



# High Ash CE School Weekly Newsletter



Friday 17th April 2026

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



*Grow Together Shine Forever*

To all our families,

We hope you all had a lovely Easter break, we are looking forward to the summer term - with lots of community events organised. Over the Easter break, we have had some art work installed. We commissioned a graphic designer to turn Azalea's art work into something that could go on our wall. It really encompasses our work on there being no outsiders here at High Ash and how our school community is important to us all.

We have also had the PROUD principles put up at the end of the corridor, a timeline to support with our learning of historical events and a world map in the library. Next time you are in, please do take a moment to have a look.



## Goodbye to Reverend Waller

We will be visiting St Mary's on Friday 24th April to say goodbye to Reverend Waller, who has supported our school since 2002 by leading worship and serving on our Governing Body. Rev'd Waller is retiring and moving to be closer to his family in Worcester.

Due to limited space available in the church, invitations are restricted to parents of children receiving a Star Award, Year 6 Ambassadors who are leading the Star Assembly, our Year 6 Reflection Leaders, and members of the Governing Body.

## Coming up - HASA Disco...

There is still time to get your tickets for the ever-popular HASA disco on **Thursday 23rd April**. The Foundation and KS1 disco is **3.30pm - 4.30pm** and the KS2 disco is **4.45pm - 5.45pm**. Tickets cost £6 and are available to buy via MCAS within Products.

HASA needs parent volunteers to help at both discos. If you can spare the time to help at either one or both discos please email [highashschoolassociation@gmail.com](mailto:highashschoolassociation@gmail.com).



## Summer Term Clubs...

Supersports, Art and choir clubs have started this week. Filmmaking, Dance Clubs as well as Football2Music lunchtime club for F-KS1 will be starting next week, Monday 20th April -

**Football2Music** - You may remember last half term our Year 2 children had a fabulous time when Shaun McCarthy, Director and Founder of Football2Music visited our school and gave the children a taster session. There was so much laughing and children really enjoying developing their football skills. There is still time to book a space for your child within this club, please click on the links below to book your child a place:

Reception @ 12.15pm - <https://bookthatin.com/link/BOL737>

Year 1-2 @ 12.45pm - <https://bookthatin.com/link/OLKWZO>

**Netball Club** for Years 3-6 will start the following week, Monday 27th April. Again there is still time to book your child a place within this club. Please book via your MCAS app.

## Years 3-6, Author, 'Ash Bond' visit...

On **Tuesday 28th April** we are welcoming author Ash Bond who is delivering an interactive workshop all about the world on 'Peregrine Quinn' to **Years 3-6 children**. This is going to be a brilliant experience - please pre order the book to be signed by Ash using the link below:

<https://www.ourbookshoptring.co.uk/product/peregrine-quinn-and-the-battle-for-olympus/>

The signed books will be given to your child on the day. This will be very exciting for all the children.

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM BEN AT OUR BOOKSHOP** - Please include your child's name and class so the books can be labelled up for the event. Postage is not required; we will deliver all the books on the day.

## SEN tea & cake...

We are moving our next SEN tea & cake session to **Tuesday 21st April**, still at the usual time of 2.45pm.

Our new SENCO, Mrs Ally Edwards, has now started and this will be a good opportunity for her to meet everyone.



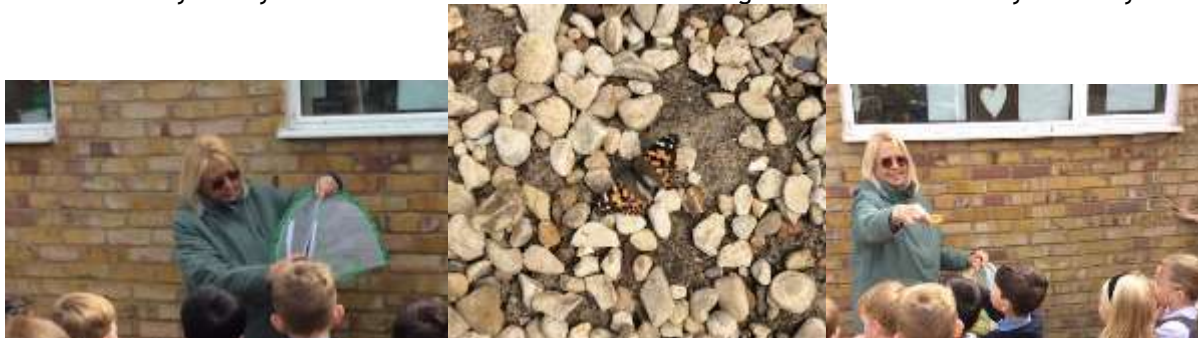
## Learning highlights this week...

