



High Ash CE School Weekly Newsletter



Friday 30th January 2026

'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16



Grow Together Shine Forever

To all our families,

Our Year 2 children had a fabulous time yesterday with Football 2 Music, there was so much laughing and children really enjoying developing their football skills. We hope to be able to offer a club after school in the Summer term - please look out for our club information at the end of this term if your child really enjoyed these sessions.

Reminder - Music Concert...

We are looking forward to our Music Concert on the 12th February. The Music Concert will start at 6pm. The children will be required to be back in school by 5.30pm. All the children who auditioned along with those who belong to the school choir will be performing on the night. If you wish to reserve seats for this concert, please click on the link below. Seats are restricted to 2 per family in the first instance: <https://forms.gle/Vh77NxktKtFJAeZ79>

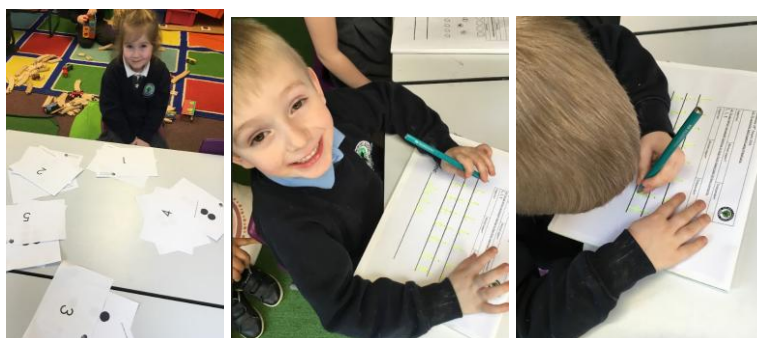
Learning highlights this week....

Acorns

Acorns have started our work on the 'Gingerbread Man' this week. We have listened to and talked about the story. We have been retelling the story using the small world area in the classroom and we have been talking about the fox and whether or not we thought he was clever for managing to trick the Gingerbread Man.

In Maths, we have been learning more about subitising and making sure we use fast eyes to say how many we can see and not always have to count. We then matched up the numbers to the dot pictures quickly using our subitising skills. We also talked about how subitising is used when we play board games and roll a die, we do not count! We just know which dot arrangements represent which numbers. Next week we will practice this skill by playing track games in provision using a die and jumping along the tracks.

We also continue to work on our letter formation and pencil grip. It has been wonderful to see the children's enthusiasm and perseverance whilst learning to form their letters correctly.



We learned more creative skills! We learned how to use the ready-made paint. We know we need to start by putting on an apron, getting a paint tray, pour out a small amount of paint, draw out our picture, choose the

correct size paintbrush and then paint. We also learned how to effectively clean our paintbrushes and tap off the excess water. I think you will agree that our art is beautiful!

