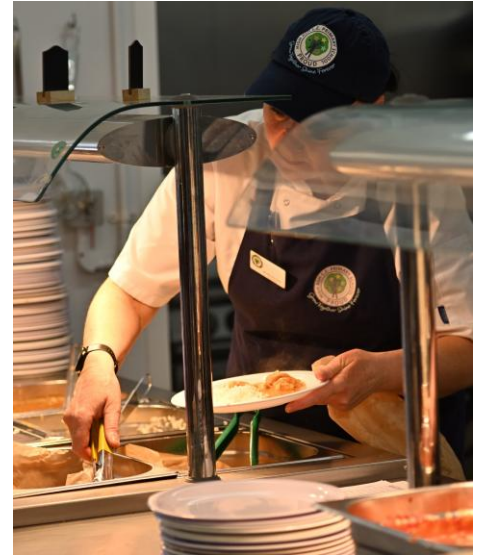
Please book a school meal on Thursday 2nd October...

All children in Foundation and KS1 are entitled to a free school meal. The school is given a grant by the government to cover the cost, the value of the grant is determined by the number of pupils booking a meal on Census Day (usually the first Thursday in October). For every child who *does not* book we effectively lose £496.

This year Census Day is **Thursday 2nd October**. The Ash Team always makes sure it is one of the children's favourites.

If your child is Acorns, Apple, Cherry or Chestnut please book a school meal via MCAS for Thursday 2nd October. If your child would still prefer a packed lunch from home that's fine, please still book a school meal on MCAS but email the kitchen to let them know you'll be sending your child with a packed lunch (kitchen@highashschool.co.uk). We will send a reminder nearer the time.

Thank you for your support—it really does make a difference to our funding.



Year 1/2 Read Write Inc, Parent Workshop...

Mrs Barrasford will be running a RWI (Phonics) workshop for all Years 1/2 parents on **Friday 26th September at 9am**. If you would like to come, please confirm your attendance by clicking on this link: <https://forms.gle/iKH7yc2horoAAc9B6>

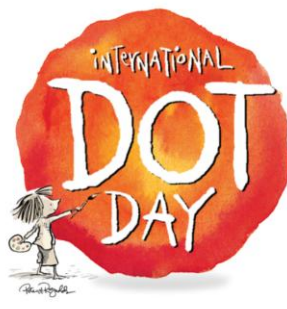
Foundation Reading Phonics workshop...

Mrs Bird will be running a Reading Phonics workshop for parents with the children involved. This will take place on **Wednesday 24th September at 9am**. If you would like to come, please confirm your attendance by clicking on this link: <https://forms.gle/ePxNk4853VSDBgC46>

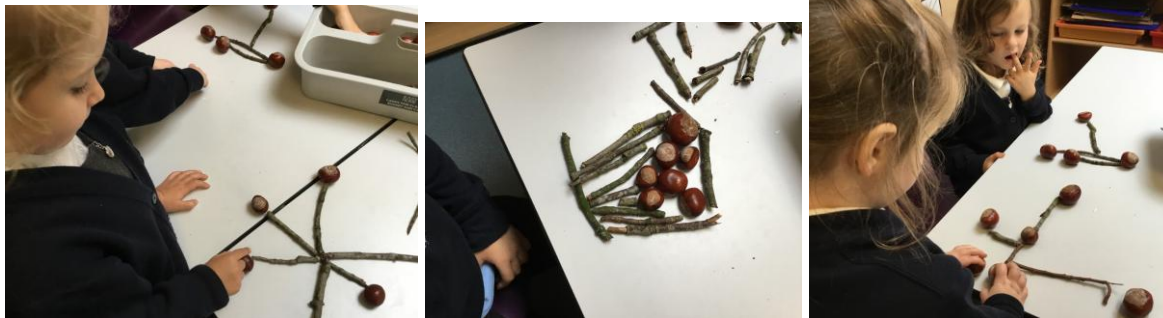
Learning highlights this week....

