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

Growing minds for learning, crafting skills for life

Spring Term Bulletin

Issue 27: Friday, 8th April 2022

Dear parents and carers

Once again the term seems to have passed in the blink of an eye! We've had a lovely week finishing up our spring term and celebrating the children's achievements.

Easter Bonnets

We loved having our first Easter Bonnet Parade since 2019! Thank you to everyone who supported the children in making their amazing bonnets. It was lovely to see them, and to share this special occasion with you all. Thank goodness the rain held off too! We will be holding our raffle this afternoon and everybody who entered the parade is in with the chance of winning some Easter treats. A big thank you to Miss Oakford, who donated all of the eggs we will be giving as our raffle prizes.

Learning Champions

We held my favourite assembly of the term this morning. The Learning Champions assembly is all about celebrating what we are all about—learning! The children who were nominated for this special award are pupils who have really shown their Ash Hill Let's Get Smart attitudes. They are children who always earn their blue tokens for being ready to learn, who demonstrate our school values and who consistently have a growth mindset. All our nominations were very well deserved today and everybody who was part of the assembly should feel very proud. Special congratulations go to our spring term winners— Stefan, Muhammad and Sade. Look out for their special Learning Champions polo shirts next term!

Reading

We have a much needed two week break over Easter! Please bear in mind that this is a long time for pupils—we would like to ensure they are able to 'hit the ground running' with learning in the summer term. Our Year 6 and 2 pupils will sit their SATs tests in May, the Year 4 children have the first ever Multiplication Timestables Check in June and Year 1 have their Phonics Screening Check fast approaching too. The most important thing you can do over Easter to ensure your child is ready is READ! We will send reading books home, and all pupils also have access to Reading Eggs, an engaging online reading programme. We invested in books for every child at Christmas and on World Book Day, so you may also wish to read these books over Easter if you haven't already. We recommend putting time aside for children to read every day—even five minutes will make a difference! We look forward to hearing about their reading after the break.

Nursery Spaces

We have spaces in our Nursery for September and as such we are holding an open day! This event is for anybody who is interested in a Nursery space for their 2 or 3 year old. It will take place on Thursday 28th April from 12:30 until 2pm. Please do let anybody you think may be interested know about this event.

Goodbyes

Unfortunately today we have said goodbye to Mrs Edwards, who has been teaching Year 4 this year. Mrs Edwards has been an asset to our Ash Hill team, and we know she will be missed by staff and children. I would like to thank Mrs Edwards for her hard work at Ash Hill. We wish her all the best at her next school. Miss Butt will be taking the lead with Year 4 after the Easter break—I wrote to Year 4 parents this week to explain these arrangements.

We are also saying goodbye for a while to Miss Pitt today as she is leaving us to start her maternity leave. We wish her the best of luck on her new adventure! Mrs Etharome will now be based in Year 4 full time.

Hello!

You might have noticed a new face in our school office—Mrs Anwar has joined us this week and she is taking on the role of School Administrator. We are delighted to have her on the team.

A reminder that pupils will be back in school on Tuesday 26th April. We look forward to seeing you then. Have a wonderful Easter break!

Mrs Manning

Headteacher

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Attendance W/c 28.03.22

Class	Attendance %	Lates
Reception	87.9	0
Year 1	94.0	3
Year 2	78.2	5
Year 3	94.6	8
Year 4	98.0	5
Year 5	97.0	6
Year 6	93.0	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	51
Year 2	56
Year 3	47
Year 4	51
Year 5	77
Year 6	27

Coming Up...

Date	Event
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**
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

Letters This Week

Letters are sent via Parent Mail and available on the school website

- Learning Champions assembly Zoom link
- Sports course over Easter break
- Year 1 Hot Cross Bun tasting
- Reception Stay and Play
- Easter bonnet wet weather plan
- Forest school
- Year 6 Whitemoor Lakes trip
- Year 4 summer term
- Bikes and scooters
- Supporting your child with maths
- Year 4 timestables check
- Dodger the dog visit

This Week in School...

