



# High Ash CE School Weekly Newsletter



Friday 13th February 2026

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



*Grow Together Shine Forever*

To all our families,

Wow - what amazing children we have at High Ash! I was a very proud Headteacher last night during our Music Concert, so many children showcased their musical talents to entertain us all. I am always amazed at how brave our children are to perform in front of an audience. Well done to all of our musicians. A big thank you to Mrs Gray who is our Music lead and also leads the choir, to Mrs Northen who organised a lot of the concert and had the nerve wracking job of playing the backing tracks at the right time and to Mrs Barrasford who gave up her time to support all the children taking part.



*Parents Consultations...*

As you were notified we have some technical issues with our BROMCOM parent evening booking system. We have sent out another letter today with instructions on how to book parents evening slots. This is a slightly different process for parents who have children in Foundation and Key Stage One compared to Key Stage Two parents. We are sorry and have tried to rectify the issues yet it is now back with the system designer. To overcome the problems we will be manually booking the slots so please bear with us as Mrs Northen and Mrs Lawrence-Kyraicou will be booking slots for you and notifying you. We have been clear with when you can expect to hear when you have a slot booked. Please do not fill our office email with enquiries of when you will hear.

At our school, we truly value the partnership we share with you. Working together is the best way to ensure your child thrives, and we always welcome the opportunity to connect.

To help everyone plan ahead, we publish our full calendar in September, including the dates for our Parent-Teacher Consultations. However, we also have a responsibility to support the well-being of our dedicated teaching staff. Our teachers are incredibly committed to your children, but like everyone, they also need time to recharge with their own families.

For the upcoming consultations on March 3rd and 4th, please note the following:

- In-Person Meetings: These are held during our scheduled slots on the dates provided.
- Alternative Options: If you are unable to attend on these specific dates, we are happy to arrange a phone call with your child's teacher.
- Scheduling: Please be aware that these follow-up calls will take place during the standard working day (9:00 am - 5:00 pm).

We kindly ask that you refrain from requesting individual meetings outside of these windows or late in the evening (such as 6:00pm). This ensures our staff can maintain a healthy work-life balance while still providing you with the feedback you value.

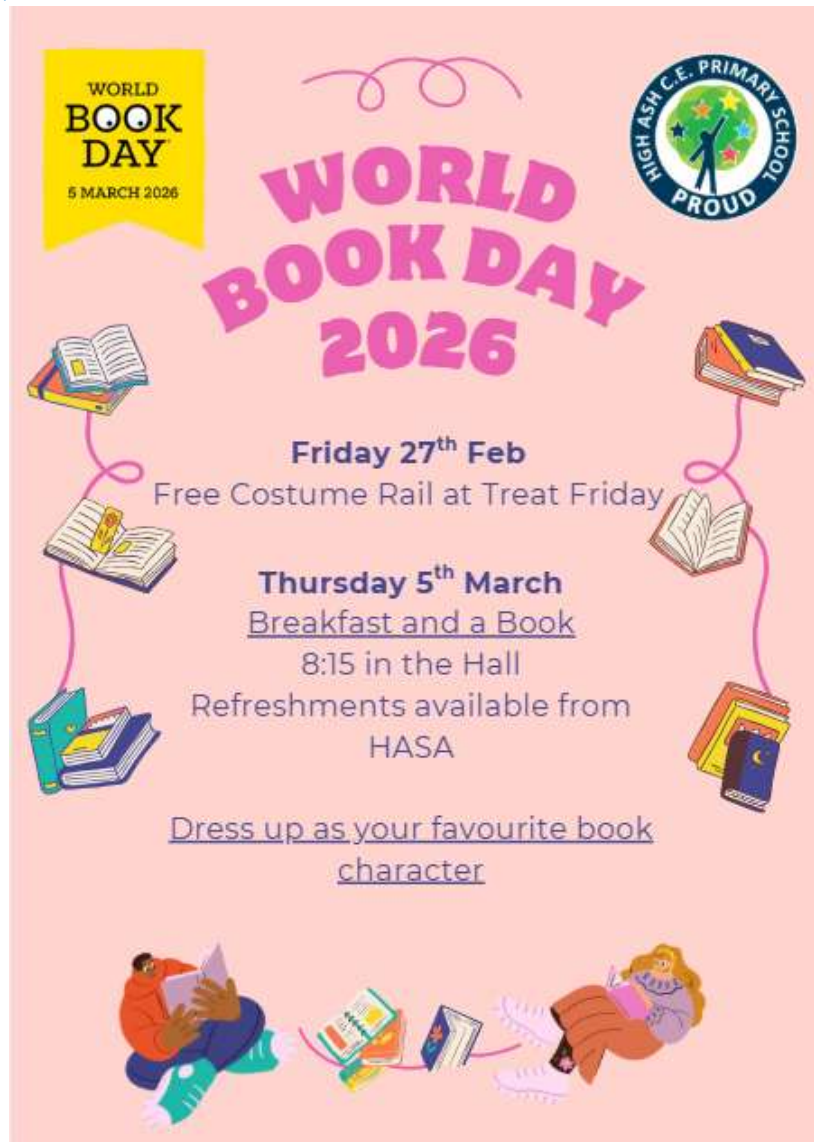
We aren't trying to be difficult—we are simply trying to ensure our teachers stay energized and ready to give your children their very best every single day. We appreciate your understanding and continued support!

