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

Autumn Term Bulletin

Issue 13: Friday, 3rd December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have had a good week. We have enjoyed seeing the snow, practising our songs and getting even better at remote learning this week!

COVID19

I want to thank everybody for your support over the last couple of weeks. We were so disappointed to find our positive cases increasing in school and to have to make the decision to move to remote learning for upper Key Stage 2. I have been carefully tracking new cases in the school community and I am pleased to say the move to remote education has had the desired impact and we are now back down to manageable numbers, suggesting transmission is no longer taking place in the school. We are delighted to be welcoming Year 5 and 6 back next week, and for Year 4 to return to their usual arrangements. We know however, that with the new variant and as the winter months progress we will need to continue to put safety measures in place and carefully monitor the situation. I have been pleased to see adults wearing masks on site, and thank you to everyone who has let me know about their exempt status. We will continue to be vigilant about handwashing, ventilation and monitoring symptoms in school.

Christmas

As you know, we are having to be very careful about events and mixing in the school community, however we do want our children to enjoy this festive term as much as possible! We will still hold Christmas parties in classrooms, and we will provide snacks and drinks for the whole class. We will inform you of each classes' party date soon. I also wrote to you about our Christmas jumper day, and we're really looking forward to this! We also continue to work hard on creating our nativity singing video for parents and we hope to have this ready for you by the end of term.

Parent Survey

I was delighted to see so many parents had responded to our Parents' Evening survey! You have provided very useful feedback that will be used in our school improvement work over the next two terms. Overall, the feedback was very positive, however there was one area where it is clear that improvement is needed. Please see the results on **Page 2**.

As you can see, parents and carers are keen for school trips, clubs, experiences and wider development activities to resume. This is something that has always been picked up as a strength at Ash Hill and this is always verified by external inspections and visitors. However, due to COVID19, our pupils have missed out on so many experiences and extracurricular opportunities over the last two academic years. Please be reassured that we are very aware of this, and we have plans to resume this area of our work as soon as possible next term. We have already rescheduled the trips and visits we had planned for this term, and we look forward to sharing our exciting plans with you in the new year.

I would like to remind all parents and carers that we publish information annually and half-termly about what your child is learning in the school year. You can find our curriculum information for parents here. This page includes an overview of the whole year's learning, as well as class medium term plans and knowledge organisers each half term.

We always appreciate your feedback. If you ever have any concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

Learning Opportunities

At Ash Hill our mission is *growing minds for learning, crafting skills for life* and this extends to our whole school community. We have recently been made aware of some local free courses offered by Impact Futures and we wanted to share these with you. You can see the full list of funded courses here.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Mrs Manning

Headteacher

Growing minds for learning, crafting skills for life

Attendance W/c 22/11/21

Class	Attendance	Lates
Reception	90.6%	0
Year 1	95.5%	0
Year 2	90.8	1
Year 3	98.9%	5
Year 4	94.7%	0
Year 5	88.4%	0
Year 6	95.0%	0