- Nursery has had a very fun and busy week. The children have enjoyed playing with balloons and seeing how many times they could pass them to their friends without the balloons dropping! They have also been exploring bubbles and thinking about whether they are always round. This encouraged the children to talk about some simple shapes such as circle, square and triangle. The highlight of the week was thinking about the fruits the 'Hungry Caterpillar' ate and making fruit smoothies. Here, the children washed, peeled and chopped the fruits themselves before blending the ingredients into a smoothie. This generated lots of talk and we had some lovely discussions about how the smoothies tasted! Core book: The Hungry Caterpillar and Oi Dog! (introducing rhyming words) Key vocabulary: healthy, smoothie, blender, chop, wash, taste Key songs: we revisited all nursery rhymes learnt so far but this time staff left out some words for children to fill themselves!
- The **Reception** children have had an enjoyable week learning about various animals on the farm by looking at some non-fiction books. They have also been learning to retell information about the various animals, using a story map as a guide and performing actions to help them. They have been learning to match the adult farm animals with their babies and have been learning key vocabulary such as chick, piglet, lambs and puppies. They have also been using words to describe what a sheep and a cow look like and to describe the things they do e.g. a sheep eats grass. The children have especially enjoyed learning about the signs of Spring and going on a Spring walk to tick off all the things they have found. They have used scissors to cut out 2D shapes to make a picture of a pig or a sheep and have talked about the shapes they have used. They also enjoyed being creative on a whole class creation – using the information books as inspiration to draw pictures related to a farmyard and writing the words to match. Following on from last week's maths, the children have been creating their own repeated pattern using coloured cubes. They have also been using 3D shapes to print repeated patterns and have been looking at buildings such as castles, palaces and mosques and used 3D shapes and blocks to make similar models. We have also been practising counting up to 20 and back from 10. Click here for our phonics video this week.
- **Year 1** have had a good week despite the weather! In Maths, we have continued our work on length and height. In English, we have used what we have learnt to write our own journey tale. In RE, we have been learning about how Christians celebrate Easter. We took part in some Easter-themed activities, including an Easter egg hunt, decorating an Easter egg, making Easter baskets, making cards and tasting hot cross buns. We were also very lucky to have a visit from Mrs Lord and her dog, Dodger! The children prepared questions to ask Mrs Lord about how she looks after Dodger. They were also given the opportunity to pet him! Here are this week's Phonics videos:

https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/RtTZRedi/zrS5rVFd
https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/IxkLXXo7/Hz3z2yhi
https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/Q4VaK2jg/r1WCXvDw
https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/N1gcbOol/cn3F0n7Z
https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/gk46eXJu/yhfi1uzF
https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/WfoIBDJA/TLg6keXT
https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/bdvWRv4g/c80saiRe
https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/cGk544hS/iDvrzMbQ

- **Year 2** have had a great week of learning and what a fun experience it has been! In Science, our potatoes have grown significantly. What a difference a week makes in the life cycle of plants! The roots have grown and spread so far. The children described it as; noodles and strings. The mother tuber has clearly shrivelled, making way for new life. The children have continued to discuss and record their observations. In Maths, we learned to recognise half and two quarters as equivalent fractions. We also developed our knowledge in using fractions to find an amount. In Writing, the children have created some really exciting riddles. The children have worked really hard this spring term. Wishing you all a fun and relaxing spring break.
- I am so incredibly proud of my **Year 3** superstars! They have come such a long way since September and I am so proud to be their teacher! The children have developed their social skills using the school values to support them and are a true team. I am really excited for what summer term will bring for them and to see them grow even more in their learning. We are looking forward to our school trip to the Ashmolean museum in Oxford and ask that payment of £11.50 is brought in by Friday 29th April.
- **Year 4** have had a great last week of term. They have written some fantastic poems in English. I have really enjoyed reading them. In maths, we have recapped fractions of amount and word problems. Science saw us investigate further the parts of the digestive system. What an exciting end it has been with beautiful Easter bonnets and inspiring Learning Champions. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to spend time with your children. I wish you and your children all the best for the future.
- What a great week to end our Spring Term in **Year 5**! We've stretched our creative side by writing beautiful kenning-style poems about animals like the Killer Whale and the Siberian Tiger. In maths, we've shown our mastery of fractions by practising a diversity of word problems. Our science project has also really taken off; each of our plant clippings has grown roots! We've also enjoyed visiting Smart Cart, attending the Let's Get Smart Assembly and of course, celebrating our learning champions! From Year 5, have a nice and restful half term break!
- **Year 6** have had a great week revising all the key concepts they have learned in Maths and grammar. I have been particularly impressed with their 'sticky learning ' . They have had a very mature approach to their learning and have been super focused all week. We have continued with our class reader 'Skellig' and we are now wondering what will happen to Arthur Itis or the man in the garage. The children have also learned some new phrases in Spanish so please ask them all about it! Have a restful Easter break.

PARALYMPIC I-SPY MEDAL HUNT

TUESDAY 12TH APRIL
10.30-12.30 & 13.30-15.30
NATIONAL PARALYMPIC HERITAGE CENTRE

Explore the birthplace of the Paralympics. Drop-in and meet friendly staff and volunteers and let us bring Paralympic heritage to life with an I-Spy medal hunt, handling table and medal making.

Plus, get a sneek peek of our new walking trail app and learn about the history that's on your doorstep.

National Paralympic Heritage Centre, Stoke Mandeville Stadium,
Guttmann Road, Aylesbury, HP21 9PP www.paralympicheritage.org.uk

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