



AYSCOUGHFEE HALL SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER: 08/05/26

Dear Parents,

We had a lovely celebration assembly this morning. As well as the pleasure of hearing about our 'Stars of the Week' and the wonderful work they have been doing, the acts of kindness across the school and all the other achievements of the week, we also had a presentation from our fantastic School Council. The children of the School Council proudly displayed the new toys and games that they have purchased for our outdoor trolley, which is in the Quiet Area for children to access at break and lunchtimes. Using money raised from their recent book sale, they have restocked the trolley and provided a multitude of resources for the children to enjoy. My thanks go to everyone for supporting the books sale, to the School Council for suggesting, organising and running the event, and also to Mrs Jeffries, who gives so much of her time to work with the school council to ensure the pupil voice is heard in the school.

We also celebrated the birthday of a very special man this morning, Sir David Attenborough, as he turns 100. We discussed a few of his very many achievements and celebrated the fact that even at such a great age, he continues to work and bring so much important knowledge to us all. A perfect example of what can be achieved with hard work, dedication and determination and a wonderful role model for our children.

Finally, good luck to our hockey players in their tournament tonight and a happy weekend to you all.

KINDERGARTEN



This week in Kindergarten, we have once again highlighted the importance of teamwork in everything we do. From playing games and building together to tidying up our classroom, there have been countless opportunities for us to collaborate and support one another. We especially enjoyed using the parachute, demonstrating fantastic gross motor skills as we worked in unison, listened carefully, and followed instructions. Our curiosity led us to discover even more minibeasts, and we loved sharing our findings with friends. We combined our creativity and teamwork to produce some wonderful snail art. It has been a joyful and cooperative week of learning!



RECEPTION



Reception have been very busy exploring our exciting Minibeast topic this term. Our classroom has been full of growth and change as we watched caterpillars and tadpoles develop a little more each day. The children have loved arriving at school each morning to check on our new little friends and spot any changes that happened overnight. We have especially enjoyed creating tadpole diaries to record our observations.



In literacy, we have shared a range of wonderful stories including *Walter the Wonder Snail*, *The Very Busy Spider*, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and *The Bad-Tempered Ladybird*. These books inspired some fantastic creative artwork in the style of the authors and illustrators.

Our minibeast learning has also linked beautifully with maths. The children explored symmetry by painting butterflies and practised counting by making caterpillars with bead segments greater than 10. We have also been using tens frames, Unifix cubes and Numicon to represent teen numbers and

quantities beyond 20 and matching the various ways of representing numbers.



Outdoor learning has been a huge success too, with the children enjoying bug hunts and identifying more than 20 different types of minibeast with the help of Mrs Grew during Forest School sessions.



YEAR 1



Year 1 have been learning lots this week! The children have continued exploring early multiplication and division in maths, focusing on arrays. They used a range of resources to make their own arrays and then worked together to count how many rows and columns they had. The children worked very well together and it was lovely to see how enthusiastic they all were when making their own arrays!



In art, we are continuing to explore our topic 'birds'. The children have been developing their artistic skills by carefully drawing different images of birds and have been creating different shades and tone with their pencils. They have also been drawing a variety of feathers. As a class we discussed how the feathers felt and how we could draw the different details in our books. The children had lots of fun using different resources such as chalk and oils to do this.



YEAR 2



This week in Year 2, the children have thoroughly enjoyed immersing themselves in their writing inspired by 'The Storm Whale' by Benji Davies.

The children have been busy discussing, planning and writing their own imaginative stories based on the text. They created a new narrative featuring a different animal discovered in an alternative setting. The children carefully developed their plots, describing their adventures with the animal

before ultimately releasing it back into its natural habitat. They worked extremely hard to include a range of Year 2 writing features, particularly focusing on subordinating conjunctions such as 'when', 'if', 'because'. They have also been reminded to use commas to separate clauses accurately, and it has been wonderful to see this developing in their independent writing.



