



# High Ash CE School Weekly Newsletter



Friday 3rd October 2025

*'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16*



## Grow Together Shine Forever

To all our families,

It has been another productive week this week. The children are really working hard and are producing some fabulous work! We really have settled back into school.

### ***Macmillan Coffee Event...***

Thank you so much for supporting our Macmillan Coffee event - we raised a whopping £600 in cash, but there will be more which would have been contributed online using the QR code. It was lovely to see so many of you and sample such wonderful cakes.

### ***Harvest Festival 15th October@1.45pm leaving school at 1.30pm...***

On Wednesday 15th October all the children apart from Acorns class will be celebrating our Harvest Festival at St Mary's in Great Brickhill. We are asking for donations for the food banks in our local churches - these need to be non-perishables and we have been asked that we don't donate any pasta as they are inundated with pasta! Please do send in a tin as none of us know if we will ever need to rely on a food bank. This also reinforces our messages to the children that we show kindness to everyone.

As we will be taking just over 200 children to the church, there will be limited space available for parents. However, you are very welcome to join us.

If you would like to attend, please complete the form using the link below to reserve your seat. Due to limited capacity, we can only offer you **one seat per family**. If you would like to request an additional seat, you may indicate this on the form. Should any extra spaces become available we will let you know. All seats will be allocated on a **first-come, first-served basis**.

If we reach full capacity, parents who booked later will be contacted to let them know that unfortunately no further seats are available.

<https://forms.gle/2XdLZHyKhK4m4ki58>

### ***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**. Information was sent to all parents yesterday via Bromcom with instructions on how to book. Please book via your MCAS app.

## Learning highlights this week....

### Acorns

Acorns have been looking at the story 'The Colour Monster' this week. We have explored the feelings that the colour monster has and how his friend helped him to sort them all out. We have used the story to inspire our work and continued to improve our pencil grips. The children listened to the story and were inspired to draw their own colour monsters. They then attempted to write the initial sounds in colour and monster 'cm' on their pictures using what we have learned in our phonics letter formation sessions.



The children also learned how to use water colour pallets and had outlines of colour monsters to paint. We were so impressed with how carefully they painted their art and how some even experimented with the colours to get just the right shade of red for the anger monster. They used their improving pencil grips to hold their paintbrushes.



## Acorn Reminders

- Friday 10th October - See us Shine event for parents at 9.00am. Please click on the link below to confirm your attendance: <https://forms.gle/Ukoj98bTPv1m2wJFA>. This is an opportunity for you to come in to visit our classroom and engage in learning through play with your child. You will be able to explore the indoor and outdoor classroom with your child and see how their confidence has grown since starting in Acorns. The session will finish at 9.30am.
- Next week we will be exploring the story 'Funnybones', you could talk to your children about skeletons and the bones in their body and why we have them.

## Year One and Two

KS1 are absolutely loving their science learning this term, having become experts in biomes and habitats over the last few weeks. This week it was time to investigate 'microhabitats' on a minibeast hunt. The children scoured our grounds looking under every rock and stone to find and identify as many minibeasts as possible. We used our findings to discuss patterns and why each microhabitat might be suitable for a particular minibeast. Mrs Barrasford had to be very brave when investigating a large family of spiders!



In English this week our text is 'Meerkat Mail' and the children have been focussing on adding a range of interesting sentence openers to their writing. Congratulations to Luigino and Albi who were last week's STAR writers receiving a certificate from Mrs Derham for their hard work. We are looking forward to seeing Year One's first STAR writer on Friday. In Maths, Year 2 have been comparing and ordering numbers to 100 and in Year 1 the children have been comparing and ordering numbers to 10.

Year 2 Gardening Club has started again on a Tuesday lunchtime and this week our green fingered children helped Mrs Northern harvest our tomatoes, remove the plants and prepare the soil ready for planting - the children have decided that they would like to plant some daffodils so we are ready to spot the first signs of Spring next year.

