



High Ash CE School Weekly Newsletter Friday 3rd July 2026



'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16

Grow Together Shine Forever

To all our families,

We have had a lovely week and it was great yesterday to do part 1 of our sports day. Please see below the write up, yet all the children were brilliantly behaved and really cheered on all the competitors.

HASA Summer Fair...

Thank you to all who came and supported the summer Fair on Saturday, it was a lovely event! We raised £2500! A superb amount. A massive thank you to HASA, all the teachers, LSAs and Mrs Northern who helped organise the fair. HASA works so hard over the year to raise funds for school - please do support them in the last few Treat Fridays and next week's sports day.

KS2 District Athletics Championships...

On Monday we took part in the Aylesbury Vale District Athletics Championships. We took children from Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 to participate in track and field events. The children showed incredible determination and resilience throughout the competition. Their behaviour was impeccable. They demonstrated the PROUD principles perfectly and were super ambassadors of High Ash. As staff, we are so proud of them all!

Learning highlights this week....

Acorns

We have been making the most of our time outside by transforming our garden area! The children became keen gardeners this week as we planted our very own strawberry plants in metal hanging containers. Before planting, we spent time exploring the roots and leaves to learn about how plants grow. The children did a fantastic job filling the pots with soil, carefully tucking the plants in, and giving them a well-deserved water. We can't wait to watch them grow!



Back inside, our imaginations went wild after reading our story of the week, 'The Girl and the Dinosaur'. We were inspired by Marianne the character in our story and we turned into real-life archaeologists by exploring "fossils" and digging in a sand-filled tuff tray. Armed with paintbrushes, the children carefully brushed away the sand to reveal hidden dinosaur skeletons underneath!



This adventure led us to learn all about maps and landmarks. The children then designed their own brilliant pirate-inspired maps, labelling them and practicing their positioning skills to decide exactly where the treasure should go.



We have continued our work around holiday traditions and have been using our class puppet theatre to put on our own shows. Gabriel went adventuring and found a real Punch and Judy show! We loved seeing the photos and listening to him tell us about his experience.



Acorn Reminders

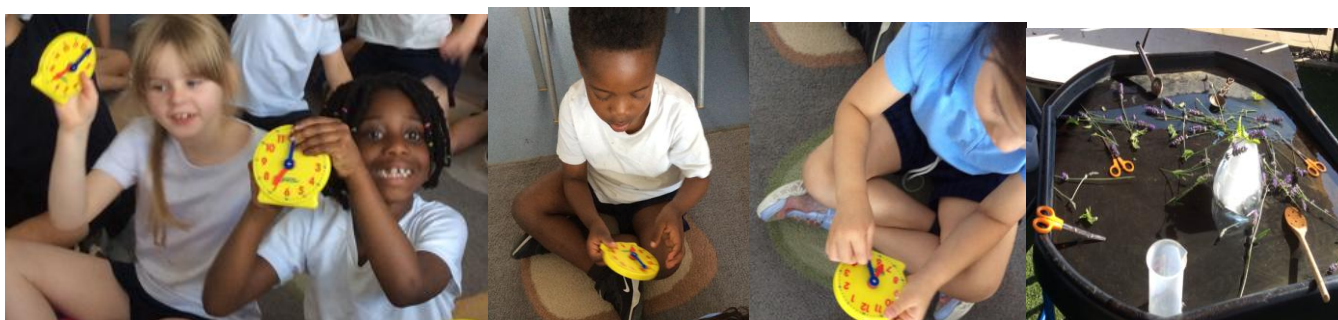
- Oracy homework! You could talk to your child about maps and how we use maps digitally today on our phones and how maps have changed!
- It is Sports Day next Friday, your child can wear their Team coloured T-shirt to school for the day with their PE kit. If they do not have one, a white T-shirt can be worn instead.
- It is going to heat up again next week, please ensure your child has sun cream on, brings in a hat and has a water bottle.

Year One and Two

Our KS1 children had a fantastic time developing their food preparation skills this week! They learnt how to safely use different utensils to grate, spread, cut and snip a variety of healthy ingredients, including cucumbers, tomatoes, apples and cheese. The children listened carefully, demonstrated excellent safety awareness and confidently showcased their new skills. They especially enjoyed taste testing different combinations to help them decide what they would like to include in their healthy wraps later in the term. There were smiley faces all round! Maybe parents can get your child to help prepare some of their meals.



Apple Class have been busy learning all about time in Maths! The children explored when different daily activities happen, such as breakfast, school, brushing their teeth and bath time. They then learnt about analogue clocks, including the clock face, hour hand and minute hand, before practising telling the time to *o'clock* and *half past*. They have loved spotting analogue clocks around the school and proudly showing off their new time-telling skills. It's wonderful to see their confidence growing!