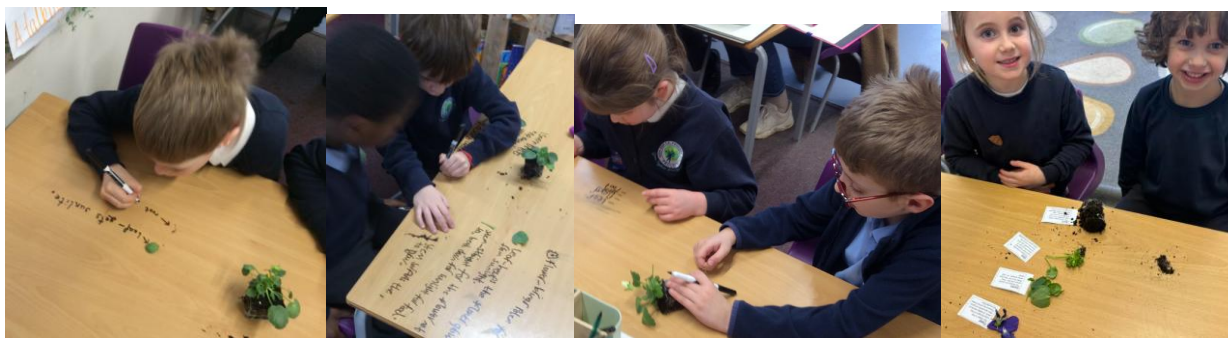


Acorn Reminders

- Keep sending in the junk modelling resources please! They are getting used up as soon as they come in. Our Engineering area is very popular and is giving us a great opportunity to learn about designing, building and evaluating our work.
- You could play track board games at home with your child like snakes and ladders to practice subitising and jumping away.
- Please do not allow your child to bring in toys from home. We have had a few children bringing in things and this is causing distress and confrontation as children worry about what they have brought in. We have plenty of toys in class that they can share together.

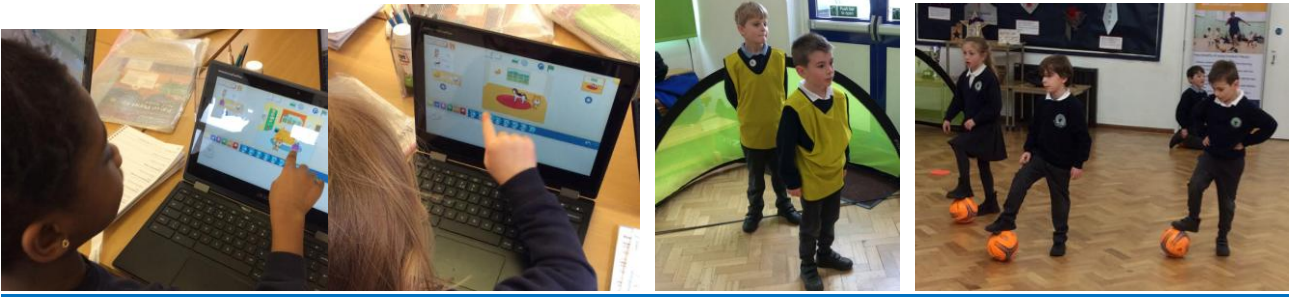
Year One and Two

The weeks are flying by in Key Stage One and, as always, we have been impressed with the children's enthusiasm and delight in their learning. We have started our class novel 'The Enchanted Wood' by Enid Blyton (hopefully to be finished in time for the release of 'The Magic Faraway Tree' film at Easter!). We have loved hearing the children demand 'just one more page!' as we read it together. In Science we are starting to make links between the non-fiction texts we are familiar with such as 'The Great Kapok Tree' and the importance of plants in our world. We continued developing the scientific skills of observation, identification and classification when we dissected a pansy to have a really close look at the structure of a plant. We used magnifying glasses and the visualiser to label and then investigate each element in detail.



We were lucky enough to have a visit from a coach from the 'Football to Music' team on Thursday and the children made us PROUD with their attentiveness, determination and strong competitive spirit as they took part in a number of skill exercises all set to a thumping dance beat... there was quite a bit of 'mum dancing' from the teachers!

In Computing, we explored how to use multiple sprites in the Scratch Jnr. programme. We learned that each sprite can have its own coding program and enjoyed watching how different sprites behaved in different ways. We also refined our programming skills adapting to different background settings. In Maths, Year 2 has been investigating how arrays can help us understand multiplication and we have started to practically explore division by grouping and sharing. Year 1 began a new Maths topic focusing on addition and subtraction to 20. The children used ten frames and counters to explore patterns. A real wow moment came when they realised that if $8 + 2$ equals 10, then $18 + 2$ equals 20. This highlighted the importance of quick recall of number bonds to 10.

