



AYSCOUGHFEE HALL SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER: 03/10/25

I have really enjoyed reading in the newsletter this week about all the practical and exciting activities the children have been taking part in to enrich their learning. There have been trips out, house building, worm collecting and porridge tasting to name but a few! Also, lots of practical science lessons which have included chocolate melting, smell investigations, dissolving investigations and the creation of periscopes! All of these activities bring the children's learning to life and develop their curiosity and love of learning. Well done everyone, it is so rewarding to see you all so busy and involved in your lessons.

Thank you to everyone for your support at the school disco last Friday, a wonderful total was raised and all funds go towards making the school the vibrant and exciting learning environment it is.

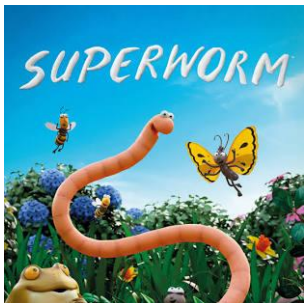
KINDERGARTEN

This week in Kindergarten, we have been reading 'The Three Little Pigs'. Lots of us know it already and we are doing a super job of helping to read the story. We've also been hard at work trying to build our own houses. I wonder if any of these would survive the big bad wolf and all his huffing and puffing!



RECEPTION

Reception have had a very exciting week of learning and discovery! While digging in the garden in search of Superworm, the main character in our Drawing Club this week, we were amazed to find real potatoes hiding in the soil. Inspired by the story, we worked together to create a giant chalk drawing of Superworm. In maths the fun continued when we designed our own repeating pattern caterpillar friends for Superworm. We used playdough, beads, counters and cubes to help us and added them to our maths working wall. In PSHE, we thought carefully about what makes a good friend and shared all the reasons why we love and care for the friends in our class. What a wonderful week of exploring, creating and kindness!



YEAR 1

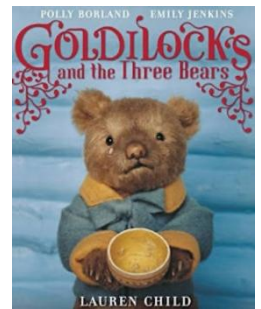


We have had another lovely week in year 1. We've been learning lots in our science lessons about the human body and the five senses! In this lesson, the children had to guess the different smells in each jar and then write down what they thought they were. The children enjoyed doing this and it was a fun lesson! The children had to guess from different objects which included toothpaste, pickle and vinegar. A lot of the children were able to correctly identify the objects by smelling them. We then also discussed which of the smells we liked and which ones we didn't, the pickle was not a popular smell in the class!

YEAR 2



When the children entered the classroom on Monday morning, they noticed straight away the 3 bowls of porridge at the front of the room. After some investigation we worked out that they were there because over the next few weeks we are going to be using the well-known story 'Goldilocks and the 3 Bears' in our English lessons. We have enjoyed listening to the version by Lauren Child this week and have had lots of opportunities for writing throughout the week. We enjoyed going outside to practise forming sentences using both coordinating and subordinating conjunctions. In maths we have started the addition and subtract unit of work and the children have been showing off their knowledge of number bonds to 10 and 20. In geography we are working hard to learn the tricky names of the continents and oceans of the world as well as the countries and capital cities in the UK. The children are currently researching one of the countries in the UK so they can become some super tour guides later in the term. Another general week Year 2, well done.



YEAR 3



Year 3 had a busy, fun week, however, one of the highlights was the visit to Flag Fen Archaeology Park. In the morning, the children tried their hand at being field archaeologists. They worked on the timeline of prehistory and helped our instructor Sam sort artefacts into Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age baskets. The children were fascinated to learn that they were holding items that had been used by people thousands of years ago! Afterwards, they made clay pots using the same techniques that the Celts would have used. After lunch, the children were taken on a tour of the site. They visited the remains of the mysterious Bronze Age causeway, created by the Celts around 3000 years ago and learned about the discovery of prehistoric boats at Must Farm - some of which are kept safely in the giant "fridge" at Flag Fen.