### Acorns

Acorn class has been buzzing and talking with so much excitement this week! It is clear they are very happy being back together and sharing their Easter news with each other. This week we have been exploring the story 'Handa's Surprise'. We began our week by delving into the story, exploring the fruit that Handa carries and even having the fruit in class. We then explored the fruit with our senses and created our own fruit kebabs so that we could try the different fruits that the animals stole from Handa's basket and give our own opinions on which ones we liked and disliked.



We also had the opportunity to release one of the butterflies that hatched from their chrysalis over the Easter break. We were amazed to see how it had changed and gone through its metamorphosis. We talked about how we now know the butterfly life cycle and had seen it for ourselves! We agreed that our butterfly was very beautiful!



### Acorn Reminders

- We value having strong home and school communication with our parents, we are checking the diaries daily. To help us, if you do write a message, please leave the diary open in your child's book folder. This will help us to check them more speedily.
- Oracy at Home and School: Next week we are exploring the story Meerkat Mail. It talks about Sonny trying to find just the right place or habitat for him to live in. You could talk to your child about which animals can be found in which habitats around the world and maybe even explore why they are suited to live where they do and not live somewhere else.

### Year One and Two

What a fabulous start to the Summer Term, we feel like we've been back weeks already! The Key Stage One staff want to say a huge thank you to all our children for returning to school with such positivity, the PROUD principles have been on show all week!

In Art we finished last term's topic of 'Map it Out' with a printing lesson. The children sketched a simplified area of their imaginary maps onto paper and then transferred their designs onto a polystyrene tile. We had to be very careful to apply just the right amount of pressure to make a mark but not break the tile! Finally we used rollers to apply ink and create a pattern with our tiles. The finished work looks incredibly professional and the children are very proud of their masterpieces!



In English we have been writing riddles about the Signs of Spring. The children have been learning to use a range of openers and conjunctions to create clues to tease the reader! In Maths, Year 2 have been learning to identify Unit and Non-Unit fractions and Year 1 have started their Multiplication topic. Our new RE 'Big Question' will be 'Is Shabbat important to Jewish children?' and so this week we have talked about Special Days and how we prioritise our time on certain days of the week. We thought about which day of the week was our favourite and why.



### Year 1/2 Reminders

- Oracy at Home and School: Ask your children to tell you about the 'Cloud Experiment' in Science and let them teach you how to cloud spot!
- We are developing our stage and performance area in the KS1 outdoor classroom, if you have any toy microphones or microphone stands that are no longer needed, we would be very grateful.
- We are also on the look out for any large paint brushes and rollers used for decorating!

### Year Three and Four

This week in Science we started our new topic - plants. Specifically what each part of a plant does and the part it plays in the lifecycle. In our first lesson we dissected a plant and learnt about what each part is called. To show our learning and understanding we labelled the parts of a plant in our books - using the knowledge we gained from dissecting the plant.



We received some impressive homework from the last half term, in particular from Adele and Harry whose creative skills are impressive. Adele produced a rainforest in a shoebox inspired by the Eden project that she had recently visited and Harry did some excellent paintings on canvas.



During our RE lessons this week we started our new topic, which is 'Do people need to go to Church to show they are Christians?' This week we looked at our own special places and the impact those special places have on our feelings and emotions. It was wonderful learning about where each of us thinks as a special place to them and the meaning behind it.



On Thursday, we went on a fantastic trip to Bradwell Abbey to learn all about the Anglo Saxons. We were split into two groups and rotated round activities. We started with an introductory timeline to understand where the Anglo Saxons fit in our previous learning about the Romans. During the day, we learnt about the home as well as jobs (even for 9 year olds!) preparing for battle. The children designed and made their own sword and shield and also learned all about Alfred The Great and his love of poetry! We had some fantastic acrostic poems across Year 3 and 4. The children had a really great day to start off the History topic, learning lots from very engaging and enthusiastic historians at Bradwell Abbey.





### Year 3/4 Reminders

- Our class novel and guided reading text is 'Thorfin the Nicest Viking and the awful invasion'. If you would like to purchase one for your child to read in class please do. It would be wonderful for those books to then

### Year Five and Six



The children in Year 5/6 have had an exciting return to school, beginning with a wonderful visit to Bletchley Park. We could not be prouder of their behaviour and attitude, particularly as members of the public took the time to approach staff and share praise for their polite and courteous manners.