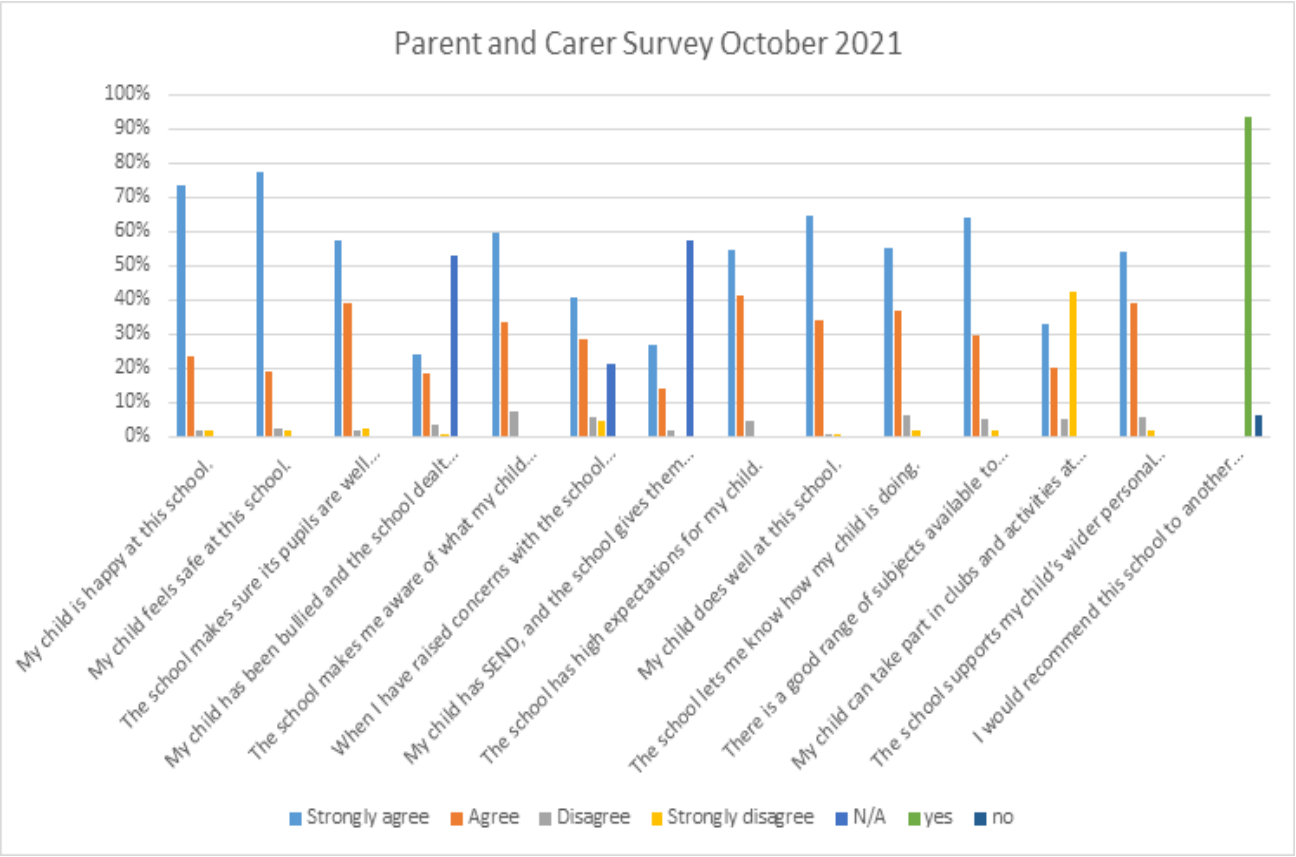
Hero—Here Everyday, Ready On time!

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 22/11/21

Year 1	28
Year 2	32
Year 3	25
Year 4	31
Year 5	-
Year 6	-

Parent & Carer Survey...



Coming Up...

Date	Event
13/12/21	Flu Vaccinations
14/12/21	**Christmas Lunch**
17/12/21	Learning Champions Assembly
17/12/21	School Closes for Christmas Holidays **2.00pm Finish**
20/12/21 -	**Christmas Holidays**
04/01/22	**Inset Day**
05/01/22	Children Back to School
06/01/21	Planetarium Visit Years 5 & 6
15/01/22	Last day to apply for a Reception place for September 2022. Portal closes at
18/01/22	School Individual Photographs
20/01/22	Year 6 Height & Weight Checks
19/04/22	National Primary Allocation Day— Parents will be sent an email from

Letters/Parent Mail This Week

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

- Christmas Lunch Orders (PM message)
- Christmas Jumper Day
- Early Years Christmas Production Up-date
- Year 4 Entering School (PM message)

This Week in School...

