



High Ash CE School Weekly Newsletter Friday 26th June 2026



'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16

Grow Together Shine Forever

To all our families,

Thank you so much for your understanding about us having to close the school. It really was the last thing I wanted to do yet on Wednesday the classrooms were just too hot and became a health and safety risk. We had been advised to keep our classrooms to a maximum of 26°C yet all of our classrooms have reached over 30°C. Both the staff and the children were at risk of heat exhaustion so I made the difficult decision to close. I recognise how hard it is if you are a working parent and have to make last minute childcare arrangements so I apologise for the short notice. The board of Governors and the senior leadership team will be discussing what infrastructure we can put in place so we are in a better position if these heatwaves become a regular part of the summer months. I hope you have all managed to keep cool and safe these past two days.

The Year teams have updated you in this newsletter with the learning that had taken place prior to shutting and some have included photos yet it is shorter than normal.

HASA Summer Fair June 27th - 11am-2pm...

Please support us tomorrow. This is HASA's biggest fundraiser of the year and a lot of effort goes into organising this event. It may seem that it is strange to have closed the school and then the fayre is going ahead yet we are out of the Red Extreme Heat warning and it is going to be cooler. We would love to see you all there, even if you just come for an hour - please do come. Plus it is a lot of fun! HASA are raising funds for a class set of tablets - so we can use them for our computing curriculum.

The classes have been preparing their stall for the summer fair. Thanks to all those families who have supported the classes by agreeing to bring their child to man the class stall for different time slots.

The children have also been practising their singing as they will be providing entertainment. This will start from 11.30am and be in their year teams.

Learning highlights this week....

Acorns

It has been a scorching week in Acorn class, but our little learners handled the heat beautifully! To stay safe and cool in the extreme weather, we spent lots of time in the shade and dived into some fantastic water-play activities.

The children loved exploring floating and sinking, and they even turned into little wizards to brew refreshing water-based potions using the fresh mint growing in our garden area. When we needed a quiet moment to cool down, we headed to the shade of the gazebos on the field and then into the Ash tree to share books. We were even lucky enough to be joined by our friends from Oak Class! The children did a wonderful job of listening to instructions to keep everyone safe and comfortable in the sun.

Alongside our cooling down, we have been learning all about what people do on holiday, comparing the past with the present. The children loved sharing their own holiday memories of building sandcastles, eating ice cream and paddling, and they were fascinated to discover that children did the exact same things generations ago!



We also learned about Punch and Judy shows as traditional seaside entertainment, which inspired us to set up our very own puppet theatre in the classroom. Finally, the children tackled a cut-and-stick sorting challenge, successfully categorising different beach activities into 'past' and 'present'.

Acorn Reminders

- Please send in junk modelling resources for use in our engineering area.

Year One and Two

We were all so proud of the Key Stage One children who did their very best to learn and join in with all lessons despite the challenging conditions. A huge thank you to Mrs Fox who brought in a huge gazebo to provide some shade in our outdoor classroom where we were able to set up tuff trays with huge block of ice and water to help the children keep cool as they investigated the Mint and Lavender we had snipped from our sensory garden. The hot weather was a great learning lesson for the children who have been involved in gardening club. I was so impressed to see the children thinking about their crops and filling the watering can throughout the day to ensure the strawberries, sweetcorn and potatoes we have planted all had enough water. The wild flowers we planted earlier on in the term are flowering beautifully and all of the children are enjoying taking the time to watch the bees and butterflies that are regular visitors.

In our science lessons we made the most of the shade in our Forest School area as we investigated and classified different trees and leaves and in RE we continued learning about how important the synagogue is for Jewish people. The children enjoyed designing a 'Kippah' for a Jewish child using the important symbols we have studied.

Thank you for your beautiful behaviour, patience and resilience Key Stage One, we hope you are all enjoying this special few days and we look forward to seeing you all at the School Fair tomorrow.

Year 1/2 Reminders

- No reminders this week

Year Three and Four

We were very impressed by how well the children coped at school in the hot weather. It wasn't the easiest few days to stay focused but with water bottles and fans close, everyone stayed hydrated and kept up with their learning. Despite the challenging temperatures, they managed to get their work done and appreciated some quiet time in the outdoor shade. A highlight each day was lunch in the airconditioned Ash Tree!