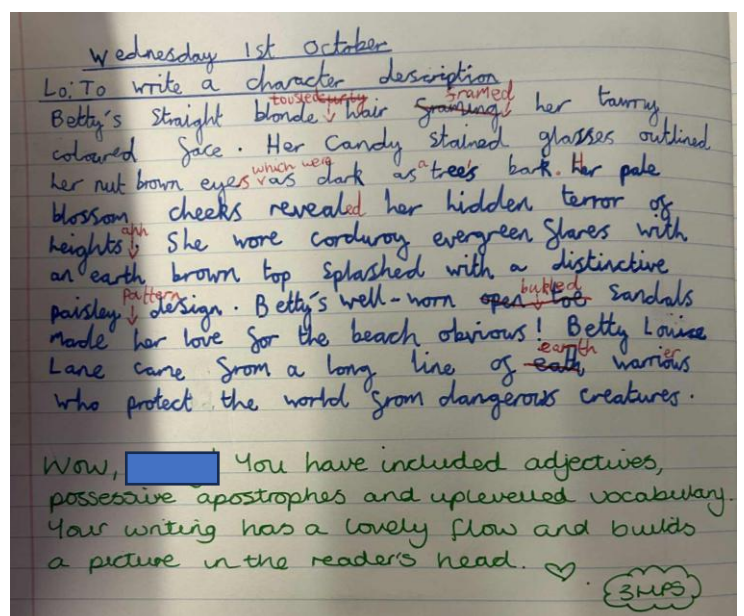


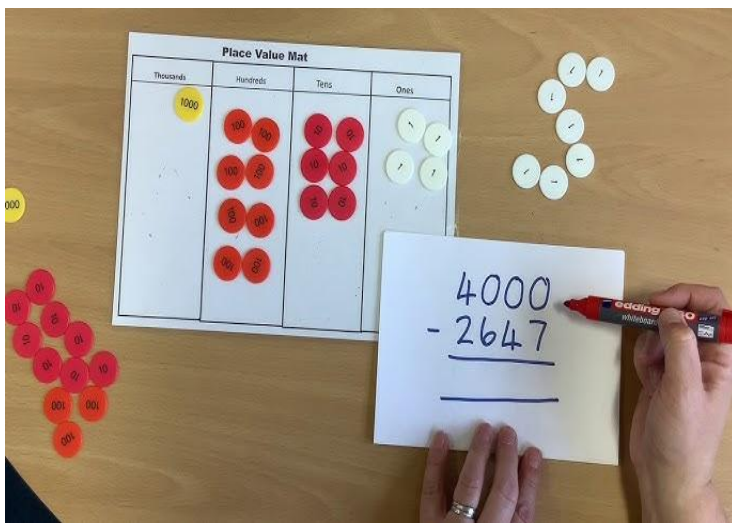
The children also explored how people lived in the Stone Age and Bronze Age, discovering what they ate, how they decorated their homes and how they travelled across the fens. To finish the day, the children gathered inside the roundhouse where their wonderful guide, Sam, told them a story. It was the perfect ending to a day full of hands-on history, helping Year 3 step back in time and imagine life in prehistoric Britain.



YEAR 4

The children have been busy planning their own independent quest narratives, brimming with adventure and imagination. They have explored exciting settings, from the bustling stalls of a Moroccan desert market to the mysterious depths of a hidden beach cave in Spain. Some quests lead high into the snowy peaks of the Himalayas, while others dive deep into the lush greenery of the Amazon Rainforest. Each child has been creating heroes, challenges and magical discoveries, ready to take their readers on an unforgettable journey.





This week in maths, the children have been busy developing their understanding of addition and subtraction. They have been practising finding 1, 10, 100 and 1000 more or less than a given number, using place value charts and counters to help them visualise and secure their understanding. These practical resources have really supported their confidence with larger numbers. The next step in their learning journey will be to apply this knowledge to the formal written method, where they will begin mastering exchanging to solve more complex problems.

YEAR 5

This week in maths, the children have been working hard on a range of White Rose Infinity quizzes to consolidate their understanding of place value. They've shown brilliant determination when tackling different challenges and have been using a variety of classroom equipment, such as number lines and place value charts, to support their learning. It's been fantastic to see their growing confidence as they explain their thinking and apply their knowledge to different problems and situations.

