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

Spring Term Bulletin

Issue 21: Friday, 11th February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you have had a great week. We have been very busy with our learning at Ash Hill. Myself and Miss Killen dropped into some Maths lessons this week and we were so impressed with the children's learning behaviours! It was particularly impressive to hear the learning talk in Year 6 and to hear Year 2 reasoning about shapes.

Nursery Safety
Please be aware that at the start of the day before Nursery is open, children must be closely supervised by parents. Some children have been exploring the area around the Nursery building but we cannot guarantee safety if they are venturing into the space along the side of the building. We know the children are keen to play and socialise, but they must stand with their adult in order to ensure they are safe. Thank you for your support with this.

March INSET Day
I wrote to parents a while ago to advise of an INSET day in March. The school's academic calendar is available on our website:

https://www.ashhill.org.uk/Diary/Academic-Calendars.

You will see that we have an INSET scheduled on Friday 25th March. On this day there will be an important training session for all our staff about teaching reading and phonics. This means the children will not be in school on this date. Please ensure this is in your diaries!

Attendance
We have worked really hard to improve our attendance over the last few years at Ash Hill. Covid19 has really made this a challenge since 2020! However as we are now emerging out of the pandemic, we want to do all that we can to encourage good attendance at school again. The children have faced significant disruption since 2020 and we must avoid any further negative impact on their progress. Please support this in the following ways:

- Avoid any appointments during school hours.
- Book holidays within school holiday times; we know this is frustrating as there is a significant rise in the cost of travel around these times, but unfortunately we cannot authorise holidays and parents may face a fine if children do miss school for this reason.
- Encourage your child to come to school every day. If they are not feeling 100%, for example following a bad night of sleep, you can always let us know and we will keep a closer eye on them.
- If your child is staying home, consider whether they could come into school in the afternoon if they are feeling better.

If you need any help or advice on maintaining good attendance, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Covid19
I am relieved to say that numbers of covid19 cases in school seem to be reducing. However it is still really important that we all follow the rules. If children have covid19 symptoms they must stay at home and get a PCR test. If anybody in the household tests positive for covid19, they must stay at home and isolate. This means that if your child or a parent tests positive, they cannot attend the school site, even to drop off or collect other children. This is still an extremely important requirement and this will help to avoid transmission of the virus in school. We must all work together to prevent further disruption to pupils' education.

Half Term
A reminder that next Friday is our last day of school before the half term break. Children will return to school on Monday 28th February.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Mrs Manning
Headteacher

Growing minds for learning, crafting skills for life

Attendance W/c 31/01/22

Class	Attendance %	Lates
Reception	88.6	1
Year 1	92.2	2
Year 2	88.2	1
Year 3	91.4	5
Year 4	92.0	4
Year 5	89.6	2
Year 6	89.7	5

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 04/02/22

Year 1	27
Year 2	28
Year 3	28
Year 4	29
Year 5	87
Year 6	59

Coming Up...

Date	Event
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
07/03/22	Chick Hatching Experience at school (for 2 weeks)
10/03/22	Reception Height & Weight Checks
15/03/22	Year 1 Odds Farm Trip
25/03/22	Inset Day
08/04/22	School Closes at 2.00pm for Easter Holidays
19/04/22	National Primary Allocation Day—Parents will be sent an email from Bucks CC.
25/04/22	Inset Day
26/04/22	School Re-Opens (Breakfast Club open at 8.00am)
30/05/22-03/06/22	**School Closed for Half Term**
06/06/22	Inset Day
05/07/22 & 06/07/22	Transition Days
20/07/22	School closes for Summer break **2.00pm finish**
21/07/22	Extra Leave Day

ONE CAN
FOOD BANK + TRUST

LEARN TO COOK NEW RECIPES

Fun and free sessions, all levels of ability welcomed

Every Thursday, 1:15pm - 4:15pm

(children joining for the last hour)

Term time

Beechview Academy, Guinions Road
High Wycombe HP13 7NT

Please book in advance: 01494 512277 / office@onecantrust.org.uk

This Week in School...

- **Nursery** have had a fun week continuing to think 'Mr Gumpy's Outing'. The children helped to write a shopping list for our tea party, as well as making real cakes and sandwiches to eat! The children even helped to make decorations, such as bunting and here they helped to punch holes and thread the flags themselves! We have had such a busy week and even went to Micklefield library. Nursery are now library members! Thank you to those parents who came with us. We really appreciated your help.

