◦ Resilience ◦ Determination ◦ Consideration ◦ Community Mindedness ◦ Responsibility ◦ Honesty ◦

Autumn Term Bulletin

Issue 02: Friday, 10th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our first full week back at school has flown by! We have been busy getting back into our learning routines and it has been lovely to spend more time together now that we are able to have some (cautious!) mixing of groups. We had our second whole school assembly this morning and there were lots of Superstar Shout Out certificates, reflecting how hard the children have been working in these first weeks of term. It looks set to be a fantastic year of learning!

11+

Our Year 6 children took their Secondary Transfer Tests (11+) this week, and we are so proud of their mature and positive attitudes towards these tests. We know the 11+ can be really challenging, but the children approached this with calm and resilience. Whatever the results of the tests, they are all superstars and we know they are going to be fabulous at any secondary school they move on to. Thank you to all the other children who stayed quiet and allowed Year 6 to focus.

Staffing

This week we had our new tutor, Mrs Green, join the Ash Hill team! She is working with some of our Year 3 and Year 5 children in small groups this term. We are very pleased to have her join our Ash Hill family.

It's Good to Grow

Morrisons Supermarket are running a scheme called 'It's Good to Grow', which provides free gardening equipment to schools. As you know, we have many green spaces at Ash Hill and it would be lovely to have some shiny new equipment for the children to use! Morrisons say: 'As Britain's biggest food maker, we want to enable the next generation to grow food themselves. Because the more kids know about how food's grown and made, the better they'll eat, now and in the future'. We have signed Ash Hill up to the scheme and you can earn points for our school for every £10 you spend in store.

Home School Agreement

We are sending a reminder of our Home School Agreement attached to this bulletin. We expect everybody in the Ash Hill community to adhere to this agreement in order to ensure we can provide the best education possible for your child. If you have any questions or concerns about the agreement, please do get in touch.

Reading

This year we are continuing our drive on ensuring all children can read and comprehend texts well. Reading is at the heart of our curriculum and we continue to use stories and texts as a stimulus to our curriculum topics. The teaching team are working hard on developing our reading lessons, and we are investing in Phonics training and support across the school. We also need your help to make sure all our children love reading and can read well. Pupils who cannot read well really struggle to access the full curriculum, and this will impact them throughout their lives. The best way for children to improve their reading quickly is to read as much as possible. This means it is really important that they read every day at home. It is fantastic if you can read with them, sharing your favourite books and creating positive experiences around reading. We know life is busy! So you may not always be able to sit with your child while they read, but please do give them the time and encouragement to read daily, even if this is independent. Please get in touch if you need any support at all with reading at home, and remember to sign your child's reading record to let us know they have read at home. Thank you for your support with this.

Attendance W/c 30/08/21

Class	Attendance	Lates
Reception	N/A	0
Year 1	93.1%	0
Year 2	93.3%	0
Year 3	91.4%	0
Year 4	96.7%	0
Year 5	93.3%	0
Year 6	90.0%	0

Hero—Here Everyday, Ready On time!

100%	Excellent
96 – 99.9%	Good
90 – 95.9%	Needs to improve
89.9% or less	Really needs to improve

Community Mindedness Tokens W/c 30/08/21

Year 1	12
Year 2	19
Year 3	4
Year 4	3
Year 5	6
Year 6	8

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Attendance
We are also continuing our drive on attendance, as children will not make progress if they are not in school! Following the lock-down periods it is even more important than ever that children are here every day to allow them to catch up on missed learning. We anticipate that there may be some covid19 related absences this year, and these cannot be avoided, but the new isolation guidance suggests pupils who attend well. We know absences are often unavoidable, but if children are well enough to come into school then they must. Please do let us know if you are worried about your child and we can monitor them and these absences will be far fewer than the last two academic years. Isolation rules can be checked here. We will be resuming our attendance strategy this year, so there will be lots of rewards and incentives for these absences will be far fewer than the last two academic years. Isolation rules can be checked here. We will be resuming our attendance strategy this year, so there will be lots of rewards and incentives for communicate with you.

Lost Property
From next week, on a Tuesday & Thursday morning, the Lost Property box will be outside the dining room entrance for parents to look through.

Extra Funding for your Child
Every child in Years R, 1 & 2 are entitled to a free school meal under the Universal Free School Meals Programme. However, children in Years R—6 may also be entitled to Free School Meals, which not only includes a meal but a payment to the school which would be used to support your child's learning. Please look at the Parent Mail sent yesterday with a Free School Meals form to see if you are eligible. If you think you may be or are unsure, please request a FSM Form from the Office and return it as soon as possible.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Mrs Manning
Headteacher

Growing minds for learning,crafting skills for life

Coming up...