In English, the children have been busy drafting their own version of the story 'The Lost Thing' by Shaun Tan. They've enjoyed adding their own creative twists to the narrative to make it unique and personal, thinking carefully about how to develop their ideas. We've also focused on using a range of grammatical features such as speech, openers and conjunctions to help their writing flow and make their stories engaging to the reader.

During our curriculum lessons, the children have become budding scientists by designing their own dissolving experiments. They explored different ingredients such as sugar and salt, as well as making predictions about which would dissolve in water. This led to lots of interesting discussions about what happens when substances dissolve and how factors like water temperature can affect the speed of dissolving. It's been great to see their curiosity and scientific thinking grow through hands-on investigation and discovery.



YEAR 6

This week, The Year 6 children have been busy exploring light and all the ways it behaves! They've been investigating reflection and learning how different surfaces can change how light bounces. One of the highlights was making a class periscope to see how mirrors can change the direction of light. They even designed their own periscopes to explore how reflections are used in everyday life. The children also had fun investigating concave and convex mirrors, carrying out mini experiments and using what they discovered to draw conclusions.



In English, the children have been creating fantastic setting descriptions, working hard to include figurative language that really brings their writing to life. Their creativity and attention to detail have been wonderful to see! In Maths, they've been sharpening their skills with formal methods of multiplication, exploring square and cube numbers and using the rules of divisibility to investigate the properties of numbers. They have also been continuing to develop their understanding of India and have been looking at the key physical and human features of the different regions. Well done, Year 6 – lots to be proud of this week.

ECO CLUB



The Eco Club enjoyed a productive evening in the garden and polytunnel this week. Members harvested the final crop of tomatoes, lifted potatoes and gathered red onions and carrots. The highlight of the session was planting strawberry runners, which we hope will grow into healthy new plants and produce lots more strawberries. With a bit of luck, we may even have some ready to sell at the Christmas Fayre!



LANGUAGES

This week, our languages curriculum has been rich with cultural exploration and linguistic development across all year levels. In the Infant classes, the focus has been on developing early communication skills in Spanish, specifically around the theme of feelings and emotions. Pupils have been learning to express how they are feeling using simple yet meaningful vocabulary such as *feliz* (happy), *triste* (sad), and *cansado/a* (tired). These lessons not only build foundational language structures but also support emotional literacy, encouraging children to identify and articulate their emotions with confidence. Learning has been supported through a range of interactive and play-based activities, including songs, storytelling and role play. In addition, number-based games were incorporated to consolidate numeracy skills in a linguistic context, making for an engaging and holistic learning experience.



Our Junior students have embarked on a cultural and geographical journey through France, with a particular focus on the city of Paris. Using maps and visual aids, pupils have explored major landmarks and places of interest, while simultaneously developing the language needed to give and understand directions in French. This work has been further enriched by discussions about cultural significance and the importance of location-specific vocabulary. A key grammatical focus this week has been on understanding the concept of gender in the French language—particularly masculine and feminine noun endings.

SPORTS NEWS

FIXTURE REMINDERS TO PARENTS WATCHING HOME FIXTURES ON THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL FIELD :

Please ensure that you arrive as close to the start time or earlier if possible due to Safeguarding and security of the site. If for some reason you arrive later it is not always possible to allow entry through the gate as the teachers will be fully involved in the fixture and not available to release the security catches.

U8 U9 Tag Rugby AHS v St Hugh's 01/10/25

The rain and cloud cleared leaving lovely conditions for Rugby. Our Year 3 and 4 pupils mixed to make two well balanced teams. Both teams played strongly and produced good play and strong results against developing St Hugh's teams. The boys were unselfish in their play and tries were scored by Y3 and Y4 pupils alike. Communication was effective with some excellent passages of the teams working together with flowing rugby. All our boys showed good sports values and improved their play and confidence over the fixture. Thanks go to all who took part and to the parents who supported our teams.



Bright Beginnings – Toddler Group

Just as a reminder to all parents and especially to those with younger siblings, please remember we have our Toddler Group which runs once a week in the School Hall on a Friday morning from 10am – 11.30am. Join us with your little ones for a warm welcome and a fun playtime. Toys, stories, singing and activities for all ages up to 3 years old. Enjoy a hot drink and a snack for the children in a friendly space. £4 per child. Everyone is welcome so please tell your friends.