- **Reception** have enjoyed continuing their learning around the story of 'Mr Gumpy's Outing'. They have created their own version of the story, which included learning new actions for new animals! The children even made their own story maps. In Maths, the children have been thinking about pairs and had fun pairing socks, objects plus lots of animals. The children even went on a pair walk! **Core book:** 'Mr Gumpy's Outing'. **Key vocabulary:** odd, even (key words - it, was it?). **Key song:** 'The Animals Went In Two by Two'. **Phonics Link** https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/NRLA0j0y/TPVb9Buo

- **Year 1** have had another busy week! In Science, we have been investigating materials that are waterproof. In English, we have been planning another story using all of the skills we have learnt this term. In Reading, we have been practising answering questions to retrieve information from a text. In RE, we have been continuing our work on Christianity. **Key Dates:** *Year 1 Odds Farm trip Tuesday 15th March. Chick hatching experience at school Monday 7th March (for 2 weeks)*

- **Year 2**. have had a brilliant week of learning and fun. We have started our second piece of writing this week and the children have come up with some great and interesting ideas. In Maths, we have moved unto learning about 2D and 3D shapes. Why don't you quiz them on how many sides a hexagon and octagon have. In our Science lessons, we've completed creating our lovely party food menus. The children cannot wait to bring some of this to life come next week. On making our Party menus we used our knowledge and understanding of Pop Art to create some eye-catching designs. Well done year 2! We are proud of all your hard work and achievement. Have a lovely week!

- This week, **Year 3** completed their Three Peaks Challenge! The children have been studying the mountains of the challenge that climbers attempt to scale in less than 24 hours. We invited Year 4 into the hall to come and see our completed project. The children answered questions about the mountains after having conducted some thorough research into the subject. They also demonstrated excellent oracy skills by completing a video project about HS2 and tried to convince Mrs Manning to add the real three peaks challenge to her bucket list! I am very proud of the children for the passion and determination they have shown during this learning!

- It has been another fantastic week in **Year 4**. In Geography, we have been comparing the climate of St Lucia to that of the UK and have learnt some interesting facts! In Maths, we have been investigating equivalent fractions and fractions greater than 1, while in English, we have started to plan our Innovation ready to write it next week. Friday afternoon was very exciting, not only did we have our Ukulele lesson but also had the opportunity to experience year 3's Geography, all about the Three Peaks. I was delighted to hear the progress that the children are making in their Swimming Lessons. We are all very proud of them. I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

- What a fantastic week in **Year 5!** On Tuesday, Miss Bagguley visited our class to share about her trip to Iceland! It inspired many of us to go there one day! In Maths, we've been working hard at comparing fractions and finding equivalent fractions more quickly. We have shown lots of resilience! We have also written some beautiful poems during our writing topic. We've been using alliteration, rhyming and repetition to keep our writing engaging! From Year 5 - have a great weekend!

- **Year 6** have been busy learning all about the area perimeter of rectilinear shapes and finding areas of triangles. Ask your child to tell you the formula to work out the area of a triangle. In Reading, they have been working hard in finding meanings of words and we are getting deep in to the heart of our class reader: 'The Spiderwick Chronicles'. In Writing, we have been learning our model text- 'Jared's Diary' and practising the toolkit. We have written extracts of diary recounts of Ibn Battuta and Greek Olympians as well as Matilda. We are all looking forward to innovating and writing our independent diary recounts next week. Ask your child which part of the toolkit they can remember for a diary recount.

Mr Bell's Sports Update

This week saw 8 children from Year 3/4 attend a Multi -Skills event at John Hampden Grammar School. The event was designed to challenge pupils within many different sporting areas such as; Cricket, Skipping, Coordination, Team relays and many more.

With over 10 different events lasting a duration of 2 hours our athletes were also physically challenged but coped superbly throughout, maintaining their quality. Here are the fabulous 8! A shout out to Arthur who was chosen as a 'top notch athlete'. Well done to all!

Mr Bell will be running a Sports Course this February half term at Ash Hill. If you would like more information or a way to sign up please follow this link: www.inspire-sports-coaching.co.uk .