- **Nursery** has had a cold week thinking about winter! We even had real snow to play with, great timing! We had fun making marks in the snow, trying to build snowmen and aiming snowballs at number targets up to 5. To keep us warm, we enjoyed wrapping up in blankets and drinking warm milk while listening to a snowy story. **Core book:** 'One Snowy Night'. **Key vocabulary:** snow, cold, winter, ice, melt, frozen. **Key songs:** '1, 2, 3 Little Reindeer' and 'The Reindeer Pokey'.
- **Reception** has had a fun week continuing to think about people who help them. They enjoyed a visit from a nurse this week and lots of thoughtful questions were asked. The children have also discussed what they would like to be when they grow up and have done some lovely writing to support this. In Maths, they have been thinking about shapes and sorting 2D shapes in particular.
- We have had an exciting week in **Year 1**. In English, we have written our own stories all about Queen Elizabeth losing a piece of her jewellery and some special elves saving the day! In Maths, we have compared numbers using equal to, less than or greater than. We have learnt about a new important person from history: Queen Victoria. We also talked about making smart choices in circle time with a special teddy bear guest. Finally, we have been proudly practising our nativity songs - we can't wait to share these with you!
- This week in Maths, **Year 2** have been learning about money. We have learned to count in pence and in pounds. They do have a keen eye for calculating money.! We also had the opportunity to see the real currencies and experience what they look and feel like. In Writing this week, we have been publishing our lovely cumulative tales and we are looking forward to the next part of our writing which will be on non-chronological posters. In Topic, the children had the opportunity to experiment on how the shapes of objects change due to their material . In Art and Design technology, the children are creating new vehicles for Mrs Armitage. Thank you to the children who shared the vehicles they created at home. This has definitely motivated Year 2. Enjoy a wonderful weekend!
- This week **Year 3** are mastering the art of multiplication and division! We are getting deep into the learning pit as we challenge our learning by solving word problems. In English, we are starting our new unit which involves learning about how to trap the Iron Man! We will practise the art of instruction writing by creating instructions on how to trap a pixie! Miss Bagguley continues to be very proud of our positive attitudes to our learning!
- **Year 4** Another exciting week for year 4! We have been investigating water and how it changes states. In our experiments we looked at how salt and warm water impacted ice. They really enjoyed this. In English, we are looking at a persuasive letter and the feature of persuasive writing. I have seen some great pieces of persuasive writing on why I should give them extra break time and why I should choose them as a Learning Champion. In Maths, we continue with multiplication; we have been looking at the six and nine times table with a big focus on the children knowing their sixes. They did a great job learning their threes last week. Well done! Have a great weekend.
- What a successful week of remote learning for **Year 5!** Very quickly, Year 5 adapted to this new way of learning and engaged in meaningful ways. During live lessons, students learned how to mute/unmute, chat in the conversation to discuss new concepts and even use reactions to respond to questions. Every day, students edited documents to submit their work, and even revise their answers after feedback. Well done for developing so many great IT skills! Can't wait to see everyone on Monday!
- **Year 6** have been working online for the second week, this week and have been showing their resilience and determination to succeed. They have been building their skills to persuade in writing, have continued to practice their inference skills in reading and continued working with decimals. We have continued reading our class reader- Stormbreaker and we are at a very interesting part- ask your child to let you know what is happening in the story. In Topic, the children have continued their learning about Electricity and have had a go at drawing circuits. I feel very proud of all of the children who have been able to learn online and have risen to the challenge and a massive thank you to all the adults for your support and encouragement. I am looking forward to seeing all of the children back in class on Monday.

Music Opportunity

Bucks Students' Union in High Wycombe has a music opportunity they wish to offer your children, with the hope of reducing the number of young people that don't have the opportunity to learn music in school, and aiding those schools that don't have the facilities or funding to teach music.

They would like to offer your children a series of **free** 'Rock School' sessions with their experienced music lecturers, one day a week over the weekends in January 2022 from 11am – 2pm; hoping to commence on Saturday 8th January, during which your children learn songs on drums, guitar, bass, keyboards and vocals. This is all with the aim of performing a show at the end of the month in their high-tech, and award-winning music venue.

Not only will your children learn life-long skills, it is a great opportunity to make new friends after being unable to enjoy social situations for far too long.

This is all being run by The Creative Music School; please find their website here:

https://www.creativemusicschool.co.uk/ for more information about everything they offer.

Alternatively, if your child wishes to have 1-to-1 music sessions outside of school, they are also able to offer this through The Creative Music School.

If you're interested, and would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact:

Becky Pearson
Events Coordinator
Bucks Students' Union
The Venue, Bucks

t: 01494 601 600 | e: becky.pearson@bucks.ac.uk |

Bucks Students' Union, Queen Alexandra Road, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP11 2JZ
bucksstudentsunion.org | buckshire.co.uk

Phonics

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.

ur sound - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/rrJ9eGtL/tZhMy2Lc

er sound - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/7IzJ86zf/a83pRj1b

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