### *Safer Internet Day 2026 - Tuesday 10 February...*



Year 5/6 took part in a BBC Live Lesson which developed their understanding of artificial intelligence, explaining how AI tools like chatbots use patterns in data to work. Pupils took part in challenges to help “train” a chatbot about a Hooded Vulture, chose suitable data, created safety rules (system prompts) and designed a friendly avatar while discussing the importance of online safety. The children learned to question information, protect personal details and think critically about AI responses. It was a great session and made us all think more about the impact (pros and cons) of AI!

## World Book Day - 5th March...



### *A Message from JLT*

To parents and carers,  
The members of JLT have been working on a mission to improve our outside space. We are fortunate enough to have a sandpit and a stage for performing but it has recently become more and more muddy. If you are a builder or know someone who is a builder and have spare time, please can you contact the High Ash office. We need your time more than anything, but your donations would be gratefully received. We have been considering materials like paving slabs, tarp to make the quiet space available to use instead of the muddy, wet and slippery quiet space.

Thank you for reading this newsletter that the members of JLT have worked on.

Members of JLT

*Written by Holly Class representatives*





## Learning highlights this week....

### Acorns

We have been celebrating in Acorns this week! We have been learning all about Chinese New Year. We shared the story of 'The Great Race' and talked about the Jade Emperor challenging the animals to race to have a year named after them. We learned the order that they finished the race in; 1st Rat, 2nd Ox, 3rd Tiger, 4th Rabbit, 5th Dragon, 6th Snake, 7th Horse, 8th Goat, 9th Monkey, 10th Rooster, 11th Dog and 12th Pig. We were shocked to learn that in some versions of the story the Cat was also in the race, however the Rat pushed him into the river and by the time he got out and crossed the finish line the race was over. We talked about how Chinese people believe that this is why cats and rats do not get along!

We set up our roleplay with lots of decorations and objects like chop sticks so we could act out celebrating Chinese New Year ourselves. We even had traditional clothes to dress up in which were red and gold, red being a very lucky colour for Chinese people. We also used pieces of cloth to do some Spring cleaning in the roleplay area as that is what Chinese families traditionally do to get ready for the new year.



We have been putting our fine motor skills to work this week creating our own paper weaving patterns! It was tricky to fold the template, cut the slits and weave the paper remembering to go over and under and then changing to under over!



### Acorn Reminders

- Thank you to everyone sending in junk modelling! Keep it coming as it is definitely being used.
- After half term we will be changing to our new topic 'Come Outside!' where we will be learning about life cycles, growing more plants, learning about Spring and how the season is changing and new life is starting. Over half-term you could go on a walk and see if you can spot the signs of Spring like the buds on the trees, daffodils and lambs in the fields.

