AYSCOUGHFEE HALL SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER: 13/11/26

Dear Parents,

This week in school we spent some time thinking about Remembrance and the reasons why we pause to reflect and remember on 11th November. In our assembly on Monday, we learned about the work of the Royal British Legion, and what happens to the money we donate to the Poppy Appeal. The children listened carefully to Lyndon's story and gained an appreciation of how people of all ages are helped by this wonderful charity. On Wednesday, Remembrance Day itself, I was very proud to see how respectfully the children observed the minutes silence in school. Our Kindness Ambassadors came up with the thoughtful idea of preparing some Poppy and Remembrance themed activities for the children to take part in at break and lunchtime and many of them enjoyed these. Thank you to everyone for donating to the Poppy appeal, the funds were collected today and, as always, the Royal British Legion and Poppy Collectors were truly grateful for your generosity.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

REMINDERS FOR NEXT WEEK

Monday 16th November – Odd Sock Day - C*hildren and staff are invited to wear odd socks or tights with their school uniform to celebrate individuality and the importance of embracing our differences.*

Wednesday 18th November

- ***Kindergarten and Reception –*** *10am to visit Spalding Library.*
- ***Fixture (Home) – U9 / U11 Rugby*** *– starts 2:15pm*

Friday 20th November – PTFA Non-uniform day – *donations of tombola prizes for the Christmas Fair. (See attached poster for details)*

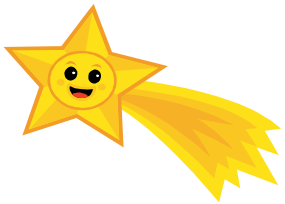
Christmas lunch reminder *– If you would like your child to have a Christmas lunch provided by Ideal Meals you will need to order via www.schoolmealsonline.com on or before 9am on Tuesday 1st December.*

DIARY DATES

SEPTEMBER

November	
Mon 16th	Anti bullying week – Odd sock day – pupils can come into school wearing odd socks along with school uniform.
Wed 18th	Kindergarten and Reception to visit the Spalding Library – 10am **HOME FIXTURE: U9 / U11 TAG RUGBY STARTS 2:15PM**
Fri 20th	PTFA non-uniform day in exchange for a tombola gift for Christmas Fair – (poster attached)
Wed 25th	Fixture: Away Rugby CANCELLED due to Able, Gifted & Talented workshops hosted by The Peterborough School House Day (details sent out via ParentMail)
Fri 27th	Year 3 and Year 4 out to Methodist Church to decorate Christmas trees Movie Night – 3:20pm – 4:50pm (parents must sign up via the ParentMail form) PTFA Christmas Fair (poster attached) -5pm – 7pm
Mon 30th	Clubs and Music lessons finish this week Infant dress rehearsal to Juniors starts 10am
December	
Tues 1st	Year 6 outing to Christmas Unwrapped at The Baptist church – 10:50am Infant production for parents starts at 2.00pm
Wed 2nd	Infant production for parents starts at 2.00pm **HOME FIXTURE: U10/U11 TAG / TOUCH RUGBY STARTS 2.15PM**
Thurs 3rd	Year 6 Dragons' Den – more details tbc nearer the time
Fri 4th	PTFA Secret Santa Christmas Shop (poster attached)
Mon 7th	Year 5 Burghley House Tudor Christmas (details sent out via ParentMail) Infant Party / fish & chips
Tues 8th	Junior Panto Outing in town – am Reception outing to Pennington's
Wed 9th	Junior Party / fish & chips **Interhouse – Year 1 / Year 2 Interhouse games (PE kit and house t-shirts needed)**
Thurs 10th	Last day for Year 3 / Year 4 Swimming Year 6 readers rehearsal at Broad Street Methodist Church – 9.30am Whole School Christmas meal – Ideal Meals – last day of hot meals
Fri 11th	All children will need an Ideal packed lunch or a disposable packed lunch from home. (There will be no hot meals on this day). Christmas Carol Service at Broad Street Methodist Church – 2pm. Children will then go home with parents after the service. **SCHOOL TERM ENDS**
JANUARY	
Mon 4th	Inset Training day

STARS OF THE WEEK



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

Kindergarten: Safi
Reception: Alfie
Year 1: James
Year 2: Vira
Year 3: Carter
Year 4: Evelyn
Year 5: Harry
Year 6: Immanuel

