



# High Ash C of E School Weekly Newsletter Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2018



*Grow Together Shine Forever*

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

To all our families,

Here we are in October already and we are as busy as ever at school! This week we had the first of our Open Mornings for prospective parents of children starting school in September 2019 and it was a really positive turnout. Our Year Six children were fantastic tour guides and it was clear to see how proud they are of their school!

**We will be having another Open Morning for September 2019 intake on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November between 9:30am and 12pm so spread the word if you know of any parents with pre-school children please encourage them to drop in.**

### Highlights this week...

Foundation - I have been busy observing lots of Phonics sessions in Foundation this week and I have been very impressed with how much progress the children are making already in learning their new sounds of 'c' and 'k' and 'o'. Special mention to Alayna for trying hard with her letter formation and also to Pixie and Mylo. Keep up the hard work everyone!

Year One and Two - In Maths this week, the children have been learning addition and in Mrs Akram's group the children were working hard on adding 2 digit with 2 digit numbers and using a hundred square to cross the tens. Well done to Max and Eliza for getting the hang of this and being able to explain their methods as well. Ruby was able to show me that she is getting better at her number bonds to 20. As for English lessons, the children have been writing riddles linked to their chosen dinosaurs. Mrs Burrows was challenging her group to use a thesaurus for the first time and Alby, Malachi and Thomas came up with some great alternative adjectives for 'loud' - I was really proud to hear them using words like 'deafening' and 'piercing' to describe the sounds of their dinosaurs. Pretty impressive for 5 year olds! Miss Little's group were writing riddles too and using different sentence openers. Beau had some fantastic riddle clues to share with me - super effort!

Year Three and Four - The children have been focusing on subtraction in Maths and using the column method. Miss Hearne has been challenging her group to explain their understanding by getting them to spot deliberate mistakes and then correct them. Mrs Crawley has also followed this up in her Maths sessions and well done to Theo and Alfie for doing well with this. Alex H had completed great Maths learning too! Bella had applied her Maths knowledge in her Topic book and was proud of how she had done this! Also in Maths, Lucy came to show me the progress she had made with her understanding of addition - well done! Congratulations also to Anya, Varsha, Ava, Shreyan and Jamie for their super character descriptions in their English lessons.

Year Five and Six - Year Six this week have completed mock SATS and both year groups have continued to write their portal narratives and looked at multiplication in Maths. Miss Beech's Maths group wowed me with their reasoning skills in being able to justify their answers to some pretty tricky 'odd one out' calculations - well done to George, Matthew and Phoebe for their determination to solve them! Dylan demonstrated a great understanding of short division when I observed his group's Maths lesson on Monday and Elysia A has been making super progress in Maths too and really impressed Mr Brooks and myself! Olivia and Erin deserve praise for their Maths progress too. Mrs Goodger awarded Gold Stars to Sammy B and Zoe G for their editing and improvements in their writing this week, when they had clearly thought about how they could improve their sentences. Finally, in Topic, Tommy, Ollie B, Lincoln and Darcey D-M had really worked hard on their learning journeys.

### Writer's Workshop...

On Thursday this week, eight of our Year Five/Six children had the chance to work with an author (Tamsyn Murray) to develop their own writing. This event was held at Long Meadow School in Milton Keynes and the children all had a great time as you can see from the report below by Asha and Bibi in Willow Class.....

*'We started the day by meeting the author Tamsyn Murray. There were also children from other schools there. It was ourselves, Jason, Billy, Hannah, Ellie, Rohan and Daniel. With the author, we discussed the atmosphere of two different settings and how to create them. After this, we had a break with the other wonderful children at Long Meadow School. Next we looked at the structure of "Room on a Broom." This taught us about the three part story structure. This helped us to plan a story of our choice. Then we ate our delicious lunches and carried on with our plans. Soon Tamsyn Murray showed us multiple objects that she had collected as an author. After this we used the objects to help plan the beginning of our stories. We then wrote the start of our stories. Then, sadly it was time to go. Overall, we had a brilliant day at Long Meadow School*

with Tamsyn Murray.'

### **Assemblies this week...**

Our 'Big Question' this week has been 'How well does your light shine on others?' and looking at our 'good works' we have thought about what makes a good friend. This was followed up in Thursday's 'Open The Book' assembly where the children learned about God's friend, Abraham. The photos below show the children having the opportunity to take part in role play and then thinking about being a good friend themselves.



### **Black History Month...**

Next week we will be looking at Black History month in our assemblies.

### **Parent Forum...**

Reminder that we have the first Parent Forums of the year next week and hope as many of you can make it as possible to hear about and discuss school with me in person. I shall be sharing an update of the year so far, our priorities for the year ahead and asking for parental input on some key points. If you are able to make it, then please come at either 6pm on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October or 9am on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October. **Please register your attendance by booking online via <https://highash.parentseveningsystem.co.uk> by Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October.**

If you are a new Foundation parent, it would be great for you to come along as well and see what it is like as I really do value parental contributions!

### **Parent Evenings...**

Please remember to book your parents evening appointment by logging on to <https://highash.parentseveningsystem.co.uk> by Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October. Please call the office if you require any help with booking your appointment. Parents' Evenings are due to take place on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October from 3.30-6.00pm and Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October from 5.00-7.30pm.

### **Happy 2<sup>nd</sup> Birthday to the Ash Tree Restaurant...**

We celebrated the Ash Tree's 2<sup>nd</sup> Birthday with a party at lunchtime on Thursday with sausage rolls with stars on and star decorated cupcakes too! The room was decorated with party bunting and balloons and the children really enjoyed themselves! Well done to the Kitchen Team for making our restaurant such a success! Remember you can book a hot meal for your child up to 9am on the day, so do bear this in mind. Bookings can also be made in advance via Parentpay too.



### **Uniform recycling thank you....**

Thank you to everyone who donated their old school uniform. We delivered over 250 jumpers, 100 t-shirts and 50 other items of uniform to Lightforce International on Tuesday. Everything will be going to Uganda very soon to support children in their homes and schools.

### **Diary dates coming up...**

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October @ 6:00pm - Parent Forum with Mrs Boyce (Please book online)

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October @ 9:00am - Parent Forum repeated

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October - Year Six Transfer results published and sent home with child

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October @ 2:45pm - Holly Class Assembly followed by a chance to spend some time in the classroom.

All Holly Class parents welcome. (Doors open at 2:30pm)

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October @ 3:30-6:00pm - Parents Evening (Please book online)

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October @ 2:30-3:15pm - Piano Recital. Parents of children playing are welcome.

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October 5:00-7:30pm - Parents Evening (Please book online)

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October @ 2:45pm - Star Assembly. All welcome! (Doors open at 2:30pm)

HALF TERM

Have a great weekend!

Best wishes

*Sara J Boyce*

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Headteacher

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