



# AYSCOUGHFEE HALL SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER: 27/02/26

Dear Parents,

There is no better way to start the day than a class assembly and our Year 3 children certainly did not disappoint this morning. We were treated to a fantastic display of Romans versus Celts, beautifully voiced and acted by the Year 3 class, not only giving us a perfect demonstration of all they have learned on the subject, but also a few giggles along the way. Thank you, Year 3, I'm sure the whole audience will agree with me that it was spectacular!

It has been lovely to welcome the children back this week after the half-term break, and with lighter nights (and mornings), a little sunshine and the first signs of Spring emerging, we are all looking forward to the terms ahead.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

### KINDERGARTEN



We have really enjoyed a sunnier start to this term in Kindergarten and have been able to do much more outdoor learning which we all love. We have begun a new topic exploring animals and this week's story is 'The Zoo Vet'. We've explored some weird and wonderful reasons different animals might visit the vet in Drawing Club and the children have loved playing vets. We are also off to a great start in our PE lessons, with budding gymnasts rolling, climbing and flying through the air!



### RECEPTION



The sunshine has certainly been on our side this week and we've been making the very most of it with lots of outdoor learning and fresh air fun. We've taken our learning outside whenever we could, exploring, investigating and staying active in the lovely weather. In phonics, we've been practising our blending skills to read action words. The children have loved reading words like jump, spin, hop and clap and then immediately doing the action. Active phonics has meant plenty of giggles as we read, blend and move. It's been fantastic to see their confidence growing as they independently sound out and read words before showing us the action.

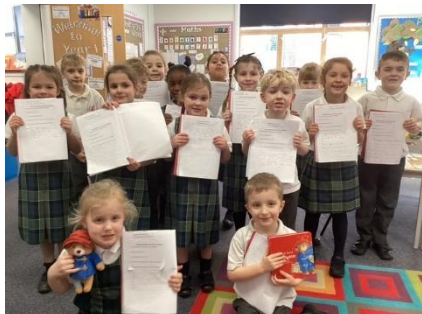
In maths, we've been exploring measures using both standard and non-standard methods. The children have measured using cubes to compare lengths and heights and have also been introduced to rulers and metre sticks, talking about centimetres and how we measure carefully from the start of the line. There has been lots of practical investigation as we measured outdoor equipment, chalk and even Gerald the Giraffe.



Drawing Club has been a big hit as we continue our reading of *The Zoo Vet*. The children are thoroughly enjoying the story and learning about the days of the week as we follow along. We've been talking about how to care for animals and exploring the specialist equipment a vet might use. The children have impressed us with their thoughtful ideas about looking after animals and keeping them healthy.



## YEAR 1



It has been lovely having the children back this week and they have done such amazing things! All the children enjoyed their first swimming session back this term and it has been lovely to see how well they have all been doing. We have a new role play area in our classroom, which is a florist shop. The children have loved playing in it and have made lots of beautiful flowers, linking nicely to our science topic about plants and their different parts. This week in science we explored the different types of plants there are and grouped plants into trees and flowers. The children were able to use their prior knowledge to describe the differences and they could use our key vocabulary as well.



In English we are focusing on the text '*Paddington*'. The children have loved reading this book and we have been discussing the key events as a class. The children have been able to produce fantastic sentences by sequencing the events and have been focusing on their handwriting to produce very neat

work! The children have thoroughly enjoyed creating their own story map for the book and they were able to draw amazing pictures of the events that happened. Some of the children even challenged themselves to write sentences to describe what was happening and they included lots of writing techniques such as adjectives!

## YEAR 2



Year Two have returned from the holidays full of excitement and enthusiasm for learning! This week, we have begun our new geography topic on China. The children loved using atlases to locate the continent, the country and then exploring cities and rivers within China. They engaged in a variety of activities to kickstart their learning about this fascinating country.



In maths, we have started our topic on length and height. The children enjoyed using rulers and metre sticks to measure different objects around the classroom in centimetres and metres, developing their practical measuring skills. They then had to order the objects using the connected vocabulary of long, longer, longest and short, shorter and shortest.



In English, we have started reading *Meerkat Mail*, which will be our focus for the next couple of weeks. The children are already enjoying the story and are excited to explore the adventures of the meerkat.

We are looking forward to a fun and productive term ahead!



## YEAR 3

What a fantastic start to the second half of the Spring term from all the children! Year 3 have enthusiastically begun their exciting new topic, "Rainforests."

