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

Autumn Term Bulletin

Issue 15: Friday, 17th December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you have had a wonderful week. We have had lots of fun in school this week, finishing up our learning, enjoying class parties and getting presents from our very special visitor today!

Learning Champions
We held our autumn term Learning Champions assembly via Zoom today. We are so proud of all our nominees and we hope you display their certificates with pride at home! The nominations were of such high quality today that we had an unprecedented number of winners! We chose FOUR champions to receive their Ash Hill Learning Champion polo shirts. A huge congratulations to Thenu, Viktoria, Harvey and Joshua H!

Father Christmas!
The children had a very special visitor today; Father Christmas delivered a Christmas present to every child! At Ash Hill we have prioritised buying books for our children for Christmas every year as we know this can have such a profound impact on their enjoyment of reading – did you know that 1 in 11 disadvantaged children in the UK do not own their own books? We want to ensure every child at Ash Hill has their own books at home. We know you will be supporting with this too and many of the children talk happily about the books they have shared at home. We hope the gifts are a welcome addition to your growing libraries! Children who read more enjoy reading and therefore achieve better in reading at school, and reading is an indicator of success in all areas of the curriculum. We want to say a big thank you to our local Nisa store, as they have donated money to the school which we were able to use to purchase the books this year.

Staffing Update
You may be aware that Miss North is currently training to be a teacher! She has been working in our Reception class this term and she has done an amazing job! As part of her training she will be completing a placement at another school in the spring term, so we will not be seeing her until the summer. We wish her all the best over the next few months and we look forward to seeing her again!
We will be hosting another trainee teacher for the spring term – we are looking forward to Miss Sheehan joining us in Year 1! The children have already seen a video message from her, and she is very much looking forward to joining the Ash Hill team.

Nativity
We are extremely proud of our Lower School children for putting together their singing performances and nativity story video, against all odds! The video has been shared with parents via Parent Mail this week. We hope you enjoy watching it!

Covid19
It is strongly recommended that we continue to regularly test for covid19 over the Christmas break and before returning to school. I know there may be many headlines and conversations about what we may face in January, but the guidance to schools currently remains the same and we are looking forward to having all pupils back in school on Wednesday 5th January. I wish you all a safe and healthy break, but please do ensure that you have your child's login information for Teams, Timestable Rock Stars and Reading Eggs just in case your child may need to isolate in the new term. You should be able to find this information in your child's reading diary.

Online Safety
The Children's Commissioner has launched a resource for parents to start discussions with their children about accessing inappropriate online resources and sexual harassment online. It is recommended that parents start these conversations before children are given access to their own social media accounts and smartphones, which is usually around the age of 9 or 10. You can access the resource here Talking to your child about online sexual harassment: A guide for parents | Children's Commissioner for England (childrenscommissioner.gov.uk)

Finally, I'd like to thank you all for your support this term. Once again we have faced many challenges, including changing guidance due to Omicron, a covid19 outbreak in school and remote learning for many children. Parents and carers have been wonderful at working with us to allow the show to go on! We have been very grateful for your support and we look forward to a great 2022! Wishing all of our Ash Hill families a wonderful winter break and a happy new year!

Mrs Manning
Headteacher

Growing minds for learning, crafting skills for life

Attendance W/c 06/12/21

Class	Attendance	Lates
Reception	87.9%	0
Year 1	93.7%	0
Year 2	96.1%	4
Year 3	94.0%	7
Year 4	93.8%	1
Year 5	92.1%	2
Year 6	97.3%	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 06/12/21

Year 1	30
Year 2	46
Year 3	30
Year 4	36
Year 5	65
Year 6	20

Coming Up...

Date	Event
20/12/21 - 03/01/22	**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 midnight.
18/01/22	School Individual Photographs
20/01/22	Year 6 Height & Weight Checks
21/02/22- 25/02/22	**Half Term**
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)

- Ordering School Lunches for After the Xmas Break.
- Lower School Nativity
- Planetarium Experience Re-scheduled.

