



# High Ash CE School Weekly Newsletter Friday 22nd May 2026



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

*Grow Together Shine Forever*

To all our families,

Can you believe that this is the end of the first half of the Summer term! Amazing. We have packed so much into this half term. Next half term we are really looking forward to Sports Day, the HASA Summer Fayre, the Year 5 and 6 Production and of course the Year 6 Leavers' events. Thank you for all your support again this term and I will be sharing with you some of our plans for the next academic year next term.

### ***PSHE Curriculum Review Parent Consultation - Tue 2 June...***

At High Ash, we are committed to providing high-quality Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education that supports your child's development and wellbeing throughout their time with us.

We are currently reviewing our PSHE curriculum in line with the DfE's updated statutory guidance for Relationships, Sex and Health Education (published 2025, for implementation from September 2026). This is a positive opportunity to bring our curriculum content up to date in a changing world, whilst maintaining our age-appropriate focus on the core knowledge and essential skills that children need to navigate different aspects of their lives with confidence both in and beyond primary school. Please refer to the letters sent to all parents earlier this week.

We look forward to sharing our provision with you and hearing your views. Please follow the link below to state that you'll be attending the parent consultation meeting on **Tuesday 2nd June 3.30 - 4.30pm. Please respond by Friday 29th May.**

<https://forms.gle/RtQUosUkTQevJ4qk9>

### ***HASA Summer Fayre June 27th - 11am-2pm...***

Please roll up & get excited for the High Ash Summer Fayre on June 27th! We are really excited to be hosting another fayre this year as last year was such a success. There will be an inflatable, games, bbq, bar, refreshments, & loads of fun. The whole school community will be there and we hope you will too, helping your children with their stint on the stall their class is running, or just coming along for a burger and a go at the tombola! Entrance is free, plenty of 50p games, tombolas for all ages, food & drink. We look forward to seeing you all there for a real community spirited day.

Please do support this event - the classes are having a competition for who raises the most money on their stall - every year HASA donate money to the school to enable your children to have the 'extras' in school. This year HASA are raising money to buy one class set of iPads and also help to replace some of our reading books. It is a great way to be a part of our community and to give something back - whether that is your time or to donate a little money. Please remember '#Nooutsiders' as **everyone is welcome at our lovely school and as we say to our children please 'be bothered' and get involved.** Thank you.

### ***Classes for next year...***

As we indicated in the newsletter on Friday, we will be sorting our classes for next year over the coming weeks. Just like in previous years, we are giving parents an opportunity to provide their input by responding to the questions in the Google Form (link below). There is no need for parents of children in Acorns or Apple to complete the form as our Foundation children will be moving into Year 1 as one group and our Year 1 children will be moving to Year 2 as one group.

As you can appreciate, the decision as to who the class teacher will be is at the sole discretion of the school and is not subject to change unless there are exceptional circumstances. This form is not to request which teacher - the deadline for resignations is not until the end of May so I have not allocated teachers to classes at this point. We aim

to create a balance across all classes based around gender, educational needs and good friendship mixes. We hope to place your child in a class with at least one of the preferred friends chosen on the Google Form.

I know from years of experience that class allocations can be a sensitive issue and understandably you want the best for your children. We do too, so please let us know your views, but also trust our judgement and knowledge of your child and the teacher they will be with.

Click on the link below to access the Google form. Please respond by the end of **Tuesday 2nd June**.  
<https://forms.gle/UJjzTURAdnv1LHRG8>

### *Learning highlights this week....*

#### **Acorns**

Acorn Class have been learning more about polar animals this week, building on our learning about desert animals. We have looked at the book 'Over in the Arctic' which is all about the unusual animals that live in a cold climate. The children have then been playing and sorting animals from hot and cold habitats and talking about why we might find a meerkat like Sunny in the desert but not in the South Pole like where the penguin and the boy from 'Lost and Found' went on their adventure together.



When we had become more confident in identifying animals from different habitats, we started to talk about how they were suited to live in certain places more than in others and talked about where they could live and where they would not be able to live. After that, we had a sorting challenge to complete in our new focus area in the classroom using our learning from the week.



## Acorn Reminders

- Please try to continue reading with your child over the half term break.
- With the weather being so hot next week, it's a perfect opportunity to engage in water play. Buckinghamshire Local Authority have produced home learning cards for families, which will be attached when sending this newsletter. We have shared the water play themed activity card for you to explore together at home!

