



AYSCOUGHFEE HALL SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER: 01/05/26

Dear Parents,

What a wonderful, sunny week! We have all loved having some beautiful weather, especially during our break and lunchtimes, allowing us to really enjoy being outside in the fresh air. Fingers crossed this will now continue through the term!

This week has been busy as ever. Thank you to the mums and dads who joined us for maths lessons in Years 5 and 6 this week. I hope you enjoyed the experience and found it useful. The children certainly loved the opportunity to show off their skills.

Monday is a Bank holiday next week, so I wish you all an enjoyable long weekend and look forward to welcoming the children back on Tuesday.

KINDERGARTEN

This week in kindergarten, we've been busy exploring the wonders of nature and building new skills! The children have continued to observe our caterpillars with great excitement, noticing the changes as they grow. Our tadpoles have been happily fed cucumber, and we were delighted to welcome some visiting snails into our classroom. Inspired by our class story, *Walter the Wonder Snail*, the children have been creating their own imaginative adventures for Walter. In PE, we are focusing on developing our throwing and catching skills, showing great teamwork and determination. We are also working hard on our listening skills, practicing how to follow new and more detailed instructions. It's been a fantastic week of learning and discovery.



RECEPTION



This week has been a slippery, slithery week of discovery as we explored the fascinating world of snails. Our Drawing Club book, *Walter the Wonder Snail*, was a big hit and the children really enjoyed the message that you can do anything you put your mind to. They showed great enthusiasm when imagining and creating their own adventures for Walter. This has inspired many of them to become budding authors and start writing their own mini books which has been lovely to see.



To add to our growing menagerie of tadpoles and caterpillars, Mrs Patman bought some snails to school. In the story we learnt that snails have a foot and that they use their slime to slide along. We observed the snails closely, watched them emerge from their shells and followed their glittery, slimy trail.



In maths, we have been focusing on our understanding of teen numbers. The children have been using practical resources such as Numicon to help them build confidence and deepen their understanding. They have been working hard and showing great progress. We used our counting skills to make 'Very Hungry Caterpillars' counting leaves and petals to create beautiful, bright pictures. Our playdoh insects showed our continuing creativity and fabulous fine motor skills.



YEAR 1



Year 1 have had lots of fun this week! The children have been very excited in their forest school sessions and they thoroughly enjoyed investigating different soils. The children used magnifying glasses to feel and see the soil, and they then had to answer different questions to find out whether they had clay soil or sandy soil. The children also saw different insects and creatures whilst they were investigating!



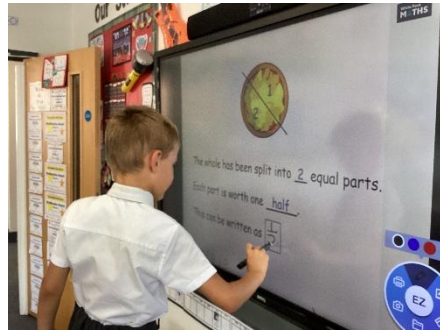
In our English lessons, we have been continuing to focus on the book 'That Rabbit Belongs to Emily Brown'. The children wrote a persuasive letter to the Queen to tell her why she could not have Stanley. All the children worked very hard to form their letters correctly and the children included lots of different writing techniques such as adjectives and conjunctions.



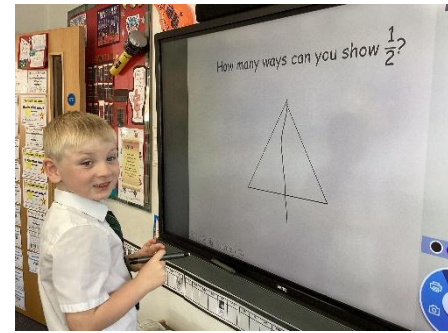
In our PSHE lessons, we have been continuing with our topic 'relationships'. Our focus for this week was about friendship and as a starter the children worked together to play different games that demonstrated great teamwork. As a class we then discussed what it means to be a good friend and it was lovely to hear the children's ideas about friendship.