This Week in School...

- **Nursery**: The children have enjoyed listening to Christmas stories this week, joining in with the familiar parts. They enjoyed making our Carole video, which can be viewed on the website and they had a great time at their Christmas party with a special visitor.
- This week **Reception** have been as busy as Christmas Elves: making cards, attending photoshoots for our exclusive Christmas calendars, getting dressed up for our party and so much more! In Maths, we have been looking at one more and one less than a number, and using this in our singing! We have also learned about the Christmas story and all of the exciting new vocabulary with it. Today we also celebrated our Learning Champion Nominees, well done! Have a wonderful break, see you in January!
- This week, **Year 1** have been creating reindeer Christmas cards for their deserving parents. In English, they have been working hard to write a note with a kind message to a friend for a trusted adult. The Christmas party was a wonderful event for the children and they all enjoyed the game of pass the parcel. Logan T. was veryu lucky to win the prize, a pack of Ben and Holly cards. In Maths. The children have been working on number bonds to 20 and recognising numbers in words from 1—20. It's been a great week and we have all been looking forwards to Christmas. From Year 1, Happy Christmas and New Year!
- **Year 2:** The children have had such an exciting week of fun and learning. From school jumper day to our Class party, watching our Ash Hill Nativity and who doesn't enjoy some shopping therapy of visiting the smart kart. In Maths, we have had a taste of counting and sharing numbers in groups. Introducing Year 2 children to the concept of multiplication and division. We will still revisit Measurements - money, in the New Year. In Writing, the children have come up with some exciting features in their adverts (Mrs Armitage's new vehicle). Wow! Where has all that time gone! We have had a lovely Autumn term together and definitely looking forward to our coming Spring term. Use this winter holiday to rest but don't forget to enjoy regular mind-blowing travels, just by reading a book. The Year 2 team would like to thank you for all your lovely messages and gifts. Wishing you all a lovely festive season!
- **Year 3** cannot believe it is already the end of our first term together! I am so incredibly proud of how far the children have come already this term, I am very excited to see their progress next year. I am sure they are going to take on all our new learning with the same dedication and determination they have shown this term already. I hope you all have a wonderful, safe and healthy Christmas and New Year. Please remember to read with the children every day and sign their reading records so we can continue to track their wonderful reading progress.
- Well it has been a super exciting week in **Year 4** with Christmas jumpers and Christmas lunches, Christmas parties and watching the KS1 Nativity (where the children were all stars, it was amazing!). I think we are all feeling very festive! We even managed to sneak in some learning. The children finished innovating their River Troll letter, lots of fantastic work, and then revisiting perimeter, measurement and multi-step problems in maths. We learnt about the journey of a river from its source to the sea. We also finished our class book, 'This Morning I Met a Whale', a sad ending unfortunately. On behalf of all the staff in Year 4 we would like to thank the children and you for our lovely Christmas cards with good wishes and the thoughtful gifts. You have been very kind. We wish you a very happy and peaceful break, and look forward to seeing you all in 2022!
- What an exciting conclusion to our first complete term in **Year 5!** We completed our Space topic by making Space baubles decorated with all the information we've learnt. We also finished off our paper mache planets which are now hanging in our class, making it into a classroom-sized Solar System. In writing, we debated whether or not aliens exist and wrote a very well-balanced discussion text exploring both sides of the argument. From Year 5, have a fun and restful holiday with loved ones!
- **Year 6** have had a lovely last week in school continuing with their learning. After consolidating their learning about fractions and decimals they have completed their Maths assessments as well as their reading and SPaG assessments. We have also been completing our persuasive adverts and discussion texts in writing. We have finished the story 'Stormbreaker' and the children could not get enough of it! Everyone is looking forward to a relaxing festive break and I wish to see all the children back in the new year – ready to learn. Have a wonderful holiday and enjoy the safe celebrations.