In Art this week, Year 3 and 4 explored the vibrant world of the rainforest through the stunning works of painters Ruth Daniels and Senaka Senanayake. Using viewfinders, the children selected specific sections of photos of animals found in rainforests to practice their own sketching, composition and use of colour. We were incredibly impressed by how carefully they mapped out their shapes and brought the dense, colourful layers of the jungle to life on paper.



In PSHE this week, Year 4 explored how change is a natural part of life and learned to identify the difference between changes they can control and those they cannot. Using our "Circle of Change" model which breaks transitions down into steps like thinking, deciding, preparing and taking action, the children looked at how to manage big feelings when routines alter. To bring this to life, everyone created their own interactive "Circle of Change" spinner using split pins which they used to consider some possible changes coming up in their own lives.



This week in Geography, the children became detectives by investigating where different foods come from. Using food packaging, maps and a scale, they worked collaboratively to calculate the food miles travelled by different products. They discovered that our grapes come from Chile, our avocados from Peru and our nuts from the USA. It was fascinating to see just how far some of our food travels before it reaches our tables

Year 3/4 Reminders

- When you have some down time, please read, practise times tables and rehearse spellings

Year Five and Six

This week, we have been making the most of the hot weather by taking trips to the Ashtree to cool off, spending time in the shade and appreciating the fans in our classroom. As the adults in Year 5/6, we have been incredibly proud of the children's resilience and positivity throughout the warm conditions.

Even in the heat, we have continued our writing unit based on the spooky short film *Alma*. The children have thrilled us with their creativity and flair for the mysterious, producing some wonderfully imaginative ideas and writing.

In Year 5, the children have worked hard to complete some of their NFER assessments, which we will continue next week. We are very grateful to have been able to use the Ashtree for these sessions, allowing the children to work in a comfortable environment.

In Science, we explored how shadows are created and how they can change. Some of us also investigated how white light is made up of many different colours, which we will continue to explore next week.

Despite the soaring temperatures, it has been another fantastic week in Year 5/6 and we are incredibly proud of everything the children have achieved.

Year 5/6 Reminders

- Please remember to leave personal items at home.
- Please take time to read, learn your spellings and complete any assigned MyMaths.

Reflections...

This week, we have looked at what being a host means. We thought about the preparation Mexico, the USA and Canada have had to do to host the World Cup and open their countries for the millions of fans who have travelled to watch the football. We then thought about how we prepare when we are the hosts and we were entertained by Mrs Boyd and Mrs Gray with the way they prepare when they have guests coming over! The Bible reading from Hebrews 13:2 Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.

We then thought about us being hosts and how we can be hosts even in school. In class this week, we considered the following questions:

- How will you make people feel welcomed next year either in your new class or new school?
- What action will you take?

Some of us looked ahead to September by introducing a fun stationery "survival kit" with a twist! Each item was chosen to help the children feel excited and ready for the journey ahead. We shared how rubbers remind us that it is completely ok to make mistakes, post-its capture all of our bright ideas and highlighters encourage us to focus on the good stuff and let our talents shine. The children also looked at how rulers will help them measure their own personal progress, alongside a vibrant pack of coloured pencils to celebrate the unique colours each person brings to our school community. It was a positive way to start thinking about how we can reassure anyone in our new classes with worries about starting a new school year.

Sports Day... re-scheduled date...



The poster features a blue and green background with silhouettes of children running and playing sports. At the top center is the High Ash C.E. Primary School logo, which is a circular emblem with a star and the text 'HIGH ASH C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL' and 'PROUD'.

