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

Spring Term Bulletin

Issue 17: Friday, 14th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you have had a wonderful week. You may have noticed my presence lacking at school these last couple of weeks! Unfortunately, I have had to isolate, but I am extremely excited to return on Monday! I am very much looking forward to seeing you all, and cannot wait to see the children. I have been kept up to date by our brilliant Ash Hill team and my usual Friday remote assemblies have been a great opportunity to see the children and hear about their fantastic learning.

Covid19

I have sent a number of 'warn and inform' letters this week as we do have a few positive covid19 cases in the school. We are working hard to keep everybody safe and ensure we can continue to provide face to face education for as many pupils as possible. In order to support us in doing this, it would be really helpful if families could engage with regular LFT testing at home. LFT kits can be ordered easily from the gov.uk website. It is particularly helpful to test on a Sunday evening or Monday morning, before returning to school after the weekend. You may also want to test mid week, such as Wednesday evening. Regular testing will allow us to pick up asymptomatic cases and reduce the spread of the virus within the school. We appreciate testing is not pleasant, and we are grateful to any families who are able to engage with this.

Safety at drop-off time

Please can I remind all parents that children must be supervised by an adult on the playground in the mornings. It is important that you stay with your child until their teacher has arrived, and this is particularly important for our Reception and Year 1 pupils. We have had some of our youngest children arrive at the classroom alone in the mornings, and this is not safe. If you do need to leave before the whistle has been blown, it is important that you speak to a school adult from your child's class before you go, checking that they are adequately supervised. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Safety at end of day

It is also important to ensure your child has clear, unambiguous arrangements for the end of the school day. As you know, children from Year 4 and above are allowed to walk home with written permission from a parent. Our school policy is to allow this to happen only if we can be sure it is a safe arrangement. If you have given permission for your child to walk home, our expectation is that they:

- leave school with the other walkers from their class, ensuring they are walking home when there are others around to allow them to feel secure;
- Walk home immediately, without making a stop anywhere along the way;
- have an adult at home so that they can be safely supervised.

If we are informed that any of these safety measures are not in place, we may need to request that your child be collected at the end of the day. It is important that you do not arrange for your child to meet you part way home. We have experienced this type of arrangement resulting in safety issues, such as a child being unclear about the meeting point, an adult not being there when expected or the child not arriving as arranged. These issues cause distress for the child and concern for the adults, and at times we have had children or parents return to the school after hours for support. This is clearly unsafe. Please support us by ensuring that you only allow your child to walk directly home. Any other circumstance should be managed by collecting your child at the end of the school day. Thank you for your support.

Curriculum Information

I wrote to you yesterday about our Medium Term Plans and Knowledge Organisers. You can find these documents at https://www.ashhill.org.uk/Curriculum-Information-for-Parents/

In our Parent and Carer Survey last term, some parents requested more information about what your child is learning. These documents are how we share this information each term. They provide detailed, week by week information for each curriculum subject, and the knowledge organisers state specific knowledge your child needs in order to access the learning for their topic this half term. Please have a look at the information and support your child in learning the key knowledge.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend!

Mrs Manning

Headteacher

Growing minds for learning, crafting skills for life

Attendance W/c 03/01/22

Class	Attendance	Lates
Reception	92.5%	0
Year 1	94.9%	2
Year 2	93.8%	3
Year 3	86.3%	5
Year 4	98.4%	4
Year 5	97.1%	1
Year 6	94.7%	2

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 03/01/22

Year 1	20
Year 2	72
Year 3	11
Year 4	14
Year 5	52
Year 6	40

Coming Up...

Date	Event
15/01/22	Last day to apply for a Reception place for September 2022. Portal closes at midnight.
19/01/22	Year 5 Swimming
20/01/22	Reception & Year 6 Height & Weight Checks
20/01/22	School Census (Please avoid contacting the Office in the morning if possible)
20/01/22	Hot Dog Lunch
25/01/22	**School Individual & in school sibling Photo-graphs** **(No family photos)**
26.01.22	Year 4 swimming starts
02/02/22	Yr 5/6 Squash event @ JHGS 0930—1230
08/02/22	Nursery visit to Micklefield Library
08/02/22	Year 3 & 4 multi skills event JHGS
15/02/22	Nursery visit to Micklefield Library
21/02/22- 25/02/22	**School Closed for Half Term**
28/02/22	School Re-opens (Breakfast Club open at 8.00am)
03/03/22	World Book Day
08/04/022	School Closes at 2.00pm for Easter Holidays
25/04/22	School Re-Opens (Breakfast Club open at 8.00am)
19/04/22	National Primary Allocation Day—Parents will be sent an email from Bucks CC.
20/07/22	School closes for Summer break 2.00pm finish

This Week in School...