In English, the children explored the key features of non-chronological reports and developed their understanding of how to use possessive apostrophes correctly in their writing. In Maths, fractions have been our focus. The children learned about unit and non-unit fractions and practised comparing them through a range of practical activities. We even explored fractions in the most hands-on (and delicious!) way possible-by cutting pizzas into equal parts. Who knew that slicing a pizza could help us become fraction experts?



In Geography, we have been using atlases to locate and identify countries around the world that contain rainforest regions, developing our map-reading skills along the way.

Alongside this, Year 3 have also been busy preparing and rehearsing a class assembly all about the Romans and Celts in Britannia. The children have been learning about how the Romans invaded Britain, how the Celts lived and what life was like during this fascinating period of history. They have worked incredibly hard to practise their lines and performances and we are very proud of their confidence and teamwork. A lovely, productive and busy first week back!

## YEAR 4



In Mathematics, Year 4 have been learning all about fractions. The children can now confidently identify proper and improper fractions and understand the difference between them. We have also been working on mixed numbers, and the class have practised comparing and ordering mixed numbers using visual models and reasoning skills. It has been great to see pupils growing in confidence and explaining their thinking using correct mathematical vocabulary.

In English, Year 4 have jumped headfirst into the world of Hiccup in *How to Train Your Dragon*. We have read the first three chapters and have been getting to know the characters in more depth. The children have been inferring characters' personalities and emotions, carefully justifying their ideas with evidence from the text. There has been some excellent discussion, thoughtful reasoning and growing confidence when explaining answers during reading lessons.



In History, we have been researching what Anglo-Saxons and Vikings wore and how they dyed their clothing using natural dyes. The children learned that clothes were made from sheep's wool, animal skins and other natural materials, which were also used to create shoes. Did you know that people in Anglo-Saxon and Viking times loved to wear brooches and used belts to attach pouches and weapons? Coming up next, we will be dyeing our own wool and using it to create a beautiful woven piece, linking our History learning with hands-on creativity.



In PSHE, we have started our Healthy Me topic using the Jigsaw scheme. This week, we focused on 'My Friends and Me', where the children discussed different types of friendships, how they met their friends and how these relationships have grown and developed over time. The class shared thoughtful ideas and showed great maturity when reflecting on what makes a positive and healthy friendship.

## YEAR 5

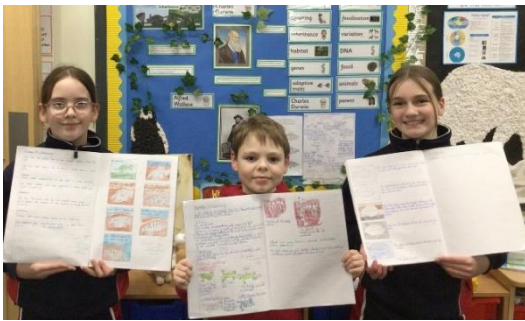
This week in maths, the children completed a range of challenges focusing on numbers with two decimal places. They explored place value, compared and ordered decimals and applied their knowledge to problem-solving tasks. As part of an active learning challenge, they drew number representations on the playground to deepen their understanding before being tested on a range of decimal numbers. This practical approach helped to strengthen both confidence and accuracy.

In English, the children have been developing their understanding of instructional writing. They explored how clear, precise instructions are essential by playing a variety of board games and carefully following the rules provided. Through this, they identified key features such as imperative verbs, chronological order and clear layout. This practical experience supported their understanding of how important clarity and detail are when giving instructions.

In geography, the children have been learning about human and physical features. They examined detailed images and worked collaboratively to identify and categorise different features within them. The children discussed their ideas with their friends, explaining why certain elements were human or physical. This activity encouraged thoughtful discussion and helped to deepen their understanding of how environments are shaped by both natural processes and human activity.



## YEAR 6



Year 6 have had a busy start to the term and have been continuing their 'Poles Apart' topic.

In science, the children have been exploring the fascinating world of fossils and how they form as part of our evolution unit. The children have created detailed diagrams and comic strips showing the stages of fossil formation. They've used some great technical vocabulary to explain each step, showing their excellent understanding of this tricky topic - It was wonderful to see their creativity shine through.

In English, we're focusing on the polar regions by looking at the biography of Captain Robert Falcon Scott. The children have been finding out the details of his ill-fated expedition to Antarctica and learning about the key features of the biography genre. We can't wait to read their completed biographies and hear about Scott's incredible journey.

