



# High Ash C of E School Weekly Newsletter Friday 21st September 2018



*Grow Together Shine Forever*

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

To all our families,

We are delighted that our new website went live this week and many of you have commented on the professional look of the new design and how it reflects our values and vision as well as being easier to navigate. We will of course continue to add and develop it over time, yet it is a positive start. If you have not had a look yet, then please do so at [www.highashschool.co.uk](http://www.highashschool.co.uk)

### Highlights this week...

Foundation- The topic for the children at the moment is 'All About Me' and they have been creating lots of self-portraits and taking part in role play in the Home Corner. They are loving their new Rainbow Room space and this week have become quicker already at getting changed for PE and have also come to our Singing Assembly for the first time! The children have taken home picture books and we hope you found the tips about how to support your child with reading at home useful. The children started phonics this week with the letter sounds 'm', 'd' and 'a'.

**We look forward to seeing many Foundation parents at our Phonics and Reading Workshop on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September at 9am.**

Year One and Two- I am really proud of how our Year Ones are adapting to life in Key Stage One and they have already made a great impression. Roseanna, Malachi and Thomas have been writing lots of key facts about dinosaurs and have remembered lots of their key words from last year. Not to be out done, our Year Two children have been acting as good learning role models and Ben L and Ralph impressed me with their great character profile descriptions in Guided Reading. Mia and Bobbi completed some tricky maths counting forwards and back crossing the 10's. Iris and Liviya have had a go at writing on narrow lines in their English book and have impressed themselves as to how much neater it has made their presentation!

Year Three and Four- 'Alice in Wonderland' has clearly gripped the imagination of the children and this has been evident in the super home learning that has earned many children gold stars. Millie T, Madeleine E and Skye C produced their own mini film clip of the whole story and had really got into character well. Ethan, Oscar, Holly, Greta, Herbert and Sam H had all produced their own adapted versions of a Wonderland story and had really taken the skills learnt in Year Two and applied them in Year Three! Polly, Tiger and Shea wowed me with their Maths learning and Varsha, Jess S and Alex H had written amazing descriptive settings. Finally, thank you to Ollie H for showing me his English work too. Keep up the good work everyone!

Year Five and Six- The children have been doing a lot of Science this week, learning how to separate materials from samples found at a bottomless well on 'Alchemy Island' as well as testing the properties of materials they have also found there. The photos below give an idea of this!



Asha and Fleur had turned a narrative into a diary entry linked to a portal and I was bowled over by their excellent word choices. Maple Class have been reading 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe' in Guided Reading and Mrs Goodger has also been looking at this text with her English group. Well done to Elysia A and Isaac C who had made super writing progress this week in describing entering Narnia through the wardrobe. Likewise, Mr Brooks gave gold stars to James P, Alex W, Rohan, Evie, Emily and Sadie for their descriptive writing. In Music, the children have used the i-pads to compose fantastical music they believe would be on 'Alchemy Island' and I enjoyed listening to them all! Well done to Jayden and Elliot for their musical composition which was very upbeat! Isaac C also came to see me a second time this week with a gold star in Maths as well. What a week for him!

### *Do you know someone with a child due to start school in September 2019?*

If so, then we are holding an **Open Morning in school on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October** where families can drop in between 9:30am and 12:00pm to have a tour of the school by the children and an informal catch up with myself.

### *Harvest Festival...*

A reminder that on **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September**, Year Three and Four will be leading our Key Stage Two Harvest Festival at the Church. We will be walking from school at 1:30pm and the service will start from 1:45pm. Parents of Key Stage Two children are welcome to join us. The children have all created Autumn artwork for display in the three churches linked to our school. Please look out for this at St Mary's Church from Sunday! If you would like to volunteer to walk with us, please let the office know- thank you!

### *Harvest donations...*

As part of our commitment to make a difference and care for others, we will this year again be asking for donations of tinned and non-perishable food items to go to the Food Bank in Bletchley. If you could please bring in these items from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September until Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September, we can display in the hall before we send them off. Thank you.