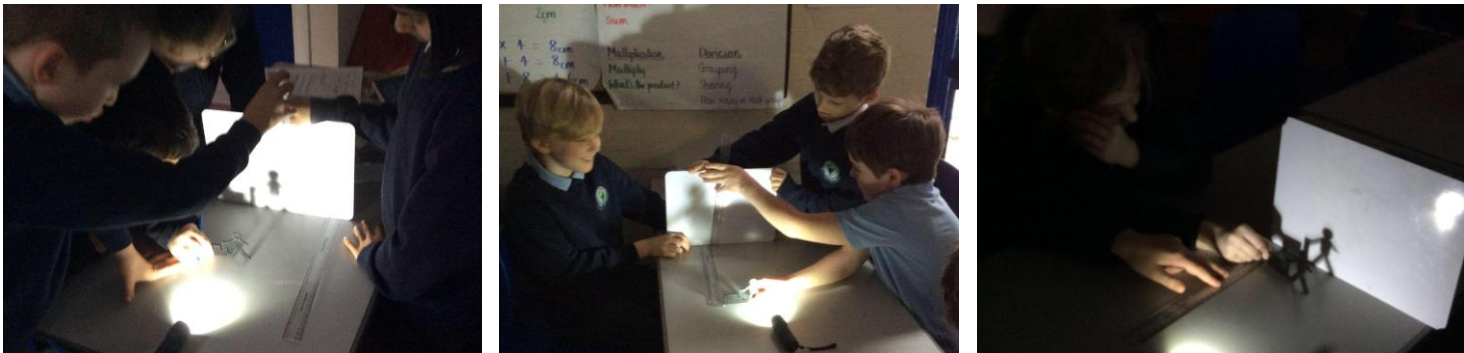


Year 1/2 Reminders

- History - in our History lessons we are investigating how toys have changed through the years. If you have any toys from your childhood that you would be willing to send in to share with the children we'd be very grateful! (Anything from the 1950's - 2000)
- Friday 6th February - Year 1 Apple Class Assembly @ 2.15pm, doors open at 2.05pm - Parents welcome!

Year Three and Four

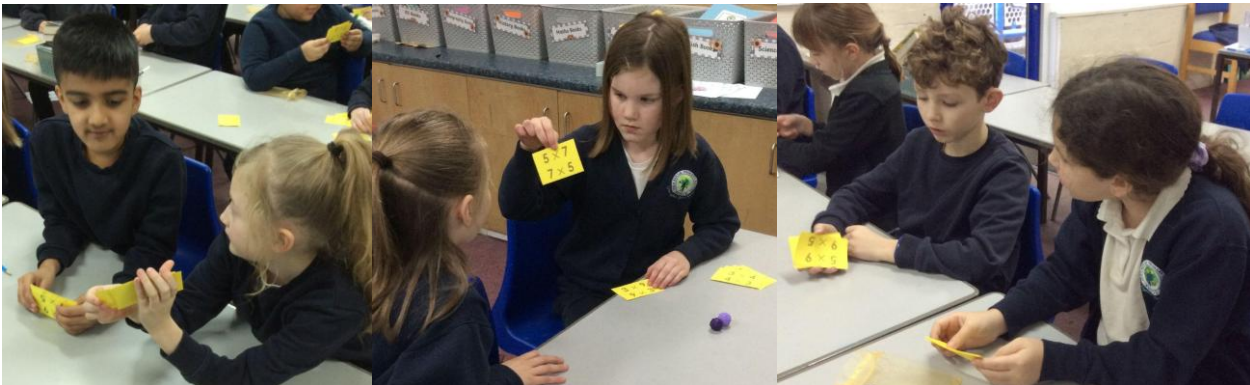
This week in Science we have been learning about how shadows are formed. We created an experiment to show us all about how shadows change in size depending on how close an object is to the light source. We marked how tall each shadow was on a whiteboard and recorded them on a table. We noticed that the closer the object is to the light source, the larger the shadow will be.



During our PSHE lessons, we have been learning about working as a team to create a garden for someone facing a specific challenge. First, we had to decide who the garden was for, then we had to allocate roles for each member of our team. To do this we had to be respectful of each other's choices and opinions and work as a team to decide who would represent each role.



During maths fluency lessons, we have been going for GOLD! Using our multiplication knowledge, we have been testing each other using our Going for GOLD cards. We have been having a lot of fun practicing and testing each other which means our times tables knowledge and recall is quick and accurate! Well done Year 4!



In DT, we have started designing and planning our castles which last week involved using nets to construct 3D shapes. We worked on sharper folds which made the shapes better as well as being careful to use the tabs which were tricky!