Acorns

This week we celebrated **International Dot Day on Monday 15th September in Acorn Class**. We read the story of 'The Dot' and talked about Vashti who did not think that she could draw or be an artist. Her teacher gave her confidence and she created amazing dots. We were inspired by her and created our own dot art. We talked about the artist Picasso and how he said that 'all children are artists'. We agreed that art can be whatever we want it to be!



We also talked about who is in our family and how families are all special. We talked about how family can be people who live with you but also people who do not live in our house. We then created our own family trees using conkers and sticks! We chose conkers who represented our family members such as smaller ones for younger siblings. Some children decided to include pets as part of their family too.



Acorn Reminders

- We will be starting Forest School next Thursday afternoon, so please ensure your child has named wellies and waterproof clothing such as a wetsuit or set so they can go out in all weathers.
- Foundation Parents Reading Phonics Workshop, Wednesday 24th September at 9.00am

Year One and Two

It has been another busy week in KS1 filled with exciting learning opportunities. In Music, the children used a range of instruments to explore how music can completely change its mood depending on whether it is played **fast or slow (tempo)**, **loud or quiet (dynamics)**. They enjoyed experimenting with tambourines, castanets, xylophones, and shakers to create different effects.



In Computing lessons, KS1 children were learning about different types of technology that is used around the school. Then we went on an exciting scavenger hunt around the school.



We had lots of hands on fun in Science investigating different 'biomes'. The children decided our rainforest biome was not realistic enough and so decided to 'make it rain'! The children thought about which animals would be most suited to living in each biome and then we discussed the adaptations that enabled the animals to thrive.

Year 2 have been showing determination and resilience tackling the tricky task of flexibly partitioning numbers to 100 in Maths.

Year 1 and 2 have been answering our big question, 'What is my History?' by sharing photos from their past and creating their own timelines. We are excited to be starting up our Year 2 Gardening Club again on Tuesday lunchtimes and we will be looking for volunteers to harvest our ripening tomatoes - they are delicious!



Year 1/2 Reminders

- Year 1/2 Parents RWI (Phonics) workshop, Friday 26th September at 9am.

Year Three and Four

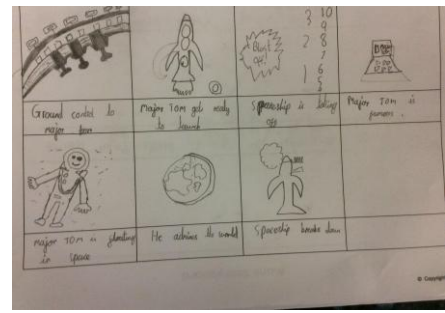
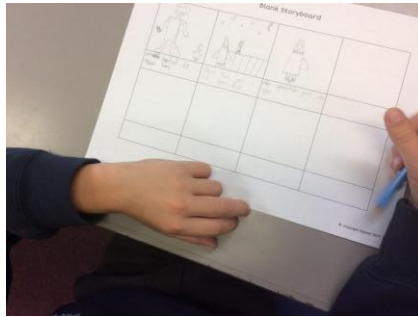
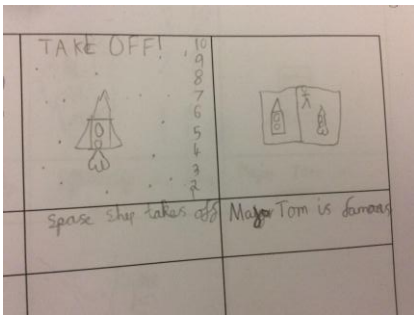
We have started to learn a little more about classification in our science topic. This week we were learning about classifying using human features, like our hair/eye colour or how tall we are. To understand this further, we created a classification diagram with liquorice sweets, asking questions to sort them via their features.