Date	Event
0710/21	Census Day
12/10/21	Year 1 Vision Screening
30/11/21	Year 6 Height & Weight Checks

Letters/Parent Mail This Week

(Please note—letters are also placed on the school website under the parent tab for your

- Highcrest Banding Test
- Handwriting & Presentation
- Free School Meal Payment (PM)
- Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework

This week in school...

- **Nursery** have had a brilliant first week back. The children are settling really well into the new routines and are responding well to the new rules and rewards! The children have enjoyed listening to a story every morning before choosing where they would like to play, inside or outside. The home corner has also been very busy and adults have modelled using new equipment, such as a coffee percolator and washing machine! It's been a fun week for all. Well done everyone, have a great weekend! Books we have read this week: 'LuLu loves Nursery', 'Dear Zoo' and 'Shh'! Key vocabulary: gentle, share, listen. Songs we have sung: 'Twinkle Twinkle', 'Baa Baa Black Sheep' and 'Humpty Dumpty'.
- **Reception** have had a fantastic first week! We have been busy builders outside making tall towers and bridges with the big blocks, and have even been on a rescue mission to free the our minibeasts frozen in the ice! We have begun to make lots of new friends, and sat beautifully on the carpet using our listening ears for stories. We've played lots of counting games, started to recognise our name and cooked some fantastic food for our friends and teachers in the home corner! Have a restful weekend :)
- **Year 1** have worked very hard for their first full week of school! In English, we have been learning about writing letters and we have listened to the story of Beegu. In Maths, we have been learning all about sorting and recognising objects and numbers. I am very proud of all of the children for settling in well and adapting to all of the new routines!
- It is lovely to welcome **Year 2** back to school for the Autumn term. The children have settled in well and have shown a positive attitude towards learning and working together as a class. This week in Maths we have re-visited some of our learning from Year 1. The children have worked well and it's been great to watch their recall. We have extended our counting from 50 to 100. The children are not only learning to identify but also represent these numbers. In Writing, we have been learning to write some cursive letters: "Whoosh in and round we go, up and down and kick A's toe." This is how we write our cursive 'a' In English, the children are learning about how we create a diary entry. In Topic, we are exploring the past and present city of London. The children have been brilliant in identifying these changes and development. Wishing you all a wonderful weekend after our first full week back!
- **Year 3** are already settling into their new classroom and new routines. I am very proud of the children for trying their best every single day and showing me some excellent ready to learn behaviour. We have started to learn our base text (ask one of our superstars to recite it to you this weekend!) and are beginning to understand adding 10s! I am very much looking forward to next week and all the learning we are going to be mastering this year!
- **Year 4** have had a fantastic start to the term. We have started learning our model text. Ask the children to recall it to you. In Maths, we have been investigating place value. We have a very exciting topic for this half term, The Romans! We have just begun to introduce this and explore where it sits on our history timeline. In addition for PSHE, we have been reminding the children about our Growth Mindset and discussing this around Dr Suess' book 'All the Place You'll Go'.
- **Year 5** has had a great first week back! We began reading our class reader - 'Holes' and learnt that camp isn't always fun... We even got a taste of Stanley's life by digging holes in the sun on Tuesday morning! In Maths, we sharpened our place value skills and even started thinking about rounding to the nearest 10 and 100. Topic allowed us to imagine ourselves as the inhabitants of early Britain, when the Romans left. We imagined what life must have been like in the years after the Romans left and before the Anglo-Saxons arrived. From year 5, we wish you all a lovely weekend!
- What a great start to the year we have had in **Year 6.** It has been lovely to see how mature all the children have been in returning to school and being ready to learn. Their first week has been filled with assessments and they have risen to the challenge. I am so proud of you already! I can see we are going to have an absolutely fabulous year. We have started our learning journey in Reading, Writing, Maths and Topic. The children have written a cold write and story about a mysterious item. We have started our class reader 'Who Let the Gods Out?' by Maz Evans and the children have created images of some of the key characters from their descriptions. They have learned to text mark and track their thinking while they are reading. In Maths, we have been looking at numbers to 10 million and embedding our place value skills. In Topic, we have learned about where Greece is on the map, some of the things the Ancient Greeks did and why we are learning about the Ancient Greeks. We have also placed some of the key events during the Ancient Greek civilisation on a timeline.