In Maths, we have continued our learning on fractions. The children have moved on to exploring thirds and understanding the concept that two quarters is equivalent to a half, reinforcing their understanding of the term 'equivalent'. They have shown great enthusiasm and growing confidence when discussing and comparing fractions. In PE, the children enjoyed a cricket session this week. They began with a lively warm-up game called 'Clean This Planet', followed by overarm throwing practice to develop their fielding skills. The children then played 'Clashing Comets', focusing on accuracy and throwing distance. They continued to refine their overarm throwing technique before ending the session with an enjoyable team game.



It has been a busy and productive week in Year 2, with children demonstrating excellent effort across all areas of their learning.



YEAR 3



This week, we marked Victory in Europe Day with a range of exciting activities that brought World War II history to life. The children learned about the significance of VE Day and explored what life was like on the Home Front.

They designed commemorative medals and worked on a Make Do and Mend project in DT. After studying wartime propaganda, the children created posters promoting "Make Do and Mend," "Dig for Victory" and



other Home Front campaigns.

In Maths, the children took part in practical activities to develop their understanding of capacity and volume, using a range of measuring equipment to compare and measure liquids accurately. In English, the children explored the features of diary writing, identifying key elements such as first-person language, thoughts and feelings and chronological order. In Science, the children conducted an experiment to investigate which material was the most reflective, considering which would be the best choice for designing a safe and effective school bag. It has been a meaningful week full of learning and creativity and we are so proud of the children's thoughtful work and enthusiastic engagement.



YEAR 4

Maths

In Maths this week, Year 4 have focused on money. We have been learning how to estimate, compare and calculate different amounts of money using pounds and pence. The children have been practising recognising the value of different amounts, ordering money and using their reasoning skills to decide which amounts are greater or smaller. We have also explored how estimation can help us check whether answers are sensible when solving real-life money problems. The class have worked hard to explain their thinking using mathematical vocabulary and have enjoyed applying their learning through practical activities and problem-solving challenges.

Green City Project 🌱

Our exciting *Green City Project* is now well under way in Year 4 and the children have already impressed us with their creativity, teamwork and brilliant ideas!

Over the past few weeks, we have been researching different types of renewable energy sources, including solar power, wind turbines and hydroelectric energy. The children have explored how these energy sources can help protect our planet and reduce pollution, while also thinking carefully about what makes a city truly sustainable.

As part of the project, the children have worked collaboratively to design detailed 2D maps of their own eco-friendly cities. They have included thoughtful features such as parks, cycle routes, green spaces, renewable energy stations and environmentally friendly transport systems. It has been wonderful to see the children applying their Geography, Science, DT and teamwork skills throughout the project.

We are now incredibly excited to begin the next stage — transforming our designs into

impressive 3D models! The classroom is already buzzing with enthusiasm as the children plan how they will build their sustainable cities using a range of materials and creative techniques.

We cannot wait to share the finished projects with you soon!



PSHE

In PSHE, we explored the different feelings people may experience when dealing with love and loss. We discussed how change, moving away, losing a pet or missing someone can affect emotions and wellbeing. The children shared thoughtful ideas about ways to support themselves and others during difficult times and recognised the importance of talking to trusted adults and friends. Through discussion activities, we developed empathy, kindness and understanding towards others' experiences.

YEAR 5

In maths, the children have been exploring 3D shapes and developing their understanding of vertices, edges and faces. Through a range of practical, hands-on activities, they have investigated the properties of different shapes and discussed how they can be grouped and compared. The children showed excellent engagement during these tasks and were encouraged to explain their mathematical thinking clearly using the correct vocabulary. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow when identifying and describing a variety of 3D shapes.

In English, the children have been drafting, editing and improving their narrative writing based on our class text, which they are enjoying. They have worked hard to include a range of higher-level grammatical techniques within their writing, including parenthesis and sentence openers to support cohesion and flow. The children have shown great enthusiasm when developing their ideas and have become increasingly thoughtful when editing and improving their work. It has been fantastic to see their creativity and confidence continue to develop.