YEAR 2



This week in Year 2, the children have been busy across a range of exciting subjects. In Maths, we have begun the new topic on fractions. We have been exploring halves and quarters, learning to use the correct mathematical vocabulary, including the terms numerator and denominator. A strong focus has been placed on explaining and justifying their thinking, particularly when identifying halves and quarters of shapes. The children have been encouraged to use the word



'equal' carefully, understanding that each part of a fraction must be the same size. In English, we have started work based on the book *The Storm Whale* by Benji Davies. The children have been exploring the context of the story and building their vocabulary to support vivid setting descriptions. They have been learning how to use expanded noun phrases effectively and will soon begin applying these skills in their own story writing next week. In Design and Technology, we have begun the new topic of making fabric



pouches. They have been learning what a running stitch is and how it is used to join two materials together. The children enjoyed finding the stitches in their school uniforms and were surprised by how many joins there were in their dresses and shirts. We cannot wait to start using the needle and thread to try out the running stitch on our own pouches.



YEAR 3



This week, Year 3 continued learning about World War II. They imagined what it would be like to be evacuated to the countryside during the Blitz and wrote touching letters, which were detailed and full of emotion. Year 3 children enjoyed our science lesson this week. We learned that the Sun can be both a hero and a villain. It is a hero because it gives us light, warmth and helps our bodies stay healthy. However, the Sun can be a villain because its rays can



damage our skin and cause sunburn if we are not careful. The children loved creating posters detailing the information they learned. In History, the children learned how people on the home front contributed to the war effort during World War II. They analysed features of posters and designed a propaganda poster of their own following the themes of evacuation, rationing, blackout and make do and mend campaign. Continuing with the theme of rationing, in Maths, we learned about rationing, weighing out an adult's weekly food ration and using clothing coupons to design wartime wardrobes-an eye-opening comparison to modern life! What a great week, everyone!



YEAR 4

In English this week, we analysed real newspaper reports to find the key features of a newspaper report. We looked closely at examples and identified important elements such as headlines, bylines, opening paragraphs, quotes, formal language and paragraphs. We discussed how these features help to inform the reader and make the report clear and engaging.

In maths, we have now completed our Decimals unit using White Rose Maths. Throughout this unit, the children have developed a secure understanding of decimals and how they relate to fractions and place value. We have explored how to recognise and write decimals with up to two decimal places, linking these to tenths and hundredths. The children practised placing decimals on a number line and comparing and ordering them with increasing confidence. The class also learnt how to divide 1- and 2-digit numbers by 10 and 100, understanding how digits move within the place value chart. We applied this knowledge to solve a range of reasoning and problem-solving questions, explaining our thinking clearly. Overall, the children have shown great progress in their understanding of decimals and are becoming more confident when applying these skills in different contexts.



This week, in PSHE, we began our Jigsaw *Relationships* unit by exploring the feeling of jealousy. We discussed what jealousy means and shared examples of when people might feel jealous in friendships or other relationships. We talked about how jealousy can make us feel and how it might affect the way we behave towards others. As a class, we explored positive ways to manage these feelings, including talking to a trusted adult, being honest about our emotions and thinking about how others might feel. The children took part in discussions and activities to help them recognise jealousy and respond to it in a kind and respectful way.

YEAR 5

In maths this week, the children have been learning about angles, including finding missing angles on a straight line and around a point. They explored this practically first, using hands-on approaches to build understanding, before moving on to more challenging reasoning questions. The children have also begun to apply their knowledge to simple algebra problems, showing great perseverance and developing confidence when explaining their mathematical thinking.

In English, the children have been drafting their own short stories inspired by our class text, *Podkin One-Ear*. They have focused on key narrative features such as setting, character development and building tension. The class has been highly engaged with the story and has enjoyed exploring it in greater depth, using it as inspiration for their own creative writing.