Year 3/4 Reminders

- No reminders this week

Year Five and Six

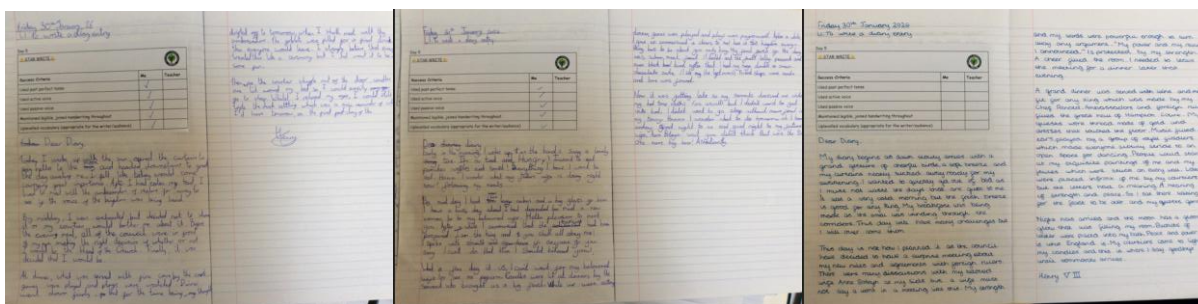
In PE, the Year 5/6 children have been put through their paces in a gruelling upper body circuit, including: press ups, press-up walk outs, t-holds, shoulder taps and laid-down shoulder press. They did remarkably well and recognised the importance of working these muscles as they are used in so many everyday tasks. Shoutout to Grace, Phoebe and Noah who had excellent form and gave 100% throughout!



In Art, we have been studying the work and life of the Austrian architect and artist Friedensreich Hundertwasser. Using his architectural designs as inspiration, we created an 'artist study'. As an architect, he loved to use nature as inspiration as well as lots of colour, spirals and curved lines.



In Oak, we have been working hard on the quality of our written work. We used our knowledge of Henry VIII to write a diary in character considering the claims on his time, the people he would have met with and, of course, the delicious food he enjoyed. Special shout outs for their 'determination to improve' go to Mila, Emi, Ralph and Ethan, some of whose work you can see here: In guided reading, we continue to learn about classic poetry. -Following on from Shakespeare's sonnet 18 and Wordsworth's 'Daffodils', this week we have been studying The Tyger by William Blake (that's a lot of Williams!).



In Maple Class, we have been very busy preparing for our fabulous class assembly, but this has not stopped us from working hard and creating wonderful pieces of writing based on our work on the Tudors and Henry VIII. Across Year 5/6 we have been writing diary entries, imagining ourselves as Henry on the day of the separation from the Catholic Church and the control of the Pope, so that he could marry Anne Boleyn in the hope that she would give him a son and heir. We have been learning all about tenses and have ensured that we have used the past perfect tense, as well as the passive and active voice. We are proud of our writing.

Reflections this week...

This week we thought about how no-one is too small to make a difference. We thought about the bible reading from Matthew 13:31-32. The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed... though it is the smallest of all seeds, it becomes a tree. The children in class then thought about how small acts of kindness can grow into a huge kindness tree.

Attendance...

This week's attendance is 95%. Remember to always email absence@highashschool.co.uk for every day your child is absent from school. Thank you.

St. Luke's Food Bank...

The foodbank is still there and available for those who would like to use it. They will however be moving the foodbank out this Saturday 31st as a funeral is being held but it will be returned to the porch after the funeral. Please see the flyer attached.

Diary dates for next week commencing 26th January...

Friday 6th February, 2.15pm - Apple Class Assembly. Parents welcome, doors open at 2.05pm

Friday 6th February, 2.55pm - F/KS1 Star Assembly. Invitation only! Doors open at 2.45pm.