In curriculum lessons, the children have been learning about air resistance and the impact different forces can have on movement. As part of this topic, they designed and created their own parachutes before carrying out a practical investigation to test how effectively they worked. The children demonstrated excellent teamwork and curiosity throughout the experiment, making predictions and discussing the results using scientific vocabulary. They particularly enjoyed the practical element of the lesson and showed a good understanding of how forces can affect objects in motion.



YEAR 6

Year 6 have had a wonderfully busy and creative week and it has been a pleasure to see them working so hard across the curriculum. In art, the children have been finishing off their penguins and polar bears, carefully applying paint to complete the final design. They have also been adding the finishing touches to their fabulous portraits.



In science, they have continued their learning about the circulatory system and have really impressed us with their thoughtful contributions during class discussions. They have been learning about the three key components and are beginning to use this knowledge confidently to support their understanding in English, particularly when writing non-chronological reports.

In English, the class have also been developing their punctuation skills, with a focus on using semicolons to separate detailed lists. It has been fantastic to see them applying this learning independently in their own writing.

In Forest school, they have been learning about survival skills, ready for our work on Kensuke's Kingdom. They have really enjoyed making amazing shelters, working well in their teams to think about all the features they would require to keep them safe. Great critical thinking skills, Year 6! Well done, Year 6 – keep working hard!



ECO CLUB

The Wombles of Ayscoughfee School have been very busy in Eco Club cleaning up the areas around our school. They have been extremely sensible and filled bags full of recycling and rubbish to keep our streets clean. Well done Eco warriors!



SPORTS NEWS

U11 U9 Cricket v The Grantham Prep School, Wednesday 6th May



We welcomed Grantham and got started quickly into our matches.

The U9s improved as the play progressed. Our fielding was strong and our batting was solid. TGPS had a stronger batting line up which made the difference in the result with them beating us by a few runs. Lori was our player of the match. The



U11s had a very close 10 overs, batting and fielding were well balanced. It all came down to the last two overs TGPS 71/2 AHS 77/2. Immanuel was player of the match. It was a rain drenched conclusion though all had enjoyed the afternoon of cricket. Well done to all and thanks go to the parents who supported the fixture.

HOME SPORTS FIXTURES

A reminder that parents who are coming to watch children in home fixtures 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.

UPCOMING PTFA EVENTS:

- FRIDAY 12TH JUNE – NON-UNIFORM IN EXCHANGE FOR TOMBOLA PRIZE FOR THE FETE
- FRIDAY 19TH JUNE – NON – UNIFORM DAY / SUMMER FETE – 5PM TO 7PM (DETAILS TO BE SENT OUT NEARER THE TIME)

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 11TH** – Escape Room / in school workshop – Year 5 and Year 6 pupils.
- **TUESDAY 12TH** – PSHE Consultation meeting – 6pm – Parents booked in.
- **THURSDAY 14TH** – Puberty workshops – Year 5 pupils / am

MUSIC ASSEMBLIES START NEXT WEEK

Date	Time	Teacher	Instrument	Year group
Monday 11 th May	9am	Miss Potter	Piano	Year 3
Tuesday 12 th May	9am	Mrs Carr	Singing	Years 3,4,5,6
			Recorder	Year 3
			Violin	Year 5 Year 6
Monday 18 th May	9am	Miss Potter	Piano	Year 4 Year 6
Tuesday 19 th May	2.30pm	Mr Jackson	Drums	Year 3 Year 4
Monday 8 th June	9am	Miss Potter	Piano	Year 5
			Flute	Year 4 Year 5
			Drums	Year 6
Tuesday 9 th June	9am	Mr Jackson	Drums	Year 6

Dates for Your Diary

MAY	
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) CANCELLED /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: Harley

Reception: Arijus

Year 1: Rupert

Year 2: Jackson

Year 3: Olivia

Year 4: Matilda

Year 5: Chloe

Year 6: Lucy

Kindness Awards: Aubrie-Mae (Infant) Chloe L (Junior)

Headteachers Award: The School Council

Golden Dustpan Award: Year 4

Lunchtime Award: Year 2

Best wishes,

Mrs Wright