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

Growing minds for learning, crafting skills for life

Summer Term Bulletin

Issue 29: Friday, 6th May 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you have had a great week. We were very pleased to see the sunshine making an appearance today! Eid Mubarak to all of our families who have celebrated this week.

Year 6 SATs Tests
Next week our Year 6 children will take their SATs tests. These tests are an opportunity for the children to show their learning from all of Key Stage 2 (years 3 to 6). We are very proud of our children and we know they are going to be fantastic! If your child is in Year 6, please reassure them that these tests are nothing to worry about. They are simply an assessment to consider what pupils have learned during their time at primary school, and all that is expected from them is to try their best. The results will be shared with you in your child's end of year report. We also use the results to consider how effective our work with the pupils has been, and to plan for improvement in the future. We know children are able to perform their best when they are calm, relaxed and happy, and as such we will be offering a free breakfast to all Year 6 children from 8am Monday - Thursday next week. We sent a letter about this yesterday.

FOAH
On behalf of Year 6 I'd like to extend a big thank you to FOAH, who are funding special leavers' hoodies for all of Year 6 as a gift at the end of their time at Ash Hill. This is such a generous gesture and we know these hoodies mean a lot to the children. Year 6 parents will have received a letter about this - please respond asap to ensure your child doesn't miss out on this special opportunity.

Attendance

A reminder that our attendance target is 97%. This school year we have again seem some covid19 disruption, however the restrictions have now been lifted and self-isolation expectations have also been reduced. I wrote a letter to all parents this week to explain the new guidelines. Due to this change, we expect that the majority of pupils will now be able to meet the 97% expectation again. Please do contact us if you are experiencing any challenges with attendance. There is a significant impact on progress and attainment for pupils with low attendance, and we will so all that we can to support in improving attendance where there are concerns.

Reading
Over the past few years we have worked hard to strengthen our reading offer at Ash Hill, and as a result we have seen many pupils change their perspectives on reading. We know that children who enjoy reading and read regularly make better progress in all areas, and we place reading at the heart of our curriculum. We regularly discuss books with children, have built a new library and we work hard with pupils who say they don't enjoy reading to change their minds! We are pleased with the progress we have made, but we know there are still some reluctant readers and those who need support with reading. For pupils to be confident, fluent readers who enjoy reading, it is important that reading is continued at home. We expect all pupils to read every day at home. We know it can be tricky to fit this in, but even 5 minutes will help! Please do make time for your child to read every day. If you need help with supporting them with reading, or you are not sure what books to read, or you have any other reading related question, please do not hesitate to get in touch! A reminder to our younger readers - we regularly share phonics videos in this bulletin, so have a look at the Class News section for the links to these.
Have a wonderful weekend!

Best wishes
Mrs Manning
Headteacher

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Attendance W/c 25/04/22

Class	Attendance %	Lates
Reception	94.0	1
Year 1	97.1	7
Year 2	93.5	0
Year 3	96.7	7
Year 4	95.8	5
Year 5	93.5	2
Year 6	90.0	3

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	61
Year 2	45
Year 3	33
Year 4	84
Year 5	117
Year 6	29

Coming Up...

Date	Event
29/04/22	Violin teaching starts for Years 2 & 3
09/05/22	YEAR 6 SATs week
19/05/22	Farm coming in to visit Nursery and Reception
19/05/22	Census Day
25/05/22	Year 3 trip to the Ashmolean museum
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
	INSET DAYS - 2022/2023 02/09/22 05/09/22 04/01/2023 17/04/2023 21/07/2023

Letters this week ...

- Census Day Menu
- Covid19 Current Guidance letter
- FOAH Hoodies letter (Year 6 only)
- Year 6 SATs (Year 6 only)

This Week in School...