Kindness Awards: (Infant) Minnie (Junior) Amaya
Golden Dustpan Award: Reception
Lunchtime Award: Year 4

BIRTHDAYS

The following birthdays;
16th November – Rex
18th November – Mrs White
19th November - Harrison

KINDERGARTEN





Whizz, bang, pop! What an exciting week we've had! We've been sharing our experiences of Bonfire Night and the fantastic fireworks displays we enjoyed over the weekend. We talked about the bright colours and loud noises, sharing how they made us feel. We also explored the different sounds fireworks make by using musical instruments to create our own whizzes, bangs and pops! We got creative by making our own colourful fireworks and sparklers in lots of different ways. We've also been learning all about Diwali, the Festival of Lights, and how this wonderful celebration also brightens up the night sky! We enjoyed listening to the story of Rama and Sita and are really looking forward to learning even more when one of our Hindu parents comes in to share their own experiences and traditions with us. Alongside all this excitement, we took time to remember by making our own poppies for Remembrance Day and talking about the brave soldiers who have helped to keep us safe. What a wonderful week full of celebrations, creativity and thoughtful learning!





RECEPTION





What a lovely week we have had learning all about Diwali, the Festival of Light! We listened to the traditional story of Rama and Sita and discovered the important message behind the celebration: good triumphs over evil and light overcomes darkness. Our classroom has been filled with colour and creativity as we explored the beautiful patterns of Rangoli. The children enjoyed creating their own Rangoli designs using a variety of resources, colouring intricate patterns, wearing colourful bindis and making little diva lamps from playdough.

Drawing Club was particularly impressive this week. We were amazed by the children's phonetic writing as they had a go at writing the names of the story's characters. Their drawings were fantastic too, especially the wonderfully detailed pictures of Ravana and his ten heads!

In Maths, our focus has been the number 5 and exploring all the different ways to make the amount. We have enjoyed watching Numberblocks, making prints to represent amounts up to five and investigating number bonds. The children have been working hard to recognise and write the numeral 5 and are becoming increasingly confident in finding different combinations that make five.



Finally, we have started learning our songs and practising our lines for the Christmas Nativity. We are so proud of how enthusiastically the children have joined in already. There is lots of excitement building as we prepare for our special Christmas performance!

YEAR 1

Year 1 have had another fun and exciting week!
The children have been thoroughly enjoying all our learning and it has been wonderful to see their fantastic pieces of work.



In D.T, the children have started their new topic of creating their very own moving storybooks. We discussed what mechanisms are and explored how they can be used to make things move. The children had a fantastic time creating two different slider mechanisms: a rabbit popping out of a hat and a car moving from side to side! They also had the opportunity to practise their scissor skills by carefully cutting out their different templates. It was lovely to see everyone working so well together and feeling so proud of their amazing creations!

Well done, Year 1! We are so proud of all your hard work and the enthusiasm you show towards your learning.





YEAR 2



What an exciting week we have had in Year 2!

The children were in for a surprise following assembly on Monday morning, when they discovered mysterious animal footprints appearing all around the classroom! This sparked lots of curiosity and excitement as the children worked together to identify four different sets of footprints.

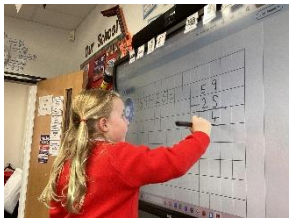
Throughout the week, they have been busy creating posters and thinking of questions to help them investigate and discover more about the missing animal. We soon found out that all the animals were the characters from the text *The Journey Home*. The children have enjoyed stepping into the characters' shoes and writing in role, using clues from the text to help them express the characters' thoughts and emotions.



In Maths, we have been building on our learning from last week, moving from adding two two-digit numbers to subtracting two two-digit numbers. This has been a real challenge, particularly when deciding whether to exchange and understanding what happens to the tens and ones. The children have shown great perseverance as they have worked through these tricky calculations and developed their understanding.

In Science, we have completed an investigation into exercise and explored why keeping active is so important for our bodies and overall health. The children have enjoyed investigating how exercise affects us and thinking about the benefits of staying active. Well done Year 2, a great week of wonderful work.





YEAR 3



What a wonderfully busy week we have had in Year 3! From bringing characters to life to inventing unusual animals and tackling outdoor challenges, there has been plenty to spark our curiosity.