GARDENING TOOLS NEEDED



If any parents have unwanted spare gardening hand tools they would like to donate to our forest garden and club, please drop them into the school office. We are also in need of big spades or forks for larger garden projects. Thank you in advance for your support.

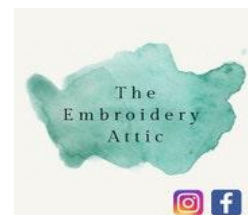
REMINDERS FOR NEXT WEEK:

- **MONDAY 6TH OCTOBER – RECEPTION SUPERHERO DAY**
Reception children can come to school dressed as a superhero.
- **TUESDAY 7TH OCTOBER – HARVEST FESTIVAL – 9AM IN THE SCHOOL HALL – PARENTS WELCOME SEE THE ATTACHED**
- **TUESDAY 7TH OCTOBER – ACT 2 WORKSHOPS IN SCHOOL – YEAR 3 / YEAR 4 / YEAR 6 PUPILS**
- **WEDNESDAY 8TH OCTOBER – ACT 2 WORKSHOPS IN SCHOOL – YEAR 5 PUPILS**
- **FRIDAY 10TH OCTOBER – YOUNG MINDS ‘HELLO YELLOW’ DAY – SEE THE ATTACHED LETTER**
On this day, children are invited to come to school in non-uniform and wear something yellow to show their support. To make the day extra special we also encourage children to bring a yellow piece of fruit for their snack such as a banana, pineapple or melon.
- **FRIDAY 10TH OCTOBER – ONLINE SAFETY WORKSHOPS IN SCHOOL – YEAR 2 TO YEAR 6 PUPILS 9AM – 3PM**



THE EMBROIDERY ATTIC – SCHOOL UNIFORM SUPPLIER

Should you have any queries at all please do not hesitate to contact Laura on 01775 712644 or via the website info@theembroideryattic.com



PTFA NEWS

The PTFA would like to invite any parents to join the “Ayscoughfee Hall School PTFA” Facebook & Instagram page. These pages are private groups used by the PTFA to keep parents up to date on any news and events.



Thank you to everyone who joined us for our ‘Welcome Back Disco’ last Friday night. We made over **£1000**, what a fantastic start to the school year!

DATES FOR THE DIARY:

COSY FRIDAYS – PTFA members will be selling hot chocolate at the end of the school day every Friday starting today (3rd October).



***CHANGE OF PTFA DATES: CHRISTMAS FAIR – is now on Friday 28th November – 5pm – 7pm (further details to be confirmed)**



Dates for Your Diary

October	
Mon 6 th	Reception Superhero Day – (Reception children come in dressed as a Superhero.
Tues 7 th	Harvest Festival – parents invited – 9am ACT 2 in school workshops for Year 5 / Year 6 – 1.20pm – 3.20pm
Wed 8 th	Away Fixture: U10 / U11 Netball at Peterborough – starts 2.30pm ACT 2 in school workshops for Year 3 / Year 4 – 10am – 12noon Away Fixture: U10 / U11 Netball at Peterborough – starts 2.30pm
Fri 10 th	Young Minds ' Hello Yellow day ' – see the attached letter for details Online Safety workshops in school – Year 2 to Year 6 pupils – 9am – 3pm
Wed 15 th	Interhouse – Year 1 / Year 2 games (pupils will need PE kit in school along with house t-shirts on the day)
Thurs 16 th	Interhouse – Junior Interhouse Netball/Rugby (pupils will need PE kit in school along with house t-shirts on the day)
Fri 17 th	Pink Day Last day of term
Mon 20th – Fri 31st	HALF TERM BREAK

STARS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to this week's **STARS** who are;

Kindergarten: Bertie
Reception: Arijus
Year 1: Harrison
Year 2: Ralph
Year 3: Azra
Year 4: Oscar
Year 5: Rehna
Year 6: Theo



Kindness Awards: Elliott (Infant) Mr Scott (Junior)

Headteachers Award: Year 5

Golden Dustpan Award: Year 2

We have the following birthdays coming up:

5th October – Azra

6th October – Miss Davies

Best wishes,

Mrs Wright