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

Autumn Term Bulletin

Issue 10: Friday, 12th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a great week.

Parent and Carer Consultation Evenings
Thank you to all our parents and carers for engaging with our consultation evenings. It is a shame these were once again telephone appointments, but we hope to invite you in for face-to-face events again soon. We hope you found the conversations useful. If you were unable to attend your appointment, it is important that you organise an alternative time with your child's class teacher. These sessions allow us to work together to enable your child to be as successful as possible this year, so it is important that we have an opportunity to speak with all parents and carers.

Curriculum Information for Parents
Our curriculum page has been updated on the school website with the Knowledge Organisers and Medium Term Plans for each class. We publish these documents each half term so that parents are well-informed about what the children will be learning about. The Knowledge Organisers are particularly useful documents; as you know, we are working on 'sticky learning' and ensuring that the information we teach the children is retained long term. The knowledge organisers allow you to support your child in retaining key information about their topics as you can practice with them at home, asking questions and quizzing their memories! We often run quizzes about this key information at school, and retaining this information supports pupils in accessing the rest of their topic learning. You can find all of our curriculum documents for parents here.

Year 2 Phonics Check
In December the Year 2 children will be taking a phonics check at school. As such, we are practising phonics lots and some children are in focused phonics groups to ensure they are prepared. We have invested in access to the Read Write Inc phonics online portal this year, and Mrs Bello will be sending video lessons home each week. It is important that your child has as much practice as possible before the check, so we would love you to play the videos at home to support them further. Please let us know if you need any help in accessing these lessons.

Sports Superstars
I wanted to say a massive well done to all of our pupils who have taken part in sports events so far this year. We have resumed our events calendar with a bang! The children have represented Ash Hill so well, modelling all of our school values and being wonderful sportspeople. Mr Bell talked in assembly this morning about our incredible Upper School girls football team, who were impressively successful in their last tournament. We are so proud of them!

Have a wonderful, safe weekend!

Mrs Manning
Headteacher

Growing minds for learning, crafting skills for life

Attendance W/c 01/11/21

Class	Attendance	Lates
Reception	95.2	0
Year 1	96.6%	0
Year 2	91.9%	2
Year 3	95.0%	7
Year 4	92.2%	1
Year 5	90.8%	1
Year 6	99.1%	1

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 01/11/21

Year 1	13
Year 2	207
Year 3	6
Year 4	29
Year 5	47
Year 6	18

Coming Up...

Date	Event
15/11/21	Anti-Bullying Week
16/11/21	Reception Library Visit
19/11/21	Children In Need—Pajama Day (Nursery & Reception)
19/11/21	Children In Need—Dress Like a Rockstar (Years 1—6)
23/11/21	Planetarium Visit Years 5 & 6
23/11.21	Reception Library Visit
30/11/21	Year 6 Height & Weight Checks Cancelled. To be rescheduled in January
30/11/21	School Photographs
03/12/21	Flu Vaccinations
07/12/21—08/12/21	Lower School Nativity
09/12/21—10/11/21	EYFS Christmas Singing Show
14/12/21	Christmas Lunch
17/12/21	School Closes for Christmas Holidays 2.00pm Finish
20/12/21 - 03/01/22	**Christmas Holidays**
04/01/22	**Inset Day**
05/01/22	Children Back to School
15/01/22	Last day to apply for a Reception place for September 2022. Portal closes at midnight.
19/04/22	National Primary Allocation Day—Parents will be sent an email from Bucks CC.

Letters/Parent Mail This Week

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

- Planetarium Experience—Years 5 & 6
- School Lunch Menus
- Nativity Costumes (Years 1—3)
- Annual Flu Immunisations
- COVID19 Warn & Inform—Year 4

This Week in School...