HIGH ASH SCHOOL SPORTS DAY

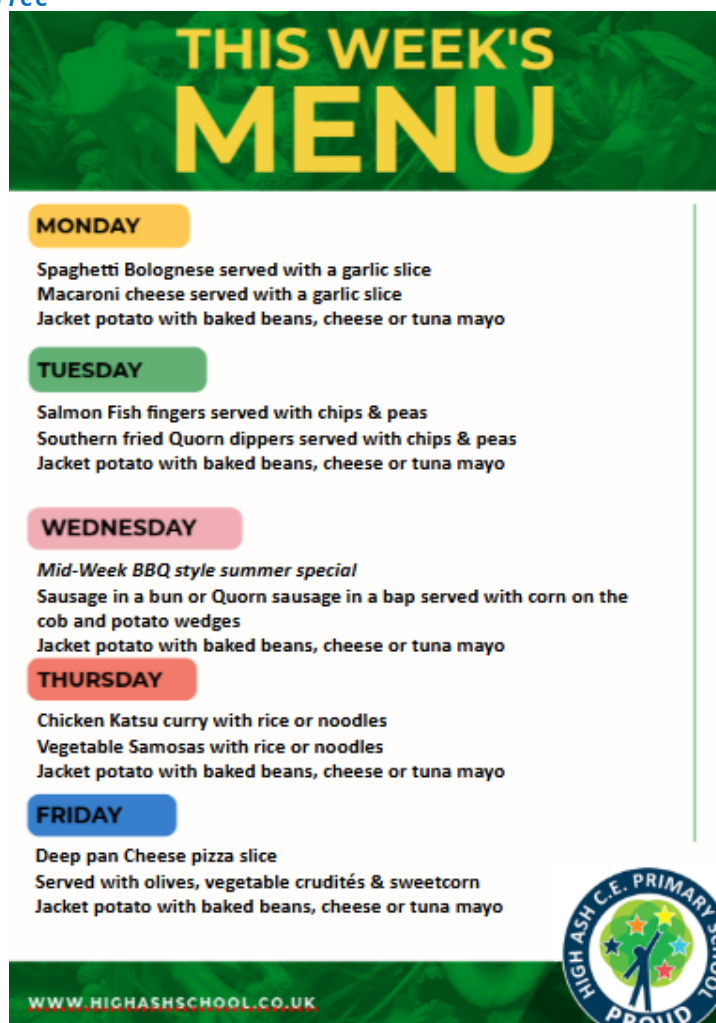
FRIDAY 10TH JULY

SCHEDULE:

- YEAR 5 & 6:** 9:15am – 10:15am
- FOUNDATION:** 10:25am – 11:15am
- YEAR 3 & 4:** 11:20am – 12:30pm
- KEY STAGE 1 (YEARS 1 & 2):** 1:30pm – 2:30pm

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Next week's menu in Ash Tree



The menu poster has a green background with a leaf pattern. It lists the menu for each day of the week, with each day's title in a colored box. At the bottom right is the High Ash C.E. Primary School logo.

THIS WEEK'S MENU

MONDAY

- Spaghetti Bolognese served with a garlic slice
- Macaroni cheese served with a garlic slice
- Jacket potato with baked beans, cheese or tuna mayo

TUESDAY

- Salmon Fish fingers served with chips & peas
- Southern fried Quorn dippers served with chips & peas
- Jacket potato with baked beans, cheese or tuna mayo

WEDNESDAY

Mid-Week BBQ style summer special

- Sausage in a bun or Quorn sausage in a bap served with corn on the cob and potato wedges
- Jacket potato with baked beans, cheese or tuna mayo

THURSDAY

- Chicken Katsu curry with rice or noodles
- Vegetable Samosas with rice or noodles
- Jacket potato with baked beans, cheese or tuna mayo

FRIDAY

- Deep pan Cheese pizza slice
- Served with olives, vegetable crudités & sweetcorn
- Jacket potato with baked beans, cheese or tuna mayo

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Diary dates for next week commencing w-c 29th June...

Saturday 26th June, 11.00-2.00pm - School Summer Fair

Monday 29th June, 4.15-8.30pm - District Athletics Championships at Stoke Mandeville Stadium for the selected few children that have been invited to represent our school.

Thursday 2nd July - Year 1/2 Art visitor

Friday 3rd July - Year 5/6 Art Visitor

Friday 3rd July. 2.55pm - F/KS1 Star Assembly, invitation only. Doors open at 2.45pm

See you tomorrow at the fair!

Mrs. Kate Goodger
Headteacher

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