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

Growing minds for learning, crafting skills for life

Autumn Term Bulletin

Issue 06: Friday, 16th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Happy Friday!

Moving On

I wrote to you yesterday to share the news that I am moving on from Ash Hill at the end of December. I will be sharing this with pupils in this afternoon's assembly. As I stated in the letter, there is still lots to do before then! I will continue to be the lead at Ash Hill until the end of term and I share any updates about who will be taking on the role next term as soon as I am able to.

Half Term

A reminder that the half term break starts on Monday 26th October. Children return to school on Tuesday 3rd November. Please be aware that we cannot authorise any absences from school for holidays, so it is important to ensure that any travelling is booked within the holiday period.

Secondary School

A huge well done to all of our Year 6 pupils on their 11+ results this year, and congratulations to those pupils who have qualified for grammar school. Please be aware that secondary school applications must be completed by the end of this month. It is vital that you apply for secondaries; if you do not apply in time your child is unlikely to be given a space at your preferred school. We have further information about secondary transfer available here.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Best Wishes

Mrs Manning
Headteacher

Attendance W/C 05/10/2026

Class	Attendance %	Lates
Reception	92	2
Year 1	93.6	4
Year 2	95.8	4
Year 3	92.5	2
Year 4	94.7	4
Year 5	98	2
Year 6	94.8	1

Hero—Here Everyday, Ready On time!

100%	Excellent
96-99.9%	Good
90-95.9%	Needs to improve
88.9% or less	Really needs to improve

Coming Up...

Diary Dates 2026/2027		
DATE	**EVENT**	**Year groups**
19.10.2026	Year 4 Trip to Verulamium Roman Museum	4
20.10.2026	Year 3 Group 1 Forest School Last session	3 (Group 1)
21.10.2026	Year 5 Swimming	5
October Half Term: 23.10.2026 - 30.10.2026		
02.11.2026	INSET DAY (school closed to all pupils)	
03.11.2026 (Weekly)	Year 3 Group 2 Forest School Starts	3 (Group 2)
04.11.2026	Flu Immunisation Drop in with School Nursing Team	For all, at pickup time
09.11.2026	School Photos	
09.11.2026	Parents & Carers Consultation Evening	
10.11.2026	Parents & Carers Consultation Evening	
14.10.2026	Reception 2027 Open Day (1.30pm)	
18.11.2026	Reception 2027 Open Day (1.30pm)	
18.11.2026	Flu Immunisations	R-6
19.11.2026	Reception 2027 Open Day (9.30am)	
26.11.2026	Year 1 Trip to Hughenden Manor	1
08.12.2026	Year 3 Group 2 Forest School Last Session	3 (Group 2)
Christmas & New Year Break: 21.12.2026 - 01.01.2027		
07.06.2027	INSET DAY (school closed to all pupils)	
19.07.2027	INSET DAY (school closed to all pupils)	
20.07.2027	INSET DAY (school closed to all pupils)	
21.07.2027	INSET DAY (school closed to all pupils)	

Letters Home This week:

- A Message from Mrs Manning
- Annual flu vaccinations (inc NHS Consent Forms to be completed)

This Week in School....

Reception

This week, we have been learning our new phonemes: h, b, f and l. We have continued practising blending CVC words, and the children are becoming more confident in sounding out and blending words together.

We are also learning a new tricky word each week. So far, we have learnt I, is, the. Please keep practising these at home as well as the old and new phonemes, to help build confidence and recognition.

In maths, we have been reinforcing our subitising skills — recognising how many objects there are without counting them one by one. We have been using dot pictures and dominoes to practise this skill. We have also been exploring auditory patterns by listening carefully to sounds. For example, the children have been listening to taps played on a musical instrument and working out how many they can hear. This is a fun way to develop listening skills and number recognition!

The children have thoroughly enjoyed our story of The Gingerbread Man! This week, we used picture cards to see if we could sequence the story in the correct order. We have also had lots of opportunities to draw and talk about our own stories.

Outside, we have been busy exploring with both large and small construction equipment. We have also been developing our gross motor skills by pedalling bicycles and riding scooters.

Well done, Reception! We look forward to another exciting week of learning next week.

Year 1

This week in Year 1, we have been adapting the story of The Three Little Pigs. We have planned our own stories based on the original tale and will be using our plans to write our stories independently.