This term in maths, Year 6 have started tackling algebra. The children have been working with one and two-step function machines and learning how to create algebraic expressions. We're proud of their determination in grappling with these concepts-well done to Year 6 for taking on this challenge with such great effort!

In geography this week, we've been looking at the lives of people living in the Arctic. The children have explored how tourism, transport, jobs and housing differ in this unique area.



After their research, some children had the chance to get creative by designing vehicles and structures that could help the people living in the far North. From transport vehicles for researchers, to exploration stations, the children showed an excellent understanding of the terrain and climate in their designs. It was inspiring to see their innovative ideas come to life. Well done, Year 6 – a great start to the new term.



## LANGUAGES



This week in Spanish has been full of *energía* and *entusiasmo* across the school! Our Infants have begun their exciting new topics, “**Teddy Bear’s Picnic**” and “**Dinosaurs**”. The children have shown fantastic enthusiasm as they explored new vocabulary through songs, games and stories linked to their themes.

In Juniors, pupils have started preparing their own yoga sequences, developing confidence as they practise giving instructions and movements en español. Meanwhile, Year 5 and Year 6 were very excited to write and send postcards to their Spanish penpals, describing their recent trip to York. It was wonderful to see them applying their language skills in a real-life context.

Our Language Ambassadors have also launched a poster competition for all Junior pupils. The challenge is to create a poster that represents France and all things French! Please hand your completed posters to any of the Ambassadors or directly to me before the deadline of **17th March**. Bonne chance à tous !



## YEAR 1 PARENTS

We are very keen to develop independence in our Year 1 children, encouraging them to come into school by themselves and organise their own belongings in the mornings. We would like to ask for parent support in encouraging the children to start walking into the infant block in the morning on their own to help them develop these skills ready for Year 2. As always, if you have any concerns or wish to discuss anything, our door is very much open. Thank you for your support.

## KIDS CLUB – KEY FOB ACCESS ENTRY AND EXIT

We kindly remind all parents dropping off and collecting their children from Kids’ Club to use their key fobs for entering and exiting the school. In line with our safeguarding procedures, parents are not permitted to access the main school building unaccompanied. Thank you for your understanding and support.

## WORLD BOOK DAY – TUESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MARCH

This year, we will celebrate World Book Day on **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**. Once again, all children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite character from a book. This can be as simple as wearing a hat or a mask to represent the character or you can go top to toe! The choice is yours. You may want to discuss with your child different characters from their favourite books. The dressing up possibilities are endless: Postman Pat, Oliver Twist, Fantastic Mr Fox, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, James and the Giant Peach, Danny- Champion of the World, Matilda, Goldilocks, Jack and the Beanstalk, The Twits, Cinderella, Gruffalo, Elmer the Elephant, Three little Pigs, Harry Potter etc...



## PARENTS’ EVENING APPOINTMENTS

**Online booking will open at 6pm tonight , 27<sup>th</sup> February until 12noon on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026. Please ensure you book a timeslot to meet with your child’s teacher as soon as possible.**

Appointments will be available on the following days:

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March between 3.30pm and 5.40pm**

**(a booking form will be sent out for parents to complete if they need kids club after school on Tuesday.)**

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March between 6pm and 8pm**

We are using a new system through which all parents can access the Parents’ Evening appointments via their ParentMail account. The attached guide shows what parents can expect to receive from ParentMail, either by email or via the app, once the system is live.

Any queries, please contact Mrs Staples.

## SPORTS NEWS

### U11 Football v The Peterborough School 25.02.26

Our first warm fixture of the year. The match was played on a large pitch giving all the players quality time and space on the ball. We played some lovely football and the players gave all their effort for the full 40 minutes. Teamwork was excellent. We were 2-0 up by half time and the game was very closely competed. In the second half, Peterborough came back and levelled the score at 3-3. In the final play of the match Theo scored from his corner giving us a well-deserved 4-3 win. Captains Theo and Ted managed the team effectively.

Well done to the players and thanks go to Mrs Hicks for helping and to the parents who supported the team.



### U10 and U11 Netball Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February against The Peterborough School



It was lovely to see so many of our U10 girls out playing netball this week. We managed to put forward a mix of two teams against The Peterborough School. We began strongly with both our teams finding their feet quickly and crept into the lead at half time. We continued to play well throughout the game with lots of end-to-end play and finished 11-4 in our favour.