In curriculum lessons, the children have been introduced to the Ancient Greeks, with a focus on the legend of Theseus and Minotaur. They explored different pieces of evidence and discussed whether the story could be based on truth, using a range of primary sources. This has encouraged thoughtful discussion and helped develop their understanding of how we learn about the past.

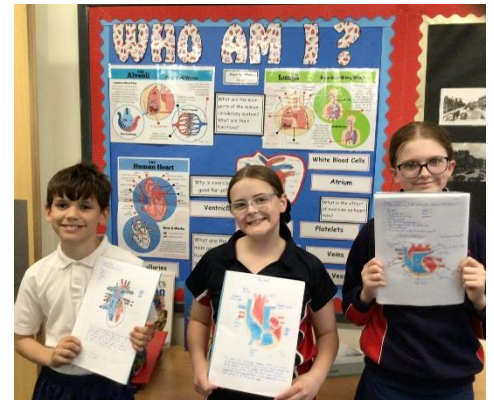


YEAR 6

In Maths lessons this week, we really enjoyed welcoming our Year 6 parents and showing them our mathematical thinking and problem-solving skills. It was great to show our learning on area and perimeter and take part in a Kahoot game. Thank you to all our visitors for being such willing participants and for trying to calculate the answers to our tricky challenges.

In Science, the children have been continuing with their topic 'Who am I?' and learning all about the circulatory system. They have been looking at the function of the heart, blood and blood vessels and finding out how oxygen and nutrients are transported around the body. They have been drawing and labelling the different parts and learning about how our heart rates increase with exercise. They have really impressed with their amazing ideas and scientific vocabulary – fantastic work, Year 6!

In Art this week, the children have been continuing to work on their polar creatures and have been adding the second layer of mod-roc to complete the outside of their sculptures. We are all looking forward to painting them next week.



In History, we have started our topic about the history of Spalding and the children have been using their enquiry skills to help them identify some of the changes that have taken place. They used primary and secondary evidence, analysed maps and photographs and drew their initial findings as to how the area has changed over time.

Well done, Year 6 – lots to be proud of this week!



ECO CLUB

An explosion of activity happened in our first Eco Club of the year! We planted homegrown tomatoes, cucumbers, broccoli and marigolds that the children had grown from seed last term. We added canes to the cucumbers and tomatoes in the polytunnel so that they can climb as they grow. The children then planted our next lot of potatoes and onions so we should have potatoes by the end of this school year and some for September too. We made sure everything was watered well and used leaf mulch from the garden to bulk out and add nutrients to the potted plants. Litter picking is on the agenda for next week!



This week has been a particularly engaging and enriching one in our languages lessons, with pupils across the school developing their skills through a wide range of interactive and culturally rich activities.

In Infants, pupils have been immersed in language learning through games, songs and movement-based activities. These approaches support early language acquisition by reinforcing key vocabulary and pronunciation in a memorable and enjoyable way. Pupils have enthusiastically taken part in singing familiar songs, dancing to Spanish music and participating in structured games designed to embed new words and phrases. Alongside this, they have begun to explore simple aspects of language history, gaining an awareness that Spanish is spoken in many countries around the world. It has been wonderful to see their growing confidence and willingness to communicate using Spanish — *¡fantástico trabajo!*



In Juniors, pupils have similarly enjoyed a varied programme of learning, combining speaking, listening and cultural understanding. Through games and songs, they have been revisiting and extending their vocabulary, with a focus on accurate pronunciation and recall. Pupils have also explored elements of the history of the French language, including its Latin roots and its connections to English, helping them to better understand patterns in vocabulary and meaning. These discussions have supported pupils in making links between languages and deepening their overall linguistic awareness. Throughout the week, pupils have continued to build their confidence in expressing themselves in French and have demonstrated a positive and enthusiastic attitude towards their learning.