In Year 4 maths, we have been focussing on place value. This week has been all about adding 1, 10, 100 or 1,000 more or less. To understand the concept, we used dienes and counters to help us to add and subtract with our partner. By the end of the lesson we were pro's! Y4 has some excellent mathematicians.



In Music, we have been looking at the features of ballads. We looked at a famous ballad called 'Space Oddity' by David Bowie and we made story maps of the song, thinking about what David may have been feeling when he wrote this song and why he wrote it. We also looked at the composition of a ballad, thinking about verses and chorus' and why they are structured that way.

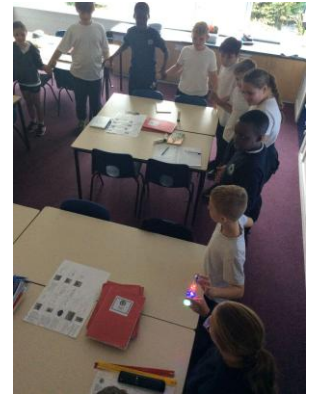
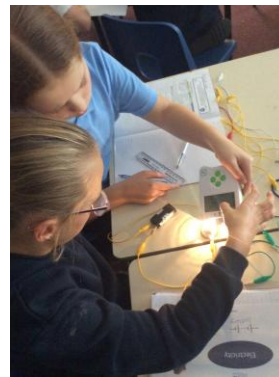
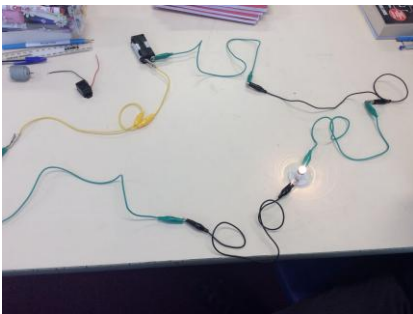


Year 3/4 Reminders - Top Tips for swimming

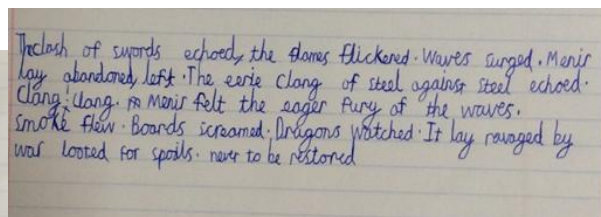
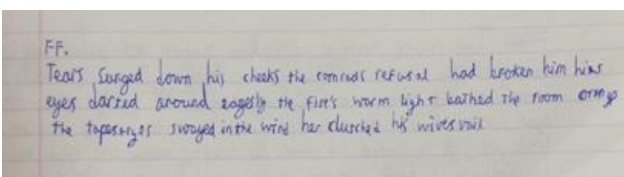
- Make sure your child has a towel and swim costume in their bag (if they aren't wearing it)
- Pack a snack *in their swimming bag (NUT FREE)*
- Make sure their bag is big enough to fit their kit in and they can pack it by themselves
- Practice getting dressed independently with your child