## Year One and Two

Our careful designs came to life this week as we used our technical knowledge to create our Ferris Wheels in D&T. The children had been given a brief to design and build a working ferris wheel that would reflect and celebrate our local area. Over the last 6 weeks the children have been investigating the different parts of a rotating mechanism and discussing appropriate materials for the axle, base and structure. The children were able to refer back to their original designs as they created their prototype moving ferris wheels - we have a lot of budding engineers and designers in Key Stage One!



In PSHE we have been developing our team work skills as the children worked in small groups to design a Dream Bird to help people stay healthy, calm and focussed. We discussed how it can be hard to ensure everyone in your team has a voice and we explored the very tricky skill of compromise!

In Science our topic came to an end with a Leaf Hunt and an investigation into the differences between deciduous and evergreen leaves. In an experiment we tested and observed the absorbency of different leaves and discussed why the differences occur.



Thank you for a wonderful start to 2026 Key Stage One, we are so proud of you all. Have a wonderful Half Term, read lots of books and have a rest!

## Year 1/2 Reminders

- Our Science project bean stalks will be coming home this week - we'd love to know how they get on, perhaps you could take a photograph or even keep a bean diary to record how much they grow!



### Year Three and Four

In computing this week, we have been using algorithms to create a variety of shapes on our code writing software. We had to carefully consider the lengths of each side and the degree of turns needed as well as how many repetitions we do.



In Maths, we have been working on converting between improper fractions and mixed numbers. We have been using bar models to represent the equivalents.



During our French lesson this week, we were learning about masculine, feminine and plural nouns and which adjective to use depending on the noun. We played a fantastic game to help us to correct the colours on the board and even used dice to help us to pick out red herring words.

