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

Growing minds for learning, crafting skills for life

Spring Term Bulletin

Issue 23: Friday, 11th March 2022

Dear parents and carers,

I hope you have had a great week!

Curriculum

This half term we are focusing on Science in our topic lessons, and the children have been enjoying learning about plants and animals. You may be aware of some special visitors—we has some eggs delivered from Eggucation this week! We have been excited to watch 3 of the eggs hatch over the last couple of days. The children have been learning so much through this experience, and I am sure they are keen to tell you all about the chicks at home!

You can support your child's learning further by looking at our Knowledge Organisers, which can be accessed here. The Knowledge Organisers include the key knowledge that is essential for children to know throughout this unit of work. The more practice they can have the better—the knowledge is designed to support them in their learning in future years too.

Upper School have an exciting new addition to their curriculum this half term; Spanish! Years 3 - 6 have started their Spanish learning with some greetings.

Dental Hygiene

Schools are now required to teach children about dental hygiene as part of the statutory Health Education curriculum. We have been talking to the children about this in our PSHE lessons this week and today your child will come home with some free samples that we applied for. If your child is a reluctant tooth-brusher this is the perfect time to kickstart better habits!

Sports

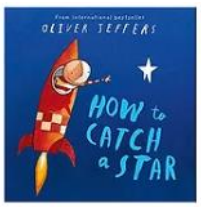
It has been another busy week for Mr Bell and our sports teams! Mr Bell has provided an update at the end of this bulletin. We are so proud once again of the children's participation. They have all demonstrated the school values and represented Ash Hill so beautifully. There was some tough competition at the events, but the teams held their own and the results were amazing!

Holiday Fines

A reminder that we cannot authorise holidays in term time, and that if pupils miss school for a holiday you may receive a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN). FPNs are issued **per child, per parent**. To avoid an FPN, please book holidays outside of term time.

School Values

At Ash Hill we believe instilling core values will prepare our pupils well for life beyond primary school. Each half term we have a focus value, and this half term we are promoting **resilience**. Resilience is such an essential component for success in all areas of life, and we hope you cam support us in developing pupils' understanding of this. We find one of the best ways to support learning is through stories, and you might want to consider using story time at home as a way to spark conversations around resilience. Some of the stories we can recommend:



We will be rewarding pupils who show resilience with green tokens this half term.

Parent and Carers Consultation Evenings

We will be holding parents meetings this half term. You will receive a letter about these closer to the time, but please mark 28th and 29th March in your diaries! We are hopeful that these events will be face to face as covid19 numbers have significantly reduced in school, however we will need to risk assess the situation closer to the date.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Manning
Headteacher

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Attendance W/c 28.02.22

Class	Attendance %	Lates
Reception	90.5	0
Year 1	94.1	4
Year 2	94.2	1
Year 3	95.0	6
Year 4	95.8	5
Year 5	94.3	4
Year 6	94.5	3

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

Year 1	13
Year 2	52
Year 3	23
Year 4	93
Year 5	60
Year 6	80

Coming Up...

Date	Event
14/03/22	Photographer visit
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 such an exciting week! We have been writing SO MUCH! We've written invitations to our parents for tea, just like in the story *The Tiger Who Came to Tea*. We've even been writing in our dens under the tables and the children have loved using the torches! We have had our sandpit open this week and we've been finding lots of buried treasure. We also have a brand new trampoline, which has been great fun! We've enjoyed using our Makaton for signs for our stories too. We visited the main school this week to see the hatching eggs! This was super exciting, and we're looking forward to seeing the chicks next week.

- **Reception** have had a great week as they have started learning about the traditional story *The Little Red Hen*. They have been learning to retell the beginning of the story and have been learning what the different actions in the story mean such as 'plant', 'water', 'grind' and 'knead'. The children enjoyed finding pictures of different actions around the classroom and performing the actions with their friends. The children have been collaging a hen and after learning the different stages of how to make bread, have used their cutting skills to make a windmill. They have investigated different grains and seeds and have planted their own seed and written instructions on how to do this. In maths, we have been combining groups of numbers and talking about addition. The children have been finding different ways to represent the numbers in their number sentences such as using dots, lines or numbers and they have been introduced to a 'part - part whole model'. Finally, the children have been really excited to visit the chick eggs and find out what an incubator is. They are looking forward to seeing what happens to the eggs and hopefully meeting the chicks next week. Click here for this week's phonics video to watch at home.