- **Nursery** has had a fun week thinking about fireworks and bonfire night. They have enjoyed making large rockets outside, as well as making colourful firework pictures using tissue paper and chalk. This week we also practised using scissors carefully and safely with our friends! Core book: '**Meg and Mog**'. Key vocabulary: **spaceship, rocket, firework, space, colour word,** Key songs: '**Zoom Zoom Zoom**'
- **Reception** What a fabulours week Reception has had! We have read the story 'Leaf Man' and focused on all the changes that happen during Autumn. We went on an Autumn walk and found lots of leaves, nuts, seeds and berries in many different colours. We have used some of these resources (not berries as we learnt they can be poisonous) in our play this week. We all painted a poppy for Remembrance Day and made a huge wreath that we were very proud to show to our families. In Maths, we have been comparing numbers 1, 2 & 3. We have been making groups of 3 all around the class; 3 bowls, 3 spoons, 3 chairs, 3 beds, from the story 'Goldilocks and the 3 Bears' and using spots, counters, animals and 'Compare Bears' to make lots of different combinations to get three. Sounds: **'w', 'th', 'z', 'ch' & 'q'**. Book: **'Leaf Man'** by Lois Ehlert.
- **Year 1** have been fabulous learners this week. In English, we have been learning our Rags to Riches tale – 'The Elves and the Shoemaker'. In Maths, we have been celebrating Maths Week England. In Topic, we have been learning all about Queen Elizabeth I and in PSHE we have discussed who our VIPs are (the special people in our lives).
- This week in Maths, **Year 2** have been learning to add and subtract 2-digit numbers and crossing over 10 where required. In Reading, we are developing our skills of how to recall key information in written texts. The children have enjoyed exploring ideas of redesigning a new vehicle for Mrs Armitage. I'm sure they would love to share these ideas with you. In Topic, we explored our school grounds looking at everyday materials and their uses. In PHSE, we are exploring and learning more about our friendships. What would we expect to see in a good friend? How can we be a good friend? It was great to hear the children share their thoughts and ideas. On Page 4, there are links to some lovely Phonics videos which the children have really enjoyed watching in class. This is a brilliant way of encouraging our children's reading skills as well as their confidence in reading. Enjoy!
- **Year 3** are still being completely and utterly amazing! Rehearsals have started in earnest for the much anticipated Nativity. Reporters have tried to snap some shots of the actors on location which are now selling for millions. The actors have made many demands and refuse to work on days that end in Y. In other news, we have begun writing our own character descriptions in English. Next week in Maths, bus stop method for long division!
- **Year 4** This week we have been looking at tenses in our SPAG lessons and we have continued reading 'This Morning I met a Whale', which we are all enjoying. In Maths, we have continued exploring mm, cm, M and KM and have calculated the perimeter of shapes. We have finished our model text, so do ask your children to recite it to you. Topic is very exciting and we have been investigating states of matter. Ask your children about everyday objects – are they solids, liquids or gases? Another great week for year 4!
- Another exciting week in **Year 5!** We've spent lots of time considering how writers create suspense in their work. There are lots of tools these authors use that the students can share with you... In Maths, we've learnt how to read and interpret line graphs and tables. We've also considered the question: 'What does it mean to be a good mathematician?' We've continued reading our class reader, 'The Jamie Drake Equation', as well as an additional text: 'Hidden Figures'. It's been a busy week here so make sure you rest over the weekend!
- **Year 6** have enjoyed this week, we have been learning about how light travels, how shadows are formed and the law of reflection. In Art, we explored shadows and looked at the work of the artist Kumi Yamashita and created different shadows with a range of objects, controlling and angling the single light source to create the desired shadow. We are all thoroughly engaged with the class reader- 'Stormbreaker' by Anthony Horrowitz. There are so many theories and queries about the plot so far. Ask the children to summarise the story and discuss what they think might happen next. At the end of the last chapter we have read- Alex (reluctantly) has accepted to work as a spy. In Writing, we have continued to practice the toolkit for discussion texts and discussed different questions such as: Is it ever okay to lie? Should chocolate be banned from schools? Should school uniform exist? It is important for children to see the argument from both sides despite their own view and they have been really good at producing the alternative views. They have been attempting to use the passive voice and the subjunctive form to make their writing more formal. In Maths, fractions learning has continued and this week we have been adding and subtracting fractions with different denominators as well as mixed numbers. It has been a great week filled with lots of learning. It was also lovely speaking with you all over the phone for the parent consultations. I am looking forward to next week. Have a wonderful weekend.

Phonics

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Reception

As you know, we have started learning our Phonics sounds in school. Please support at home by watching the videos with your child that we will include in this section each week.
The videos for this week can be found at the following links:

w: https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/kLCtnabR/zbpz8ghq

z: https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/bp8yvO1H/hefY7csT

th: https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/8CbMVPTU/nxnUUU1I

ch: https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/jDgBmQkE/DEYPVmmK

qu: https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/O8WUDhU5/yNKHtmJQ

Year 2

Links below to the Phonics videos which the children have really enjoyed watching in class. This is a brilliant way of encouraging our children's reading skills as well as their confidence in reading.

ea sound - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/cG7YvzwM/ulD8WgqC

oi sound - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/XgItfLkJ/g6d8K76a

a-e sound - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/ob0lPCLJ/q3qJbp

Sports News

Last Saturday, our Year 6 Girls Football team represented Ash Hill at the Bucks School County Finals over in Aylesbury. Competing were 6 winning District Finalists playing in a knockout system over 2 games. The girls fought tirelessly till the final whistle, in the first, drawing 0-0 with moments of nearly taking the victory against Chalfont St Peter. The following match did see our County Finals come to an end losing narrowly to Haddenham, who managed to take their chances.

This journey started on the 24th September with 67 schools participating within Buckinghamshire and for Ash Hill to finish 5th overall in the County is an astonishing achievement. Putting the results aside, these 10 girls have shown so many positive qualities throughout this journey, such as, determination, consideration, resilience, sportsmanship & many others. As a school we would like to congratulate these 10 girls with a trip to Wembley Stadium in December for a stadium tour around England's home football stadium. A letter with all the details will follow nearer the time. A huge thank you from myself to all the supportive parents, to all staff attending and to the Ash Hill pupils for your supportive words to the team along their journey.

Remembrance Day

Forest School creativity….