Look at our wonderful wild flowers in the outdoor classroom! We are so proud of our Key Stage 1 gardening club who planted and watered the flowers that are now attracting lots of bees and butterflies, it's become such a calming and interesting place to hang out! Our sweetcorn, potato and strawberry plants are also doing really well. - thank you Mrs Northern for all your green fingered expertise!



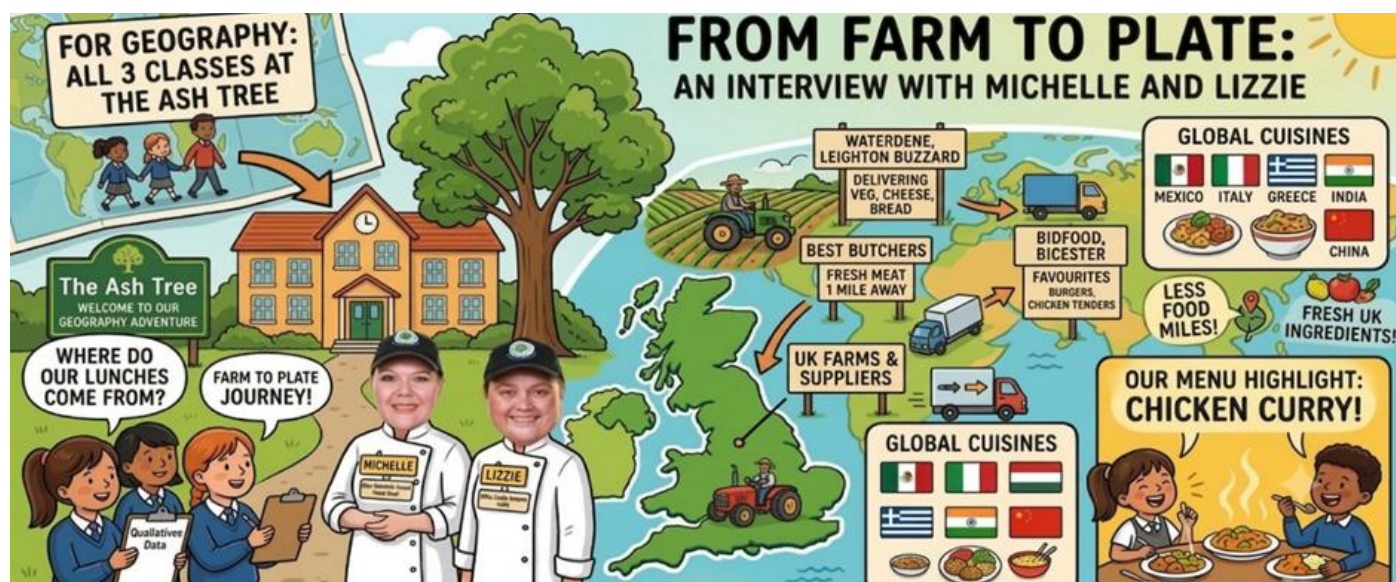
Year 1/2 Reminders

- It is Sports Day next Friday, your child can wear their Team coloured T short to school for the day with their PE kit. If they do not have one, a white T shirt can be worn instead.
- It is going to heat up again next week, please ensure your child has sun cream on, brings in a hat and has a water bottle.

Year Three and Four

This week in PE we have been consolidating our skills as rounders players, looking at being accurate with throwing and catching along with trying to hit the ball whenever we can! The children have been playing rounders games in groups, making sure they are reminding each other of the rules and showing resilience if things go slightly wrong. We have had some incredible hits and great accurate throwing by our bowlers.

For Geography this week, all 3 classes went to the Ash Tree for a special visit...



Ever wondered where our school lunches come from? We collected qualitative data by interviewing Michelle and Lizzie (our official Head Taster!) to trace the journey of our school meals. We found out that to keep things fresh, we rely on a mix of fantastic suppliers: **Waterdene** from Leighton Buzzard delivers staples like vegetables, ice-cream, cheese, sliced ham and bread three times a week. **Best Butchers** (located just a mile away!) drops off fresh meat once a week. For favourites like nachos, hot dogs, burgers, chips and chicken tenders, we look to **Bidfood** in Bicester. They told us that they love supporting local UK farmers because it's cheaper, fresher and allows us to use seasonal vegetables. While a few items like citrus fruits, herbs and spices have to be imported, The Ash Tree uses mainly fresh UK ingredients to whip up incredible global cuisines ranging from Mexican, Italian and Greek to Spanish, African, Indian and Chinese. In case you were wondering what the absolute best dish on the menu is... Michelle and Lizzie's absolute favourite meal to make is the chicken curry! We really enjoyed listening to what they had to tell us and were impressed with where food to make our lunches comes from. It is less food miles than we thought!

Year 3/4 Reminders

- Please send your children into school with water. It is very important to stay hydrated.
- A polite reminder to not bring football or pokemon cards in - it is causing some upset due to losing cards etc.
- Don't forget to leave all toys and fidgets at home.