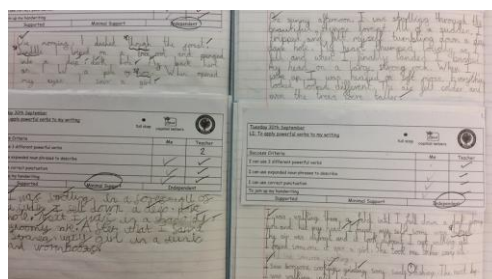


## Year 1/2 Reminders

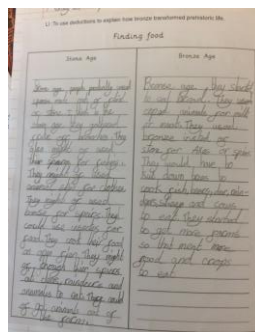
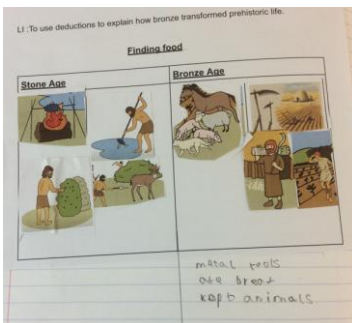
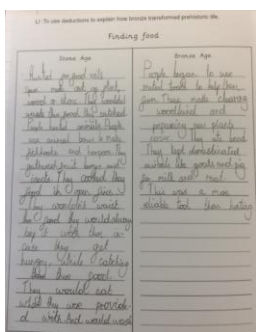
- We are always on the lookout for resources for our Outdoor Classroom, so if you have anything that you think may be of use, please do let us know; sheets or white duvet cases and large paintbrushes/ rollers are still top of our wish list!
- History- if you have any photos, technology, books or magazines from the 1950s,60s or 1970s we would love to be able to share and show the children in their history lessons next week.

## Year Three and Four

In English this week, we have been focussing on the Stone Age Boy book. Earlier in the week, we looked at including powerful verbs in our writing. Here are some examples we chose - thumped, heaped, grinding, dashed, strolling, plunged, tripped...



This week in History, the children have been comparing life in the Stone Age and the Bronze Age. They explored how people in each age found their food and identified the key differences, including the types of tools and materials they used, as well as their farming and hunting techniques.



In Music, the children have been continuing their work on ballads. They learnt the words to David Bowie's *Space Oddity* and even created actions for each verse before performing it together as a class. Through this, the children developed a clear understanding that a ballad tells a story, includes repeated choruses, and often explores themes such as love and loneliness.



In Year 3 Maths, the children have moved on to addition and subtraction. They have been making connections in their learning, recognising that when adding ones, the ones column will always change, and using this knowledge to tackle more complex addition problems with growing confidence.



### Year 3/4 Reminders

- Your child may have come home with lines to learn for our Harvest Service on the **15th October**. Please can you help them to learn them by heart by next Friday - **10th October**. Thank you for your support!
- Please talk to your children about avoiding bringing in toys/fidgets/jewellery as the safest place for them is at home to prevent anything going missing and disagreements at playtimes/lunchtimes. Thank you!
- Any tubes (toilet rolls and kitchen rolls) would be gratefully received - as many as possible!

### Year Five and Six

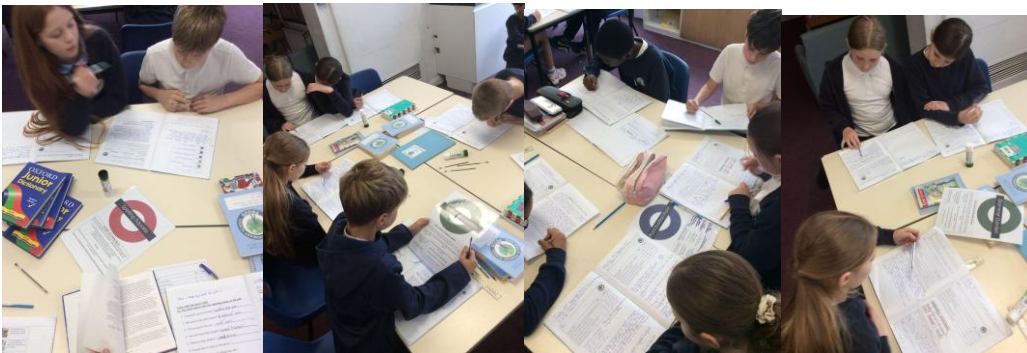
We've been out in the glorious sunshine practicing our hockey skills of passing and, importantly, receiving the ball. By ensuring we look up to where we are passing and apply our knowledge of push passing, we have a good success rate and have applied this to mini-matches. We have some real talent in Year 5 & 6. If your child has been interested in PE this half term, we would be happy to recommend local clubs to join.



