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

Spring Term Bulletin

Issue 22: Friday, 4th March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you had a lovely half term break. My apologies for the difficulties with our bulletin before half term. I found myself without power for much of the day thanks to Storm Eunice! I hope there wasn't too much disruption caused for our families. We have had a great week back at school. Thank you for your efforts for World Book Day, The children had such a brilliant day! We hope they enjoyed their new books.

Ukraine

I am sure many children have been talking at home about the conflict in Ukraine, as a vast amount of information is being shared online and in the media. Making sense of this information will be challenging for children, and we know these conversations can be tricky to navigate. If you'd like some support, the DfE have shared the following page with schools: Help for teachers and families to talk to pupils about Russia's invasion of Ukraine and how to help them avoid misinformation. - The Education Hub (blog.gov.uk) We also recommend BBC Newsround for supporting pupils in understanding world events as information is presented in an accessible way.

Clubs

In our last parent and carer survey extra-curricular opportunities was identified as a target area. We agreed that, following the challenges of the pandemic, this was definitely an area for development. We are pleased to share that we will soon be relaunching our after school clubs! Mr Bell has been working hard on putting together the programme and will be sharing information soon.

Covid19

You may be aware that guidance around covid19 has changed significantly recently. We are relaxing some measures in school, however it is still advised that people stay at home if they have confirmed or suspected covid19. Therefore, in line with guidance to schools, we will still ask you to keep pupils at home if they have covid19 symptoms or if they test positive.

However, we will no longer be asking adults to wear masks on site, and many of our normal routines will now gradually begin to return. Of course, this all remains subject to the covid19 situation remaining under control.

Mrs Strange

Today is sadly Mrs Strange's last day with us at Ash Hill. Mrs Strange has worked hard in her time here, setting up and managing Parent Mail, co-ordinating our weekly bulletin and much of our communications with parents and helping us through a global pandemic! We are going to miss her very much, but we know she will have a fabulous time in her new role. On behalf of everybody at Ash Hill, I wish her all the best and thank her for all her work during her time with us.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Manning
Headteacher

Growing minds for learning, crafting skills for life

Attendance W/c 14/02/22

Class	Attendance %	Lates
Reception	98.6	0
Year 1	90.0	3
Year 2	90.0	0
Year 3	90.8	3
Year 4	96.0	7
Year 5	93.9	5
Year 6	95.0	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 14/02/22

Year 1	13
Year 2	29
Year 3	61
Year 4	75
Year 5	81
Year 6	18

Coming Up...

Date	Event
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
18/03/22	Nursery parents shared reading and tea party 11.30am
18/03/22	Red Nose Day
25/03/22	**Inset Day**
28/03/22	Parent / Carer Consultations (Booking information to follow)
29/03/22	Parent / Carer Consultations (Booking information to follow)
30/03/22	Stay & Play Nursery & Reception
01/04/22	Hills Café Visit to Nursery
08/04/22	School Closes at **2.00pm** for Easter Holidays
11/04/22— 22/04/22	**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

This Week in School...

- **Nursery** have had a very physical week! The children have enjoyed being back and playing with their friends. They have been riding bikes, climbing, running and balancing. They even enjoyed scooping balls and chasing them around the garden! It has been lovely having everybody back and all children have settled well into the usual routines of Nursery. We have also had fun looking at a range of books due to it being World Book Day. The children participated in lots of activities around the story 'Brown Bear Brown Bear What Do you See?'. We all enjoyed sharing books with the Reception class and everybody got to play together in our garden.