Year Five and Six

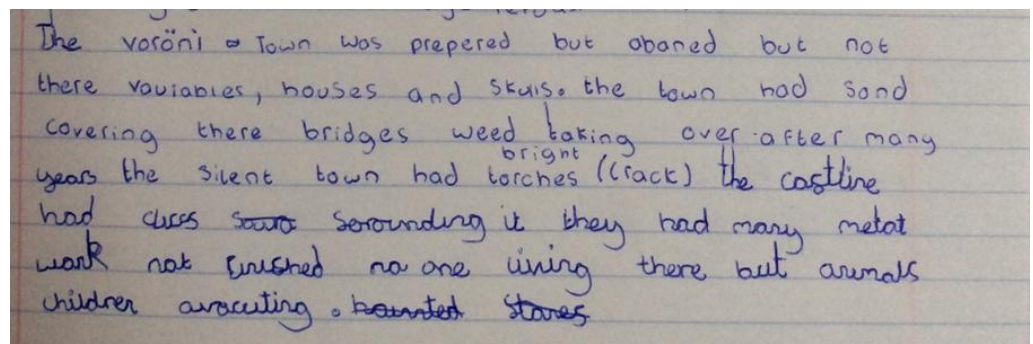
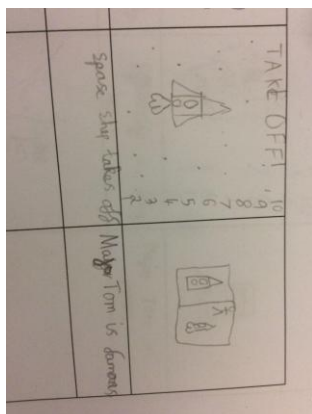
We have started our electricity topic, refreshing our knowledge from Year 3/4, by creating circuits using wires, bulbs, (very loud) buzzers and batteries. We investigated what the effect would be if we added more batteries or other components. Later in the week, using our brand new data loggers, we measured the brightness of the bulbs when we added more than one into a circuit and we recorded our findings, which included finding the average. We measured the brightness in 'Lux'. We also used our bodies as circuits, creating sound and light from an energy stick when we connected our hands. It was the largest circuit we'd created!



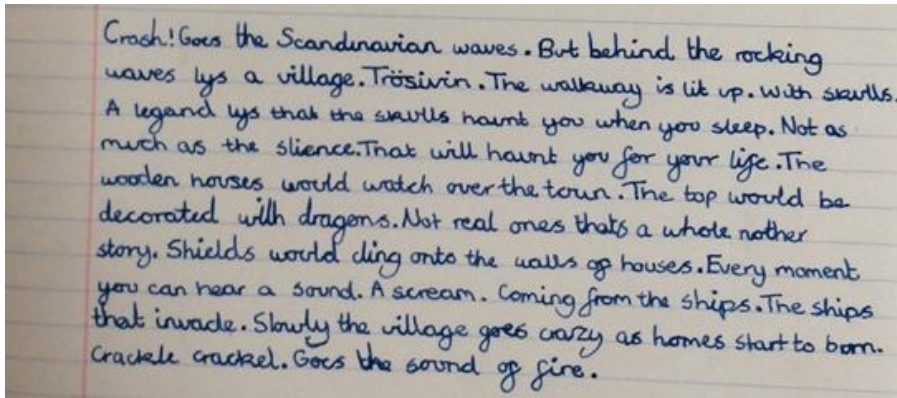
In Oak Class, we have been working diligently to improve our handwriting. We have had lessons on how to form and join our letters accurately which has been tricky as some of us have had to unlearn our old style of writing and relearn the correct type. Here are some examples:



Then...



...and now Improvement mid-lesson - perfection!



Year 5/6 Reminders:

- Please let us know if you have any issues logging into Google Classroom at home to complete the home learning. This will be set weekly on a Wednesday and due on a Monday.
- Year 6 Residential behaviour contracts need to be signed and returned to school

Reflections this week...

This week we have been looking at what makes us special and how it is OK to be different. We also looked at a Bible reading from Daniel 10.19 "Do not be afraid, you who are highly esteemed," he said. "Peace! Be strong now; be strong." We discussed how Christians believe that God wants us to be who we are, to stand up for what is right and be strong to follow our own values.

Attendance...

This week's attendance is 96.9%.

Diary Dates w-c 22 Sept...

- Tuesday 23rd September - Year 3/4 Swimming, please be in school for 8.50am as the children will be leaving school promptly after morning registration.
- Wednesday 24th September @ 9.00am - Foundation Parents Reading Phonics Workshop
- Friday 26th September @ 9.00am - Years 1/2 Parents RWI Phonics Workshop
- Friday 26th September - Macmillan Coffee 'Afternoon' (No Star Assembly) - All parents welcome, see times earlier in the newsletter.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kate Goodger

Mrs. Kate Goodger

Headteacher

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