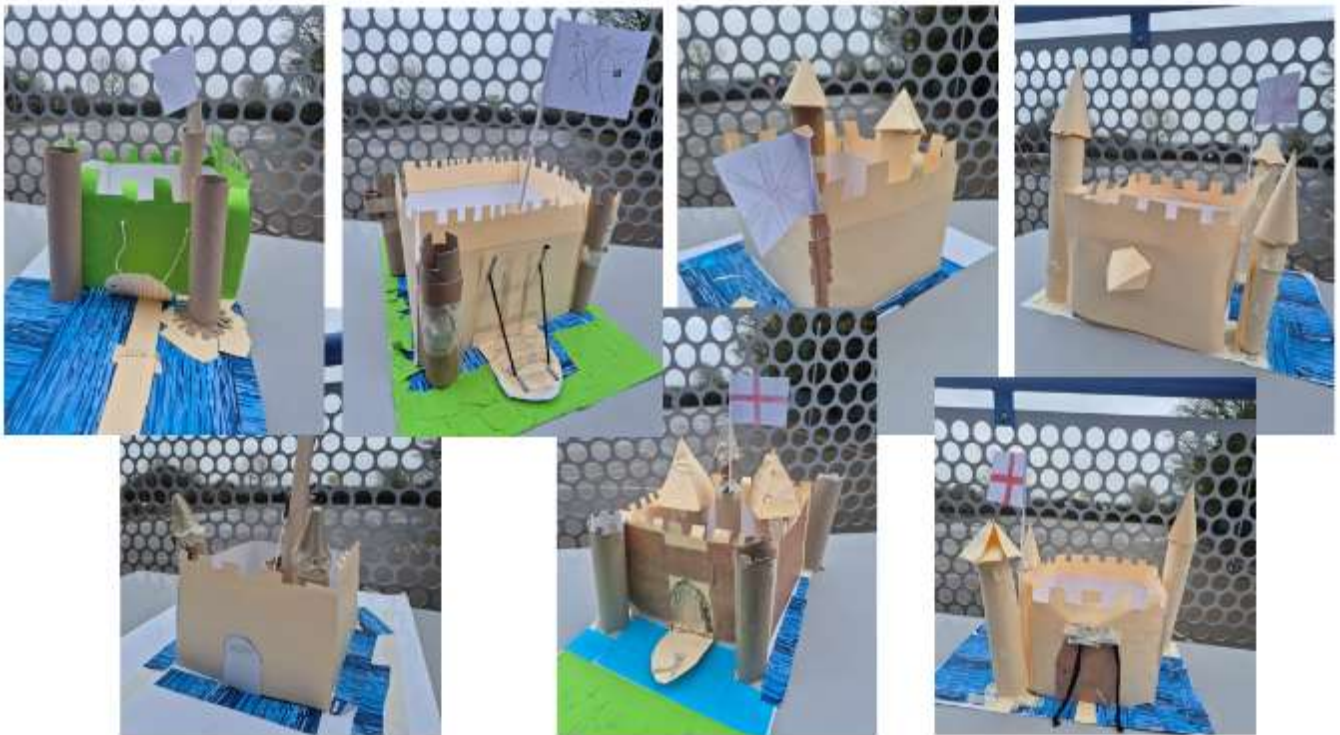


Our DT castles have been coming along brilliantly. We have considered many of the different features to include (drawbridge, turrets, curtain walls, towers, battlements, gatehouses). We have also incorporated some 3D shapes made from nets (square based pyramids, cones, hexagonal prisms...).

Georgia said...

*Our castle is a beautiful, classic piece of architecture. We have created intricate battlements including merlons and crenels. The moat flows rapidly around our castle. Turrets and towers are perfectly made with plats curling down them. Brick affects coil around in cone shapes. The whole building is covered in difficult shapes and wonderful effects. It truly is a magical place to be! Music fills the air and excitement flows about. Our glossy moat is a key feature of the castle. Even the inside is decorated with care. The whole thing is a true masterpiece. Our lovely*

wooden door is created with a magnificent drawbridge. The flag is made with high quality pencils too! It's painted carefully in realistic paper, a wonderful colour. A straw star has been flattened on a large, outside wall! All types of cones are built in this castle.

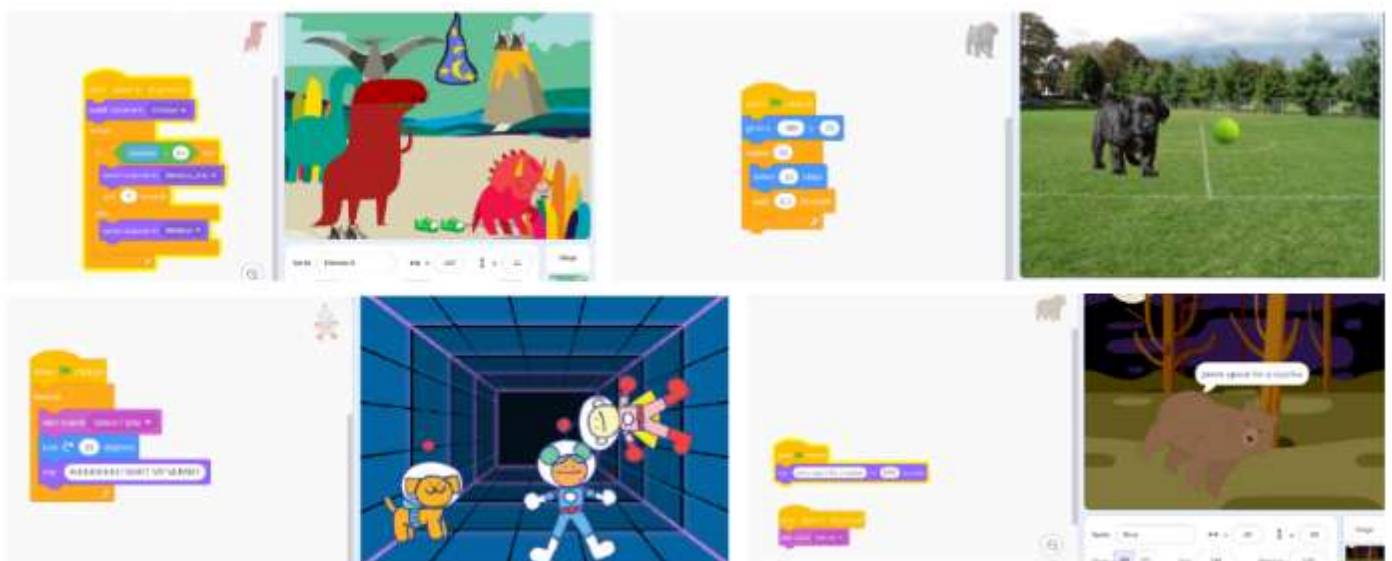


### Year 3/4 Reminders

- Our class text next half term is Einstein the Penguin by Iona Rangeley. Please do invest in a copy if your child wishes to use their own text for our reading lessons. Thank you.