In computing, we have been using search tools in databases using the terms 'and' and 'or' to help with the selection. Using a prepared database, based on the Titanic, we were able to answer a series of questions by searching efficiently within the data. Impressive stuff!



In English, we have been wrapping up our writing unit looking at 'How To Train Your Dragon' with an editing lesson. We have had different editing stations which we have rotated to throughout the lesson, looking at vocabulary, grammar, punctuation, handwriting and spelling. We worked both independently but found that when working with a partner we could have the greatest impact, especially when reading our work aloud.



In music this week we have been continuing learning about 'The Twelve Bar Blues'. The children have learned the history of this genre and the chord progressions. This week, we learned that there is a Blues scale which we practised on our brand new glockenspiels and played along to a backing track. There was a huge success rate and we are thrilled that we have so many musical children in Years 5 and 6!



## Year 5/6 Reminders:

- Year 6 Residential - Please remember to wear 'activity-ready' clothes on Monday as we will go straight from the coach, to lunch to our first activity.
- Year 5 (and those not attending residential) Please make a note of the changes to PE days next week
  - Maple class: Tuesday and Friday (as normal)
  - Oak class: Monday and Thursday
  - Willow class: Tuesday and Friday
- Year 5 Music Concert at The Stables - Our Year 5 children along with the non-residential Year 6 children will be visiting The Stables on Tuesday 7th October to watch a classical music concert. Please read the letter sent to you via MCAS messaging. You are requested to pay a contribution towards the cost of the tickets and transport and we ask you to please pay via your MCAS app under Trips by the end of next week. Thank you.

## Star Writers

Well done to Dayaar, Gabriel, Olivia and Lui for their amazing writing this week. Lui had used some amazing time adverbials and written in wonderful handwriting. The Year 3 & 4 students had based their pieces on 'The Enormous Crocodile'. They had used some vivid, descriptive vocabulary to create expanded noun phrases.

## Eco Committee...

Please continue to bring in as many plastic bottles or containers as you can! We will be building our living wall soon and would love to see as many plants as we can!



## Choir - Wed 8<sup>th</sup> Oct and Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct...

Mrs Gray will be with the Year 6s on the residential next week but choir will still be going ahead and will be led by Miss Maylor. We will need to cancel choir on Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct, when it is our Parents' Evening, and parents/carers will be refunded for this session.

## Fundraising for golf equipment...

Thank you to those parents who have already donated towards our golf equipment. We hope to introduce golf as a new activity for our children later this year. 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 community to help us fund a set of beginner-friendly golf equipment. Use the link below to donate or email Mrs Northen at [businessmanager@highashschool.co.uk](mailto:businessmanager@highashschool.co.uk) for more information or if you think you can support us.

[www.crowdfunder.co.uk/golf-equipment-1](http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/golf-equipment-1)

## Reflections this week...

This week in reflections we have been asking ourselves do we demonstrate kindness ***to all***. We have studied the Good Samaritan and thought about how it must have felt to not be helped by those you expect yet being helped by the person you considered your 'enemy'. This is such an important message particularly at the moment with the world being a very volatile place with powerful people not showing kindness to all. The children have been set or are setting themselves challenges to really demonstrate kindness to all not just kindness to our friends - that is easy - yet showing kindness to people who are different to us or who we don't know.



For our class reflections, we set ourselves personal or class challenges to demonstrate kindness. This is the Holly kindness card which includes all of our ideas - holding the door open for someone, including everyone in our games, teaching someone a new skill and saying good morning to people.

### *Attendance...*

This week our attendance is 93.7%. Please remember how important it is to send your child to school every day. Absences must be reported daily by 9.30am to [absence@highashschool.co.uk](mailto:absence@highashschool.co.uk).

### *Diary Dates w-c 29 Sept...*

Next week we see our Year 6s going on their residential trip to Culmington Manor in Shropshire. I am lucky enough to be going with them. Mrs Bird and Mrs Northen, both members of our Senior Leadership Team, are in school all week if you need anything. Please keep your fingers crossed for good weather for the residential.

### *September 2026..*

Do you know anyone starting school in September 2026? Please do tell them about our forthcoming open days on the 15<sup>th</sup> October and 5<sup>th</sup> November. More details available from the school office.



Have a great weekend.

[Kate Goodger](#)

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