Nursery:
Nursery have had a fantastic week continuing to think about the story 'The Enormous Turnip' as well as listening to other stories about vegetables, such as Oliver's Vegetables and some non-fiction books. The children have enjoyed retelling the story and making up their own versions. They have also continued to have fun outside in our garden centre, as well as using this opportunity to plant their own sunflowers. Many children are becoming more interested in making marks and several are beginning to write some letters from their name! This week we learned the sound 'm' and had fun writing it in some coloured sand. *Our resources are running low for play dough making and we would welcome any donations plain flour and salt donations! Thank you*
Core book: The Enormous Turnip
Key vocabulary: man, wife, enormous, vegetable, pull, push

Key songs; Dingle dangle scarecrow, I dig my garden

Reception:

The Reception children have had a lovely week continuing to learn about the traditional story Little Red Riding Hood. They have been able to retell and perform the story using the story map and actions and in their work this week have been working hard to use descriptive language and to use a capital letter at the beginning, finger spaces between words and a full stop at the end of their sentences. The children especially enjoyed our walk to the woods on Tuesday and found some interesting objects from the story such as some red wool and a piece of red cloth from Little Red Riding Hoods cloak. The children wrote a recount of their trip to the woods and enjoyed acting out the story in groups. The children have created a whole class story map with pictures and words from the story and also created maps of their trip to the woods. In maths this week, the children have been estimating how many objects they can see – by making 'sensible' guesses and have been putting them on 10 frames to check how many. They have also been ordering numbers to 20 – from the smallest number to the biggest.

Phonics Link - https://schools.ruthmiskin.com/training/view/VdNZCtTv/P7lv3XUi

Year 1:

Year 1 have had another busy week. In English, we have been learning our new text map. In Maths, we have been

Year 2:

The children have had a lovely week of learning. In Geography, we learned to identify features of the UK seaside. We also explored both human and physical features of the seaside. The children found this very fascinating. In Maths, applied our knowledge of the four operations to calculate length and height. We are also developing our skills and vocabulary in describing position and direction. In Reading, we worked on fiction and non-fiction texts, working on understanding words in context, making inference and predicting based on what we have read. In Writing, we learned to make our writing by using adjectives. We also learned to add more information to writing through the use of conjunctions. Well done year 2 for all your hard work and enthusiasm to learn more!

Year 3:

Year 3 have been placing different types of fractions on a number line this week. We have focussed on splitting the line into equal parts and learning some key rules to help us in our learning journey. In English, we have been creating good and naughty characters. We have performed some conversations in character to help us learn about speech marks (and show off our dramatic flair!) We have really been enjoying our history unit about Ancient Egyptians! Did you know that Ancient Egyptian police used baboons to help them capture criminals?!

Year 4:

Year 4: We have explored the purpose and effect of similes and personification this week in English and practiced writing some of our own examples. In maths, we have ordered, compared and rounded decimals to the nearest whole number. We have learnt some new maths vocabulary such as ascending, descending and integer! In our new book in reading, we have met some new characters and practised making inferences and working out the meaning of new words using clues. We loved using instruments in our first topic lesson with Mrs Manning this week too!

Year 5:

It's been a great week in Year 5. In writing, we've created a toolkit of features to write a defeating the monster tale - such as that of the tyrannical Grendel and heroic Beowulf. In maths, we've practised comparing and ordering decimals as well as rounding decimals. We can round to the nearest whole number and tenth. In history, we learnt about the brutal raid of Lindisfarne in 793 and the poor unsuspecting monks who were victim to the pillaging. From Year 5 - have a great weekend.

Year 6:

Year 6 have been extremely busy this week revising for their upcoming SATs starting next week. I am so proud of them all and how hard they have been trying to recall the facts and knowledge they have learned not only in Year 6 but throughout Key Stage 2. They are showing many of our school values such as resilience and determination and we are all delighted to see how responsible the children are becoming in taking ownership of their learning. We all wish them the best of luck for next week and we know they will do fabulously well in their assessments.

Update from Lee Bell—Sports Coach

Last Friday our Year 6 class ventured to the Wycombe Squash Centre to explore the game Squash. Our athletes were challenged in various aspects within the game and they soon realised how quickly this sport is played. Numerous Squash coaches mentioned how positively pleased they were with our Year 6's, especially with their enthusiasm to improve and develop. The feedback from our class was also positive with phrases such as "can we come back"?, "that was awesome" & "I love that game". We are looking into returning during the summer. Please do take a look at their website as Wycombe Squash Centre are launching a programme called 'Squash Stars', a way to get involved within the sport at a discounted price.
www.wycombesquash.co.uk/squash-stars