## Year One and Two

Year Two have worked incredibly hard this week showcasing their learning in some very informal SATS style tests. These tests are purely for the teachers to 'check in' on the children's progress so we can identify any gaps in their learning and endeavor to fill them before they leave us for Key Stage Two. The children have taken it all in their stride and Mrs Barrasford and Miss Bright are incredibly proud. We have made sure that after the tests we have had lots of fun in the Outdoor classroom and have filled our afternoons with lovely practical science investigations and art.

In RE we ended our topic on Shabbat and its importance as a day of rest for Jewish people by making a Shalom Shabbat Card. We thought about what Shalom means and how important it is for us all to take time to appreciate peace and to feel grateful for all that we have.



In the Gardening Club, the children ensured their strawberry plants were placed correctly before tucking them into the soil. We were excited to see that the potatoes we planted a few weeks ago are already growing and we even saw some little sweetcorn shoots!



Apple Class fully embraced No Pens Day this week by developing their Oracy skills through drama activities inspired by the English text 'Astro Girl'. The children worked collaboratively to act out different scenes from the story, assigning roles, creating dialogue, and bringing the characters to life on stage. They showed fantastic confidence, creativity, and teamwork throughout the performances. Everyone had so much fun performing for the audience and using their voices, expressions, and actions to tell the story. Well done, Apple Class!



In Maths, Apple Class has been focusing on early fractions. The children have been learning that a half is when a whole is split into 2 equal parts, while quarters are when a whole is divided into 4 equal parts. They explored halves

and quarters of shapes before moving on to finding fractions of quantities. Using a range of practical manipulatives helped the children to build confidence and consolidate their understanding through hands-on learning.



### Year 1/2 Reminders

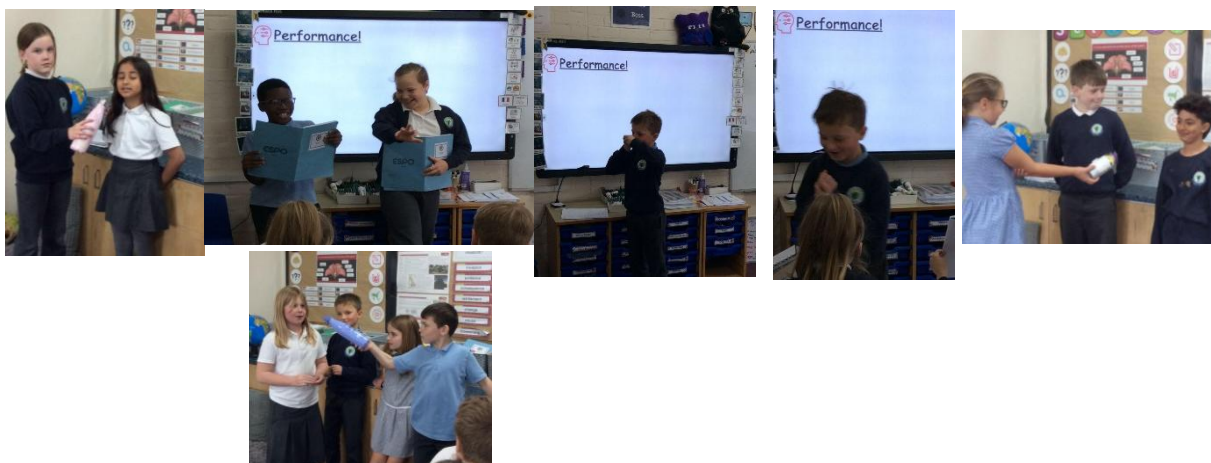
- **Chestnut Class** will be running a Teddy Stall at the School Summer Fayre so if you are having a half term clear out please save us a bag of any soft toys that may need a new home!
- Home Work grids have been given out this week - we love seeing and sharing the children's learning and are happy to receive any work, videos, photos in the week commencing 8th June.
- **Year 1 - Apple Class** will be bringing home QR codes which contain links to a series of Phonics Films. We would love it if you could watch one of these videos every day with your child. The National Phonics Screening Checks will take place Week commencing 8th June 2026
- **Years 1 and 2** visiting Shuttleworth Collection in Biggleswade on Monday 15th June - Please consent and pay your voluntary contribution via your MCAS app within 'Trips' by Friday 12th June. Thank you.

### Year Three and Four

This week in Year 3 Maths, the children have been learning about mass. We began by looking carefully at scales and working out the intervals they increase by before moving on to weighing and measuring in grams and kilograms. The children had great fun becoming mini mathematicians and weighing a variety of objects from around the classroom. It was wonderful to see them using their measuring skills and discussing which objects were heavier or lighter.