During the visit, the children enjoyed a guided tour of the park, led by an informative and engaging guide who helped them imagine what it would have been like to be a new recruit at Bletchley Park. They met characters from the period and had the opportunity to deliver messages as motorcyclists, type messages using Morse code and attempt to decipher Enigma codes.

The children also took part in a guided session where they learned more about D-Day and how the incredible work carried out at Bletchley Park helped to ensure the success of this historic operation. They became codebreakers themselves, deciphering codes and reading dispatches from German High Command, discovering how the clever plan to mislead and confuse the German army had succeeded.

In addition, the children explored the Enigma machine, learning about its astonishing 103,000,000,000,000,000,000 possible settings – a number that amazed everyone!

There was also time to explore the various huts, presentations, exhibits and museums across the park. Some children tried using the radio equipment, while others enjoyed writing their names in Morse code at the National Radio Museum.

All in all, it was a brilliant and memorable day for everyone involved.





In our History lesson this week, we learnt about timelines and how they help us understand the order of events.

We then worked collaboratively in small groups to create our own timelines on large sheets of paper. Using event cards, we carefully sequenced key events leading up to the Second World War and added dates. Some groups challenged themselves further by showing cause and consequence using arrows.



### **Star Writers...**

Congratulations to this week's Star Writers. Beatrice, Kaila and Binky impressed us with their Non-Chronological reports about Rainforests. Olivia and Danylo wrote fabulous recounts about performing at the Special Ladies Assembly and we were all amazed by Jessica's beautiful handwriting as she retold the story of Handa's Surprise. It is so lovely to celebrate our 'Clever Writers' and we look forward to seeing who will be awarded one of the coveted certificates next week!

### **Reflections...**

This week, our theme was 'Everyone is welcome in God's family' - we thought about how this is true at High Ash with our theme of #nooutsiders. Our bible reading was taken from Romans 15:7. Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you.

### **Attendance...**

Attendance this week is 95.7%. Please continue to email [absence@highashschool.co.uk](mailto:absence@highashschool.co.uk) for every day your child is absent from school. Thank you.

### **Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust...**

NHS Trust are delighted to share the launch of ParentCarerChat, a new text-based support service for parents and carers of all school-aged children across Buckinghamshire. Please read the attached letter for full information about this new service and how to use it.

#### **📱 New ParentCarerChat Text Service - Now Live!**

Need quick advice about your child's health or wellbeing? You can now text our School Nursing Team directly for support. 📱 ParentCarerChat: 07312 263175 🕒 Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm We can help with things like:

- Behaviour or emotional worries
- Healthy eating
- Puberty questions
- Toileting or sleep concerns ...and more.

Your message goes straight to a real person, not AI. If you've been asked to complete toileting or sleep charts, diaries or questionnaires, please return them as soon as you can so we can start the right support quickly.

Follow us on Instagram for tips and updates: @bucks\_childrenandyoungpeop

### ***Girls Football Training at Cottlesloe School...***

Cottesloe School are thrilled to announce that the MK Dons Community Trust, in partnership with The Cottlesloe School, is returning for another exciting term of Girls Football Training!

Whether your daughter is a seasoned player or looking to try football for the first time, the sessions are designed to be fun, social, and inclusive for all playing abilities. The goal is to provide a supportive environment where girls can develop their skills, build confidence, and stay active.

#### **Session Details**

- **Location:** The Cottlesloe School (3G Pitch)
- **Day:** Monday Evenings
- **Time:** 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM
- **Eligibility:** Open to all girls aged 9-16

#### **Term Dates**

The program is split into two blocks to take us through the summer season:

- **Block 1:** April 13th - May 18th
- **Block 2:** June 1st - July 20th

#### **How to Register**

Spaces are limited, so sign up as soon as possible to secure a spot by completing the online form here:

[\*\*MK Dons Girls Football Sign-Up Form\*\*](#)

### ***Diary dates for next week commencing w-c 20th April...***

Tuesday 21st April at 2.45pm - SEND Tea and Cake social chat

Wednesday 22nd April - Year 6 Mixed Football Game (Away)

Thursday 23rd April - HASA School Disco (F/KS1 3.30-4.30pm and KS2 4.45-5.45pm)

Friday 24th April, 1.30pm - KS2 Star Assembly and Rev Waller retirement service at Church

Have a great weekend.

Mrs. Kate Goodger  
Headteacher

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

## Outdoor Fitness

Our own Trooper Pete is running outdoor sessions at High Ash at the weekends. The first session is free, use the QR code below to book.



# Outdoor Fitness

**BEGINNER-FRIENDLY  
ALL ABILITIES WELCOME**

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