SPORTS NEWS



It was a lovely sunny afternoon with a fresh breeze just taking the edge off things for our first Cricket match of the season. In team 2 Oscar had a very good stint of bowling and Olivia made a strong impact with a good all-round performance. Dacey and Olivia batted together effectively in the final three overs and nearly turned the game though didn't quite manage it. St Hugh's 235/6 AHS 219/4. Team 1 had



a shaky start then improved in confidence as the match went on. Maddie and Martha communicated effectively and scored 41 runs in their batting partnership.

Rafferty captained the team using positive fielding management. Due to running out of time, our scores had to be averaged out to produce a result. Unfortunately, due to our early low run rate calculations went against us and the result was given to St Hugh's though if we had played out all the overs, I am sure the final scores would have been very close. AHS 226/7 from 15 overs, run rate 8.4 per over St Hugh's 196/3 from 10 overs, run rate 9.6 per over. A good afternoon of cricket had by all and it gave us a good starting block to build from. Thanks go to the parents supporting the fixture.

HOME SPORTS FIXTURES

A reminder to parents who are coming to watch children in home fixtures that take place on the Grammar School field must arrive 15 minutes before the fixture starts to gain entry, due to safeguarding.

JUNIOR PE SOCKS (SUMMER TERM)

Please may I remind all junior parents that pupils should be wearing plain white sports socks with no logo and are above the ankle not trainer socks. These can be purchased from our uniform supplier The Embroidery Attic.

DT ITEMS NEEDED

Our DT department is in need of the following items: buttons, ribbons and any offcuts of material. If you are able to help with any of the items, then please drop them off to the school office.

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.

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 note The Embroidery Attic (School Uniform Supplier) has a new webpage. All prices and items are up to date so if you need to order anything in future then please use this link <https://the-embroidery-attic.myshopify.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.

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

The shop will be open next **Monday, 11TH MAY– 3pm to 4.30pm and Monday 8th June** . If you are unable to make either of these dates you can arrange an appointment by emailing PTFA@ahs.me.uk.

REMINDERS FOR NEXT WEEK:

MONDAY 4TH MAY – BANK HOLIDAY

TUESDAY 5TH MAY – BOOKFAIR (SEE THE ATTACHED LETTER)

Dates for Your Diary

MAY	
Mon 4 th	Bank Holiday
Wed 6 th	Home Fixture: U9 & U10 Striking and Fielding against Grantham Prep / 2.15pm start
Mon 11 th	<i>Piano assembly – Miss Potter’s pupils – starts 9am – Parents invited.</i> Escape room in school – Year 5 and Year 6 pupils (details to be sent on ParentMail) Governors Meeting – 5.15pm
Tues 12 th	<i>Singing/recorder/violin assembly – Mrs Carr’s pupils – starts 9am – Parents invited</i>
Wed 13 th	Away Fixture: U9 & U11 Cricket at St Hugh’s / 2.15pm start
Thurs 14 th	Puberty workshops in school – Year 5 pupils only – 10am – 11:30am
Mon 18 th	<i>Piano assembly – Miss Potter’s pupils – starts 9am – Parents invited.</i>
Tues 19 th	<i>Drums assembly – Mr Jackson’s pupils – starts 9am – Parents invited.</i> Careers Day – am – Year 3 / Year 4 / Year 5 and Year 6 pupils
Wed 20 th	Year 2 Seaside Day – in school (parents invited in at 2:15pm details to follow nearer the time) Home Fixture: U10 & U11 Cricket at AHS against The Peterborough School / 2.15pm start
Fri 22 nd	Last day before half term
Mon 25 th – Fri 29 th	Half term break

STARS OF THE WEEK



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

Kindergarten: Alfie

Reception: Wyatt

Year 1: Theo

Year 2: Aaran

Year 3: Azra

Year 4: Oscar

Year 5: Imogen

Year 6: Tendekai

Kindness Awards: Romily (Infant) Rehna (Junior)

Headteachers Award: Years 5 and 6

Golden Dustpan Award: Year 1

Lunchtime Award: Kindergarten

Best wishes,

Mrs Wright