- **Year 1** have been busy this week! In Maths, we are looking at numbers to 50 and finding 1 more and 1 less. In English, we have been getting to know our model text *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* and learning about adjectives, prepositions and onomatopoeia. In Science, we have been learning about the features of a mammal. In RE, we have looked at different celebrations and in PSHE we have been learning about ways to keep parts of our body clean – our teeth and our hands. We also had a look at the chicks and saw them still in their eggs. We can't wait to see them hatch!

- **Year 2** have had a fantastic week of learning and fun. In Science, the children are developing their skills of observation and record keeping. We have been monitoring our lovely eggs and were excited to witness our first chick hatch. We have made some predictions based on this and look forward to our next observations. We also had an amazing time with zoom on the farm. The children got to see Bert the Emu, Alpacas, lots of chickens and a dog. We learned more about chicks, what they eat, how they are cared for. The children had some interesting questions which farmer Dani was happy to respond to. We've got some brilliant scientists amongst us. In Writing, the children have learned to use alliteration and adjectives to describe nouns and hook their reader. In Maths, we have learned more about the faces, edges and vertices of 3D shapes. The children enjoyed creating their own model of a 3D shape and showed great team work. I know they are eager to learn more about *Sam Wu* from our story this week—it's fantastic seeing the children's enthusiasm when reading. Some have even gotten the books to read at home! Have a brilliant weekend.

- **Year 3** have a serious problem; all their book characters are quitting! Their characters wrote to them telling them they were tired of all the adventures, ripped pages and weird storylines! We think they must have read *The Day the Crayons Quit* too! In Maths, we are becoming more confident in measuring accurately and are beginning to move onto calculation perimeter. We have loved the challenges of this unit; sometimes we have found it difficult to keep all those numbers in our head but Miss Bagguley says we have been determined and are making our way out of the learning pit. We can't wait for more Mathematical challenges (especially since our next unit is fabulous fractions!)

- It has been another amazing week in **Year 4.** I continue to hear how much progress the children are making in their swimming lessons, which is fantastic. Our English unit *Zelda and the Rain Cat* is very exciting and we have just finished learning the model text. I can't wait to see the children's innovations next week! We continue to enjoy our class text, *Varjak Paw*, and can't wait to hear what happens next. In maths we have just begun investigating fractions as decimals and have been doing lots of practical work around this area. Friday is even more fantastic than normal. Not only have we had ukulele but we have also visited the chicks! How exciting! I hope you all have a lovely, peaceful weekend.

- It's been a great week of learning in **Year 5!** In writing, we've built up our toolkit of strategies to vary sentence structure - we can use relative clauses, parenthesis, subordinating conjunctions and sentence of 3! In reading, we've dived deeper into the world of *The Shark Caller* and learnt about the setting of Papua New Guinea. We've started two science projects in our topic of life cycles to study the process of reproduction! From Year 5 - have a great weekend!

- **Year 6** have had a fabulous week of learning. In Maths they have been learning to use scale factors and solve ratio and proportion problems. Several skills from the toolkit have been practised for writing. Ask your child to tell you which literary devices they have been practising. They have been working equally hard in SPaG where they are learning to use punctuation such as semi colons, colons and dashes to mark boundaries. Science learning has also been in full flow where the children have learned about how water and nutrients are transported in our bodies. In reading the children have been learning to identify the reasons authors use particular choices of language and literary devices and the impact that it has on the reader. In addition to this they have also started to learn Spanish and now know how to say simple greetings in Spanish. Finally the girls football team had a tournament on Thursday in which they showed their best skills and stamina. We are all very proud of them. We are looking forward to another fun filled week of learning next week.

Sports Update

What an AMAZING Sporting week!! 39 children from Key Stage 2 participated within a total of 16 football matches! My cheeks ache from smiling & my voice has nearly disappeared from all the cheering and encouraging, although it was certainly worth it. Throughout this week our athletes were awarded sporting values such as; Respect, Determination, Resilience & Teamwork, echoing how superb everyone was. In terms of results, they are as follows:

Year 4 Girls (2 teams): 3rd & 4th out of 7 Schools
Year 5/6 Mixed: 3 League matches; 1-1, 0-2, 1-5.
Year 5/6 Girls (2 teams): 3rd & 6th out of 9 Schools

I am so proud of everyone; you represented our school in a phenomenal way and showcased so many lovely qualities through sport. A huge thank you to all staff who supported, attended and helped out behind the scenes; thank you all!

Onto the next one! Go Ash Hill!!!