Our U11 team really met their match in this game, it was close all the way through with opportunities going either way. We found ourselves slightly down

in the last part of the game and fought hard to finish with a 5-5 draw. Well done both teams and to our Captains Molly and Afiyah, you both did a super job! Player of the match went to Florence and Jessica. Thanks also go to our parents for their support.



### SCHOOL STATIONERY SHOP –

The school stationery shop will be open during breaktimes every Thursday for pupils to purchase pens, pencils etc.



### THE EMBROIDERY ATTIC – SCHOOL UNIFORM SUPPLIER

Please contact Laura from The Embroidery Attic our school uniform supplier on 01775 712644 or via the website [info@theembroideryattic.com](mailto: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.

### PTFA MOTHER’S DAY POSTER – (see the attached details)

### PRE-LOVED SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP – (see the attached poster)

The shop will be open **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March – 3pm to 4.30pm**. If you are unable to make either of these dates you can arrange an appointment by emailing [PTFA@ahs.me.uk](mailto:PTFA@ahs.me.uk).

## PTFA Upcoming Events:

- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March – Family Bingo night – 6pm – 8pm (details to be sent out nearer the time).



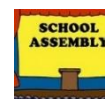
## REMINDERS FOR NEXT WEEK:

TUESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MARCH – WORLD BOOK DAY – SEE DETAILS ABOVE.

TUESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MARCH – MATHS PARENT WORKSHOP – YEAR 2 TO YEAR 6 PARENTS – 6:30PM

THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH – PARENTS' EVENING BOOKINGS CLOSE

FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH – YEAR 1 CLASS ASSEMBLY – PARENTS INVITED TO JOIN.



SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> MARCH – YEAR 2 – TRIP TO LONDON

### Dates for Your Diary

#### **MARCH**

Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup>	World Book Day
	Maths Workshop for Year 2 to Year 6 Parents – starts 6:30pm
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Fixture: Away – Copthill Cross Country – U9 &amp; U11 – 1:15pm – 3:30pm</b>
Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup>	Parents' Evening bookings close – 12noon
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Class Assembly – Year 1 – starts 9am – Parents welcome</i>
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 Trip to London
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	Parents' Evening Week
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup>	Parents' Evening – 15:30pm – 17:30pm
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Fixture: Home – AHS Cross Country Event – 2pm to 4pm</b>
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup>	Parents' Evening – 18:00pm – 20:00pm
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Class Assembly – Reception – starts 9am – Parents welcome</i> PTFA Mother's Day shop <b>Fixture: Away – Hockey at Surfleet – starts at 3:45pm</b>
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup>	Clubs finish at the end of this week
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup>	Luke Temple – Author – visit to work with Reception to Year 6 pupils in school (details to follow) <b>Fixture: Home – U10 &amp; U11 Football – starts at 2:15pm</b>
Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup>	Book signing – after school – Author Luke Temple
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup>	Red Nose Day <i>Class Assembly – Kindergarten – starts 9am – Parents welcome</i>
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Music lessons finish this week Year 5 Mayan Day – (details to follow) <b>Infant Interhouse – Y1 and Y2 pupils will need PE kit and house t-shirts in school</b>
Tues 24 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Assembly – starts 9am – Parents welcome Year 5 Mayan restaurant evening – 6:30pm – 8pm (details to follow)
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>House Event – Year 1 to Year 6 – pupils wear house t-shirts over uniform</b> <b>Fixture: Away – U9 Football at St Hugh's – starts 2:15pm</b>
Thurs 26 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 outing to Easter Cracked <b>Junior Interhouse cross country – junior pupils will need PE kit and house t-shirts in school</b>
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup>	AHS has Talent event - 2pm performance (details to follow) Non-uniform Day - £1 donation to a charity of school councils choice Last day of term

## **STARS OF THE WEEK**

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



**Kindergarten: Reggie**

**Reception: William DC**

**Year 1: William C**

**Year 2: Max**

**Year 3: Ellie**

**Year 4: Noah**

**Year 5: Emerson**

**Year 6: Lucy**

**Kindness Awards: Chloe (Infant) Caitlin (Junior)**

**Headteachers Award: Year 3**

**Golden Dustpan Award: Year 4**

**Lunchtime Award: Year 4**

**We have the following birthdays next week:**

28<sup>th</sup> February – Matilda

5<sup>th</sup> March - Vesna

Best wishes,

Mrs Wright