- **Reception** have really enjoyed book week. Not only have they remembered the 'Runaway Chapati' story but have talked about lots of traditional tales as well. We made porridge from 'Goldilocks and the 3 Bears', created houses for the 'Three Little Pigs' and made playdough caterpillars. In Maths, we have been Subitising* numbers up to 10. We enjoyed our visit to Nursery.
(* when you are able to look at a group of objects and realise how many there are without counting. This only works with small groups of numbers, as we can only subitise up to 5 things.)
Phonics Link https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/3JRrTfuF/jp4vxY1v

- **Year 1** have come back ready and eager to learn. In English, we have started our new unit based around the book 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. The children created maps of the journey made in the story. In Maths, we have been exploring numbers to 50. We began our new Science unit by going on a nature scavenger hunt and completed some observational drawings of wild flowers. We have also been doing lots of activities for World Book Day including a library scavenger hunt, guessing the masked reader, looking at non-fiction books and buddying up with another class to read stories together. It was great to see all of the children dressed up and excited!

- **Year 2** have enjoyed a lovely week back at school. It's been a week full of lovely learning and activities. In Writing, the children have been introduced to their model text and are very excited about our text for the half term. In Maths, we have looked into lines of symmetry in 2D shapes and have had some fun learning with identifying and describing the properties of these shapes. Our Topic for this half term is Science and we are going to be 'Nature Detectives', exploring living things and what they need to grow and stay healthy. This week we celebrated World Book Day and the children had a swell time taking part in our Book Scavenger Hunt. They also enjoyed the opportunity to visit Ms. Butt's bookshop to purchase a book of their choice using their given coupon. It was great to see the children bring characters from their books to life. I'm sure you will enjoy your weekend, tucked into one of your new books. Have a lovely weekend and enjoy the sunshine!

- **Year 3** have settled back into our routine and are eager to continue our learning journey. This half term, we will be learning why the crayons quit, how to improve Miss Killen's lifestyle plan by becoming her personal trainer and all about fabulous fractions! We can't wait! This week, we have really enjoyed celebrating all things books; we took part in a live session hosted by the author of the new book 'Rocket Rules', we shared a story with a Year 6 reading buddy and completed a scavenger hunt in the library!

- **Year 4.** What an exciting first week back! Class 4 had an amazing swimming lesson. We all continue to be impressed with the progress the children are making! We are just completing our fractions topic before moving onto decimals and we have started our new English Topic. We have also started reading our new text, Varjak Paw. This is going to be a gripping read, I can tell! What an amazing day World Book Day was! The children all looked fantastic dressed up as their favourite characters! What a great effort everybody made. We enjoyed a Scavenger Hunt, Reading with Year 2 and looking at some beautiful non-fiction books. I hope you all have a relaxing and enjoyable weekend.

- **Year 5**. What an exciting week to return! We had a very busy day Thursday: World Book Day! We went to the library to read to our Year 1 Reading Buddies - we loved being in the library with them! We also read Queens - a brilliant non-fiction text about queens throughout history and across different countries of the world. Who knew so many had been convicted! In writing this week, we began learning how to write a non-chronological report through our model text about killer whales. In maths, we continue to consolidate and extend our knowledge on fractions. From Year 5 - have a great weekend!

- **Year 6** have come back to school with fantastic learning behaviours and attitudes. We have started our new units of learning in English, Maths and Science. The children will be completing a 'finding tale' in writing, as they are reading the story 'Skellig' and focussing on 'Author's choices of language and literary devices. In Maths, we have started to learn about ratio and children are becoming familiar with using ratio language and starting to calculate ratio. We will be working on scaling factors using ratio next week. The children are very excited about our biology topic in science- they have enjoyed revising the different systems in the body and have started to learn about the human circulatory system. It has been a great start to the term and we are looking forward to continuing with the same enthusiasm.

World Book Day...

Wedding!!...

You may have heard that Nursery had a wedding before Half Term! Audrey proposed to Rocco and he accepted. We naturally used this opportunity to have wedding party - the children wrote invitations and dressed themselves in smart wedding clothes.

I was fortunate enough to marry the happy couple.

We wanted to share this with you earlier, but Storm Eunice got in the way and we couldn't get the Bulletin out to you on Friday 18th February.