- **Nursery** have enjoyed thinking about things that move, especially different types of transport. This week we have had fun thinking about buses and enjoying the story 'The Naughty Bus'. The children have made tracks with vehicles in flour and various other medium. The children also decided to focus on cutting and practising their scissor skills at our writing table, as well as exploring large mark making outside on the wall. Core text: **'The Naughty Bus'**. Key vocabulary: **Bus, wheels, driver, passengers, journey, where to?** Key song: **'The Wheels On The Bus'**.
- **Reception** have really enjoyed this week's story—'Aliens Love Underpants'. They have learnt about adjectives and have described their alien in their books. We have built alien homes, travelled in space and pretended to be aliens. In Maths, we have continued comparing numbers and have played some funny pants games! We had fun learning how to bounce and control a ball in PE and have some future basketball stars! Book: **'Aliens Love Underpants'**. Words: **stage, theatre, characters**. Keywords: **the, I, to**.
- **Year 1** have had another busy week! In English, we are learning the story of 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch'. In Maths, we have been looking at addition and subtraction to 20. In Topic, we have become scientists and we are exploring different everyday materials and what they can be used for. We have also been practising our typing skills on the keyboard.
- It has been a busy week for **Year 2** but I have to admit the children have enjoyed every bit of learning. They have worked hard and produced some impressive work. In Maths, we have worked on our multiples of 2, 5 and 10. Also, we are learning about how to share/divide/group numbers, with an introduction to the Division sign. In Writing, we are discovering the Superhero in each and every one of us. We are steadily working through our Toolkit. In Topic, we are exploring the world of food. Which fruits and vegetables grow below or above the soil? How can we spot this? In Art, we delved into the world of Roy Lichtenstein. The children embraced every moment of creating their art piece. A gentle reminder that **Year 2 Physical Education lessons will be on Mondays and Tuesdays**. Kindly have children come in their P.E attire on these days. Have a fun filled weekend.
- In **Year 3**, we are really enjoying delving deep into the weird and wonderful world of 'Alice in Wonderland! Miss Bagguley is reading us the graphic novel and we have complemented this with watching clips of the Disney remake of the story. From this, we are able to see how the book and film can differ in little and big ways! In our reading lessons, we are learning about all the weird and wonderful words the author, Lewis Caroll, used to create Wonderland. Miss Bagguley is really happy with the daily Year 3 readers and we can't wait to see who wins our reading and homework raffle this week!
- In **Year 4** we have been learning about the Continents and the Oceans, in addition to some great questions and discussions around our topic, ST Lucia. We have been learning and rehearsing our model text all about Kenya, while exploring the organisation of an information text. In Maths, we continue to look at multiplication and are looking at ways of working out more complex questions. We are really enjoying 'The Great Chocoplot and are hoping there will be no shortage of chocolate here!
- **Year 5** We have had a jam-packed first full week back! In Writing, we learnt the text: 'Clock Close'. We really enjoyed reading and creating portal stories. We also started our class reader: 'Clockwork' by Philip Pullman. In Maths, we mastered multiplying multiple-digit numbers using several strategies, including area model, long method and short method. We also explored Iceland using atlases and a GIS tool during ICT. From year 5 - have a great weekend!
- This week, **Year 6** have been working hard on learning the model text in writing (a chasing plot). They have been producing some excellent writing to practice the different parts of the toolkit. Ask the children to say a sentence starting with a verb. In Maths, the children have been applying their percentages knowledge and solving word problems. In Topic, they have learned about the importance of Baghdad in the Early Islamic Civilization and the House of Wisdom. They have also been producing geometric art, by overlapping circles and squares. In reading the children have been exploding words to unpick the meanings, syllables and rhyming words, in order to help them to understand the words. Vocabulary is a focus in reading this term and it would be great for children to find meanings of words they are unsure of, related to the learning. This can also be encouraged at home. Well done to Year 6, for another week of great learning. **Please Note: PE day change to Tuesday instead of Friday next week only. Please come to school dressed in your PE kit.**

Letters/Parent Mail This Week

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

- .Nursery Visit to Micklefield Library (8th & 15th February)
- Change to Covid19 Guidance
- Positive Covid19 Case—Year 1, 3 & 5
- Positive Covid19 Case—Year N, R & 5
- Positive Covid19 Case—Year 4 & 5
- Curriculum Information.
- Bikeability Cycle Training.