On Wednesday we had a day of NO PENS! (or pencils) which meant we had to practice our Oracy skills. To do this, we created a different style of lesson to include all of our Oracy talk tactics. We performed poems in English... to help us understand how to perform well, we watched some Michael Rosen poems - we loved them! The children gave great performances.



During our RE lesson, we asked the children to create a presentation all about a special place. It could be one of theirs or another person... from anywhere in the world! We challenged them to create a spoken presentation with no writing. Some of the children came up with a podcast style performance while others chose to interview each other.

Another great lesson from our NO PENS day was Maths! We used our Oracy and mental maths skills to play games with each other. This was a great way to learn to take turns, explain rules and talk about maths strategies. Each game was fun but educational and we had a fantastic time!



In PSHE, we focussed on the rights of a child, considering what we think are our needs and our wants. It was an interesting and very thoughtful discussion. We produced some informative and attractive posters.



Year 3/4 completed their DT project by making delicious vegetable tarts using fresh spring vegetables. The children carefully assembled the ingredients, making their selections from the available vegetables. In the afternoon, they tasted and evaluated their tarts, discussing what they liked about the flavour, texture and appearance, as well as how they could improve their designs in the future. Everyone enjoyed the activity and was proud of their finished products. They were delicious!



### Year 3/4 Reminders

- Keep remembering to leave all toys, fidgets, jewellery and belongings from home at home. Thank you!
- Just fruit for break time snacks please.
- Please practice times tables with your children over half term as we have our times tables check on the first two weeks back.

## Year Five and Six

This half term, our Year 5 and 6 artists have been diving into the world of sculpture and 3D art, connecting their creations to our thought-provoking topic of "Memories."

To inspire their work, the children explored how contemporary artists express thoughts and feelings through different mediums. They looked at the vibrant cultural sculptures of Yinka Shonibare, the emotional wrapped fibre art of Judith Scott, and the memory-focused wire designs of Nicola Anthony. Through these artists, the classes discovered that art is a powerful language for sharing our inner worlds.

The unit culminated in a fantastic, hands-on lesson where the children shaped clay into their own personal memory sculptures. There was a wonderful buzz of focus and creativity in the classroom today as they pinched, coiled, and smoothed their designs.

Our masterpieces are now drying over the half-term break. We are all incredibly proud of their hard work and can't wait to add the finishing touches with paint after the holidays!



This week, Miss Jolliffe's Maths group has been having a brilliant time exploring the world of shapes and angles. We discovered that everyone was already fantastic at naming and describing acute, obtuse, reflex, and right angles, which was an excellent start! However, we decided we needed a little more practice using protractors to measure them accurately.

To make things exciting, Miss Jolliffe turned our classroom tables into giant maths puzzles by covering them in intersecting lines of masking tape. We had so much fun using our protractors to measure the exact angles where the lines crossed. Best of all, we were even allowed to write our answers directly onto the tables!

It was a fantastic way to learn, and the children loved working together to check each other's work and perfect their measuring skills. What a fun, hands-on way to master an important mathematical skill!



On Wednesday, the children had a great trip to Olney. We learnt all about John Newton and how after a close near death experience - he found God who put him on the right path. The children had the opportunity to do lots of activities and learn how John Newton made huge changes to his life. It was lots of fun!

## Year 5/6 Reminders

- Keep remembering to leave all toys, fidgets, jewellery and belongings from home at home. Thank you!
- Just fruit for break time snacks please.

## Star Writers...



### **Congratulations to this week's Star Writers;**

Azalea, Layla, Leo, Mabel, Willow, Freddie, Flynn, Caleb, Timi, Marlon and Ellie. You really have made your teachers PROUD with your beautiful handwriting and 'clever writing' skills.

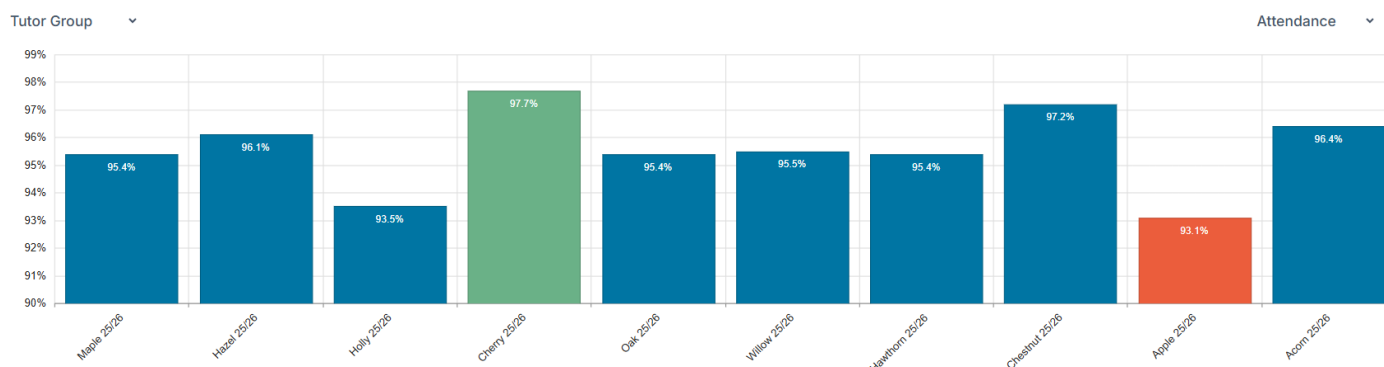
## Reflections...