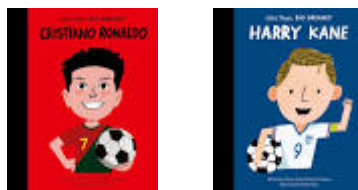
Year Five and Six

We had a lesson with a visiting artist Paige who helped us to create a legacy project. Using work by Henri Matisse and Camille Walala as inspiration, Paige taught us collage techniques. These we used to create beautiful frames in which to display our class photograph. We always really enjoy Paige's visits and look forward to creating pieces with her for next year's Spring Festival at Waddesdon Manor.



Year 5/6 have begun an exciting new writing unit based on autobiographies. To inspire our own writing, we explored a range of biographies from the Little People, BIG DREAMS series, with the football-themed books proving to be a particular favourite! With the World Cup generating lots of excitement, the children thoroughly enjoyed learning about the lives and achievements of some of football's greatest stars.

Inspired by these real-life stories, the children have started writing about memorable events from their own childhoods. They have been using hyperbole and humour to engage their readers and bring their experiences to life. We have been incredibly impressed with their creativity and enthusiasm, and we are looking forward to reading their completed autobiographies over the next two weeks.



Year 5/6 Reminders

- Year 6 please bring in costumes for our school production rehearsals on Mon 6 July. Year 5 children will need to wear all black during the production.
 - Please remember to book your tickets for one of the performances on Tue 14 or Wed 15 July. Please book via your MCAS app within Products.
 - Check when your child's transition to secondary school is scheduled and email the school office to confirm.
 - Tue 7 July is our Transition Day at High Ash - If your child is not attending their new school for a transition day, they are expected to be present in school. We will have planned activities for these children.
- Thu 9 July, 10.00am-2.00pm - All Year 6 children are going to The Cottesloe School for Transition Day games. Please click on this link to provide your consent: <https://forms.gle/jC4vf6faCfDnCME7>. Send your child into school wearing their PE Kit and provide a packed lunch with plenty of water.
- Year 6 parents please see communication re SAT results and annual reports.
- Leave all toys and fidgets at home
 - Ensure your child has sunscreen applied and arrives at school with a sunhat and water bottle every day.

Reflections...

During class reflection this week, we focused on thinking about bringing a high level of honour and sportsmanship to breaktime and lunchtime games. Whether we are playing football, netball or tag we must remember to show everyone what true fair play looks like. Wearing our school badges with pride, we are aiming to admit to our mistakes or fouls and to quickly run over and help up an opponent if they've fallen. This shows integrity in action, keeping our badges clean and letting our light shine.

Star Writers...



A huge congratulations to this week's Star Writers; Ethan, Freya J, Ava, Anabelle, Beck, Jake and Georgina. You all worked incredibly hard and I was especially impressed with the high standard of presentation and handwriting although I had to stop reading the Year 5 and 6 horror stories as they were far too terrifying!

Mrs Barrasford

Sports Day update....

On Thursday we completed and competed in our longer races for sports day! This was due to the hot weather creeping in again. The children were all fantastic and showed brilliant sportsmanship to not only their teams but others too! We can't wait to see how incredible they will be next **Friday 10th July!** The rescheduled times are as follows:

Year 5/6 - 9.00-9.45am

Foundation - 9.50-10.40am

Year 1/2 - 10.45-11.40am

Year 3/4 - 11.45am-12.30pm



Attendance this week...

Our school attendance this week stands at **94.8%**. This is currently below the expected target of 96% required by Ofsted. To help us track and support attendance, please ensure that you email absence@highashschool.co.uk for every day your child is absent from school.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support in ensuring your child's consistent attendance.

Next week's menu in Ash Tree

THIS WEEK'S MENU

MONDAY
Italian style meatballs with spaghetti & a garlic slice
Spinach & feta cannelloni & a garlic slice
Jacket potato with baked beans, cheese or tuna mayo

TUESDAY
Chicken tenders served in a tortilla wrap with seasoned rice & salad bar
Quorn fillet served in a tortilla wrap with seasoned rice & salad bar
Jacket potato with baked beans, cheese or tuna mayo

WEDNESDAY
Ash Tree Summer Roast
Chargrilled Roast chicken breast with seasonal salad bar & new potatoes
Vegetable Quiche of the week with seasonal salad bar & new potatoes
Jacket potato with baked beans, cheese or tuna mayo

THURSDAY
Chilli con carne with rice
Homemade Five bean enchiladas with rice
Jacket potato with baked beans, cheese or tuna mayo

FRIDAY
Battered Fish fillet & chipped potatoes & peas
Quorn dippers & chipped potatoes & peas
Jacket potato with baked beans, cheese or tuna mayo

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

Tuesday 7th July - High Ash Transition Day

Thursday 9th July, 10.00-2.00pm - Year 6 Transition Games at The Cottesloe School

Friday 10th July, 2.55pm - KS2 Star Assembly. Invite only! Doors open at 2.45pm

Mrs. Kate Goodger
Headteacher

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