Wednesday 11th February - Class group/Team photographs

Wednesday 11th February, 2.45pm - SEND Parents Tea and Cake Event

Thursday 12th February, 6pm - Music concert

Friday 13th February, 2.15pm - Hawthorn Class Assembly. Parents welcome! Doors open at 2.05pm

Friday 13th February, 2.55pm - KS2 Star Assembly. Invitation only! Doors open at 2.45pm.

HALF TERM

I hope you all have a lovely weekend,

[Kate Goodger](#)

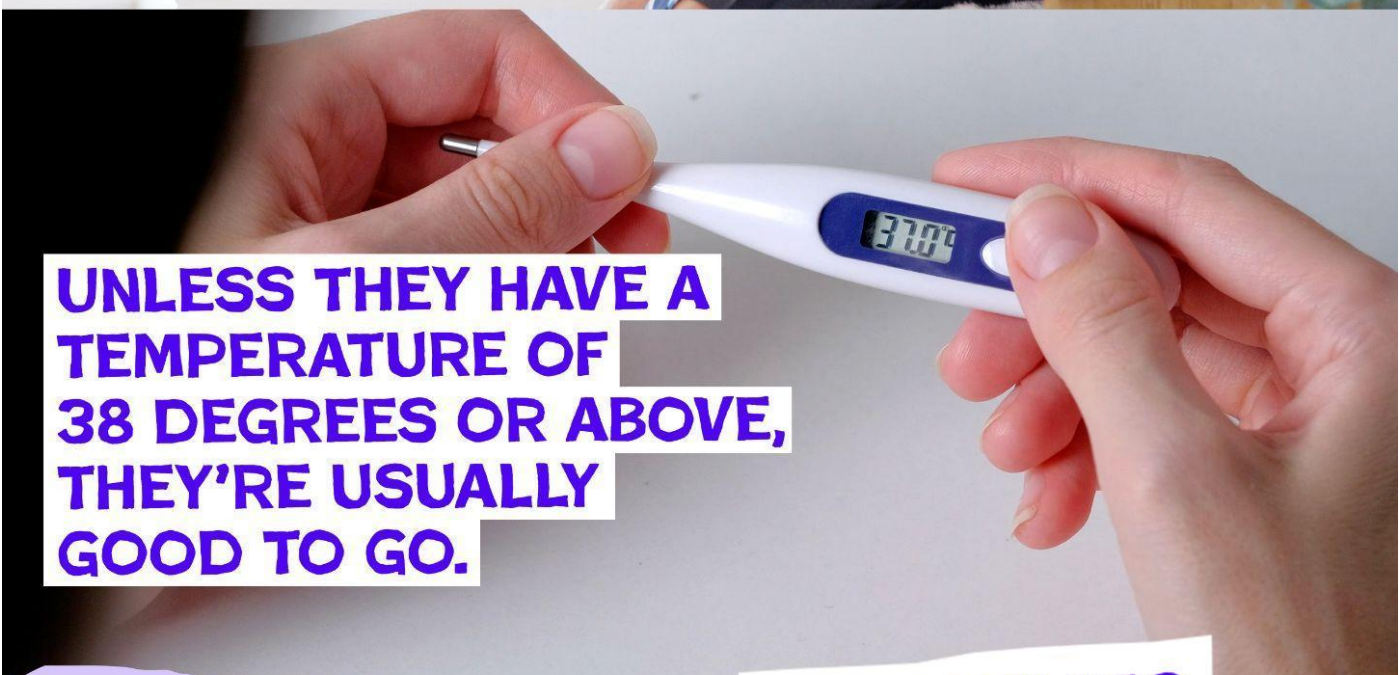
Mrs. Kate Goodger
Headteacher

headteacher@highashschool.co.uk



**IF YOUR CHILD IS
FEELING UNDER
THE WEATHER,**

**IT CAN BE HARD
TO KNOW IF YOU
SHOULD SEND
THEM TO SCHOOL
OR NOT.**



**UNLESS THEY HAVE A
TEMPERATURE OF
38 DEGREES OR ABOVE,
THEY'RE USUALLY
GOOD TO GO.**

**SEARCH NHS SCHOOL
ILLNESS GUIDANCE.**

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



HM Government