### Year Five and Six

In computing this week, we combined our skills from the half term (edited given sequences or created our own). We included loops (repeat until, repeat x times, forever) as well as selections (if... then...). We checked our sequences by pressing the green flag and debugged if necessary.





In Science, we carried out an experiment, considering the impact of meteors on the moon! We reenacted this using playdough in trays of flour and cocoa powder. Willow decided to investigate the impact of varying sizes of meteors on the diameter of the craters produced. We kept other variables (as best we could!) the same including height, speed and material.



In English, we have been writing balanced arguments as to whether we should be investing in space travel or not. The level of writing has been astronomical, with adverbials suited for an debate which are out-of-this world! Check out some extracts from the introductions written by Willow class.

*Space exploration has always been an exciting prospect but now are starting to question whether it should be our main focus.*  
*Josephine*

For decades, there has been a debate about whether we should explore the infinite expanse of space or not. On one hand, people believe that peering into space should not be our focus as our own paradise is in danger and suffering.  
*Lara*

On our depleting paradise, scientists think we should not only peer into telescopes to view space but go straight into it!  
*Rafael*

### Year 5/6 Reminders

- Our class text next half term is Darwin's Dragons by Lindsay Galvin. Please do invest in a copy if your child wishes to use their own text for our reading lessons. Thank you.
- Please check out this useful blog all about the KS2 SATs for parents: [KS2 SATs Blog for Parents](#)
- Football matches and training **will resume after half term** for the Year 6 mixed and girls teams. Training for girls is on a **Wednesday** lunchtime whilst the mixed team will be **Thursday** lunchtimes.

### Star Writers

Well done to the fabulous star writers this week: Bella, Lulu and Kaitlyn. In their writing, they were able to use informal language superbly whilst linking it to 'Oscar and the Moth'. Their diary entries demonstrated that they have a great understanding of the text and could use so many I am A Clever Writer skills such as paragraphs and rhetorical questions! Well done girls!





### *Reflections this week...*

This week we have been looking at the Earth and how it is important that there are no outsiders and we are welcoming all species. We do this by caring about our environment, making sure that we are doing what we can not to pollute our planet, picking up rubbish, recycling where we can. The children made a promise to do something to support our drive to look after the world we live in. Our Bible reading was based on Luke 15:4. The lost sheep how even one thing not right is our problem to put right - we can't ignore anyone or problem on our Earth - it is our responsibility.

### *Attendance...*

This week's attendance is 94.5%. Please remember to always email [absence@highashschool.co.uk](mailto:absence@highashschool.co.uk) for every day your child is absent from school. Thank you.

### *Diary dates for next week commencing 23rd February...*

Wednesday 25th February, 3.30pm - Year 6 Girls football Fixture (Away). Invitation only!

Friday 27th February, 3.30pm - Year 6 Mixed football Fixture (Home). Invitation only!

Friday 27th February, 2.55pm - F/KS1 Star Assembly. Invitation only. Doors open at 2.45pm.

I hope you all have a great half term and I look forward to welcoming you all back to school on Monday 23rd February.

Kate Goodger

Mrs. Kate Goodger  
Headteacher

[headteacher@highashschool.co.uk](mailto:headteacher@highashschool.co.uk)

Save the date...

Join us for  
High Ash School's ...

# Quiz Night

*at Great Brickhill  
Cricket Club*

**MARCH | 20**

**7:30 PM**

£5 per person per entry

Tables of up to 6

**All proceeds to the school!**

Book your place on our online store  
or see a member of HASA

<https://highash.sumupstore.com>

**Prizes to  
be won!**