In reflection this week, we thought about how lucky we really are. We learnt that if the world was a village of 100 people: 67 would lack clear air or good shelter, 20 people would be struggling to find enough food to eat and only 7 people would have access to a quality education like at High Ash. We should see this as an amazing opportunity. We then thought about the standard experience you can get at school and compared it to the High Ash experience.

## Attendance...

This week's attendance percentage is 94.4%. Please remember to email [absence@highashschool.co.uk](mailto:absence@highashschool.co.uk) to report your child absent from school daily.

The attendance percentage for the Summer Term 1 is 95.5. Please see below class attendance graph:



## Wishlist Class Bingo

We've been working hard to make playtimes fun, with new activities, resources, and our new Playground Charter that the children worked on together. We think playtimes could be even better with a little help from our friends and families.

Each class has been given a Wishlist Bingo card containing a range of playtime items that would enhance their outdoor time, or inside if it is raining. The goal is to see which class can tick off all the items on their bingo card first! The items have been decided with the support of the JLT who have discussed this project with their peers in class.

We are asking for donations of items from our community. These items do not need to be new—perhaps your child has outgrown toys or equipment. We are happy to receive pre-loved items as long as they are still in good condition. Of course, if you're happy to purchase a small item to help your child's class, that would also be greatly appreciated. If you have a duplicate of an item already donated don't worry, just talk to the class teacher or at the office as we'll still be able to accommodate it.

You can find your child's class Wishlist Bingo card on the school's website by following this link [Wishlist Class Bingo](#) Small items can be dropped off with the class teacher or at reception. For larger items, please call the office, and we'll arrange a suitable time for you to drop off at school.



Now eyes down...and let's see which class will call 'Full House' first!

### Sports Day...

Sports day this year is on **Friday 26th June**. The timings for sports day are as follows:

Year 5 and 6 - 9:15 - 10:15

Foundation - 10:25 - 11:15

Year 3 and 4 - 11:20 - 12:30

Key Stage 1 Years 1 and 2 - 1:30 - 2:30



### HASA...

Don't forget to visit the HASA stall at Brickstock this weekend. We really appreciate the HASA team giving up their Sunday to raise money for High Ash and support the local community at this great event...just remember the suncream!

Remember to sign-up for HASA's School Lottery too. Follow the link below for more information or ask one of the HASA team at the Treat Friday stall.

[Support High Ash C.E Primary School when you play Your School Lottery - Your School Lottery](#)



### Diary dates for next week commencing w-c 1st June...

Mon 1st - Fri 12th June - Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check

Fri 5th June, 2.55pm - F/KS1 Star Assembly. Invitation only. Doors open at 2.45pm

Have a great half term. We look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday 1st June.

Mrs. Kate Goodger  
Headteacher

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

# SUPPORT OUR LOTTERY TODAY

£1 per  
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Weekly  
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jackpot



## Splitting the £1.00



**40p** to our school  
**25p** guaranteed prize  
**35p** other prizes & running costs

## How it works...

It's simple - just choose 6 numbers between 0-9, and if they match the weekly lottery draw, you win great prizes. One of our players will win a cash prize every week, maybe even the £25k jackpot! Tickets cost just £1 per week and the proceeds are donated to **High Ash C.E Primary School**

Every Saturday at 8pm the numbers are drawn and posted online. Winners are notified by email and winnings paid into the account of your choice.

The easiest way to join our lottery is online by direct debit or debit card.

**It's so easy to join and will make a real difference to High Ash C.E Primary School**

## The maths...



**100 weekly tickets** means:  
A £25 guaranteed weekly prize  
£2,080 a year for your school



To start supporting, visit:  
**[yourschoollottery.co.uk](http://yourschoollottery.co.uk)**  
and search for: High Ash C.E