In maths, we have been exploring part-whole models and learning how to use them to write number sentences.

In PSHE, we discussed what our classroom looks like when we are following the rules and learning at our best. We thought about how we can help to create a positive learning environment for everyone.

In science, we explored our sense of smell by smelling different items and trying to guess what they were.

In geography, we looked at different symbols on a map and discussed what they mean. We then had a go at designing our own symbols that could be used on a map.

Have a lovely weekend!

Year 2

Another fantastic week in Year 2!

In English, we have been practising our sequencing skills and exploring different types of villains in preparation for our independent stories. The children have been investigating what makes an interesting villain and collecting exciting adjectives and ambitious vocabulary to help bring their characters and settings to life. We are looking forward to seeing their imaginations shine in their own writing!

Our phonics sessions are going well, and we have continued practising our Year 2 Common Exception Words to help us become more confident and accurate spellers.

In Maths, we have continued our work on addition, including adding three 1-digit numbers, using base 10 equipment to support our calculations and revisiting our number bonds to 10. Why not ask your child to tell you some of their number bonds to 10 and explain how knowing these facts can help them with addition?

In PSHE, we have explored our Learning Charter, discussing how we can work together to create a positive classroom where everyone feels safe, respected and ready to learn.

We have also kick-started our new handwriting programme! The children have been introduced to Bounce and Skip, which will help them develop their letter formation, spacing and overall handwriting presentation.

Well done, Year 2, for another brilliant week of hard work and learning

Year 3

What a wonderful week we have had in Year 3!

In English, we have been exploring our text and practising the skills from our writing toolkit to help us become confident and creative writers. In maths, we have begun learning column addition, and Miss North is so impressed with the resilience, determination and positive attitudes the children have shown as they tackle this new challenge!

In art, we continued sewing onto our painted canvases, and the children's creations are looking fantastic. In science, we explored the different types of joints in the human body and discovered how they help us move in different ways. We have also enjoyed our handwriting practice, Spanish lessons and weekly spellings.

Well done, Year 3, for another fantastic week of learning and for continuing to show such enthusiasm and perseverance in everything we do.

Have a lovely weekend!

Year 4

Year 4 have been tackling tests this week with a good sense of responsibility to show what they know. Things have been adding up in Maths with column addition and exchanging 10s, 100s and 1000s as well as answering tricky word problems.

We have been travelling through portals in our Writing lessons to faraway planets and even back in time to the Great Fire of London. Exciting stories to follow next week.

In D.T, we started to plaster our wire models with Mod-roc which is gloriously messy and fun to wrap bandages around the sculptures. In History, we have been exploring the reasons why the Romans invaded Britain just in time for our trip to Verulamium on Monday.

Drumming returned to the hall on Thursday in Music with some varied rhythms and beats. Collecting data on the living things on our school site rounded off a great week.

Don't forget your packed lunch and coat for Monday's trip back to Roman times. Keep up the reading and TT rockstars as Year 4 were deserved champions in the Upper School Battle.

Great work team!

Year 5

Year 5 have been working extremely hard this week, especially so as they've been having their termly assessments. They have shown a lot resilience, hard work and determination during these and should be proud of themselves.

In Art, the children have been continuing painting the backgrounds for their zines based on the story of Mowgli which they rehearsed in English at the beginning of the term.

In Maths, their learning has focused on creating Maths stories using multiplication and division facts as well as beginning to find common multiples.

Their independent writing on defeating the monster is well under way and some of the vocabulary being produced is inspiring!

Year 6

After our fantastic residential trip, it's back to reality in Year 6 this week. I was so impressed with the whole class and how they represented Ash Hill in such a positive way.

In Maths, we have been focusing on square/cube numbers and column multiplication. Whilst in English we have moved on to our shared writing phase. The class have been coming up with some excellent ideas and vocabulary writing about an abandoned cottage.

Our Science learning has been looking at how we classify plants based on their observable characteristics and in RE we have been understanding more about the life of Jesus.

I hope that you all have an enjoyable and restful weekend.

Holiday Activities

Tickets can be purchased at tickets.wwfc.com

Holiday Activities

The Riverside Community & Exservicemen's Club Ltd
Legion Hall
St Mary street
High Wycombe
HP11 2HE
Tel 01494 448800 / 01494 532158