### *Assemblies this week...*

This week we have focused on the big question 'What is temptation?' and looking at how to listen to our conscience to do the right thing. On Thursday, this was followed up with the bible story of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden and the forbidden fruit and this assembly was led by the Church and with a prayer and blessing from Reverend Waller. Reverend Waller also came into school this week to walk round and see the school in action. He really liked our new prayer basket where the children contribute their prayers and we will be taking the prayer basket with us now whenever we visit Church. It has been really moving and touching having the children read their prayers to the whole school.

### *Christmas cards and Golden Time...*

I know that it is only September, yet if you would like your child to make a Christmas card design for cards to then be made up to use and send, we need to have these **done by the 11<sup>th</sup> October!!!!** So, our HASA volunteers will be in school on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September and Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October to support this as a Golden Time activity as it is popular with the children. If your child would like to take part, please check they have chosen this as a Golden Time option. Thank you.

### *Donating Old uniform...*

We're delighted to be able to link up with a local charity happy to accept our donations of uniform with the old school logo. This includes jumpers, cardigans and polo-shirts as well as the branded PE kit. We tried to do this in the summer but for various reasons local charities were unable to take the stock at that time. The charity is Lightforce International - it is a Christian charity, working overseas, mostly in Uganda. At this stage we're only sending donations of branded uniform, not other items of clothing (we may do this later in the year). We will be collecting the old uniform on **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September** from the playground at morning drop-off. All items must be bagged up ready for us to deliver to Lightforce. Please do not bring to school before Friday as we don't have any storage space. Any queries or if you'd like to know more please contact Mrs Northen in the office by email [highash@bucksgfl.org.uk](mailto:highash@bucksgfl.org.uk).

### *Parking for Breakfast Club....*

Please can we remind parents dropping off children at Breakfast Club that the option to use the staff car park is only available until **8:10am**. **From this time, parents must park away from school and walk in** as our staff are finding they cannot all get a space and then we risk having fire access blocked. I am sure parents will respect this, yet if there is not an improvement, we will need to close our car park off completely which would be a shame. Please also note that the speed limit in the car park is 5mph. We are going to have a blue badge disabled bay marked out and will of course allow parents with a blue badge to use this.

### *Macmillan Coffee Morning...*

As per the diary, we will be hosting a **Macmillan Coffee Morning between 9am and 10am in the Ash Tree on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September**. Please bring along your donations of cakes and join us for tea and coffee as well. Any cakes not sold on the morning will be available to buy on the playground at the end of the school day.

### *The Ash Tree....*

**The menu for the rest of this half term is now available to book online.**

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October is Census day.** On this day, the level of funding allocated to the school for UIFSM (Universal Infant Free School Meal) provisions is calculated based on the number of children who are in receipt of a meal provided through the school. We would really appreciate it if you could book a school meal on this date even if your child will not necessarily eat it and have a packed lunch as it will financially benefit the school to have a high uptake of meals on this day. We will be holding a 2nd Birthday party for The Ash Tree for our census day and having a special menu as we have now been serving delicious hot school meals at High Ash for 2 years this October. We really hope you can join us for this celebration! Meals are bookable on parentpay up to 9am on

the morning of the 4th October. Please see separate menu attached.

*Diary dates coming up....*

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September - Y3/4 Harvest Festival at St. Mary's Church @ 1.45pm

Monday 24<sup>th</sup>-Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September - Harvest donations accepted

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September - Foundation Phonics and Reading Workshop @ 9.00am

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September - Macmillan Coffee Morning in the Ash Tree (cake donations with tea and coffee served)

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September - Star Assembly, doors open at 2.30pm

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September - bring in old uniform donations

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October - Open Morning for new prospective parents from 9.30am-12.00pm

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October - Star Assembly, doors open at 2.30pm

Have a great weekend!

Best wishes

*Sara J Boyce*

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Headteacher

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