In English, we have been developing our character descriptions, exploring how to show a character's personality through their actions and the way other people see them. Instead of simply telling the reader that someone is "kind", "generous" or "shy", we have been leaving clues for them to discover. This has helped us practise inference and think carefully about how a small gesture or thoughtful action can tell a reader so much!



In Maths, we have been practising our 2, 5 and 10 times tables and putting our knowledge to the test with challenges and word problems. We have been pushing ourselves to think beyond recalling the facts and work out how to use them in different situations.



In RE, we explored spirituality and the different ways we can feel connected. It was a lovely opportunity to reflect on what matters to us and to recognise that this sense of connection can mean different things to different people.

In Geography, while some of our wonderful classmates represented our school at a rugby fixture, we explored the differences between weather, climate and biomes. We then put our imaginations to work by designing animals adapted to life in a particular biome. Our creatures needed more than an interesting appearance - we had to consider which features would help them survive in their chosen environment!





Forest School brought some exciting investigations. Could we make a leaf seem to defy air resistance? We experimented with different shapes and sizes of leaves to see which reached the ground first. We also worked together to create a marble run using guttering and golf balls, with extra points for creativity, bold ideas and excitement. There was plenty of opportunity to experiment, make adjustments and try again!

In Music, we had to concentrate hard as we listened to a variety of rhythms and clapped along. We also practised improvisation using body percussion and tuned percussion instruments.

Meanwhile, in DT, we are on a super-secret Christmas mission! Our lips are sealed for now, but we can reveal that it involves patience, careful cutting, sewing and stitching. You will have to wait until Christmas for the big reveal! We are wishing you all a lovely and restful weekend.

YEAR 4

Another fantastic week in Year 4! The children have been working incredibly hard, showing enthusiasm, determination and a wonderful attitude towards their learning.



In Maths, we have begun our new White Rose Multiplication and Division unit. This week, we have been focusing on the 3, 6 and 9 times tables, exploring the relationships between them and identifying interesting rules and patterns. The children have enjoyed investigating how these times tables are connected and using their mathematical knowledge to explain their findings. We are continuing to encourage daily Times Tables Rock Stars practice to develop fluency, confidence and quick recall of multiplication facts.

In English, we have been studying persuasive letter writing, carefully analysing a model text to identify the key features of an effective persuasive letter. We have explored the author's choice of vocabulary, sentence openers and overall structure, discussing how these techniques help to persuade the reader. The children have also worked hard to create story maps of the letter, using pictures and symbols to help them memorise ambitious vocabulary, sentence structures and persuasive phrases. This will provide a fantastic foundation for developing our own success criteria and planning our persuasive letters over the coming lessons.

In PSHE, we have been exploring our Jigsaw unit, *Celebrating Difference*. Our discussions have focused on recognising stereotypes, understanding why we should never judge others based on their appearance and the importance of not making assumptions about people. We have also explored how different influences, including social media and our own past experiences, can shape our thoughts, feelings and opinions. The children have demonstrated some wonderful maturity during our discussions, recognising that everyone has different experiences and perspectives. We have reinforced the importance of kindness, respect, acceptance and celebrating what makes each of us unique.

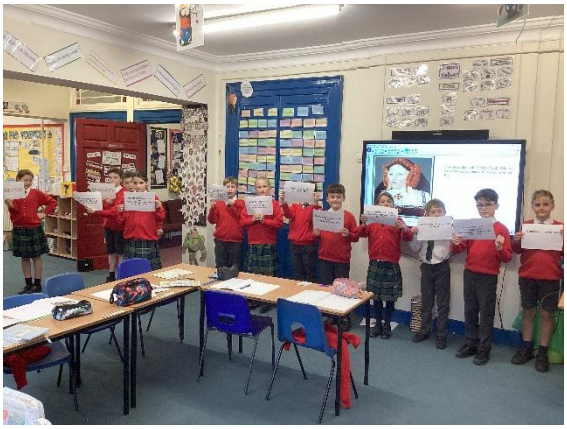
It has been lovely to see the children growing in confidence, sharing their ideas and taking pride in their learning. Well done, Year 4, for another super week!

YEAR 5

In Curriculum, the children have been exploring Henry VIII's break with Rome, considering whether his decisions were driven by love or religion. They examined the life of Catherine of Aragon, creating a human graph to represent her changing emotions. The children also used their critical thinking skills to rank Henry's possible reasons for breaking with Rome from most to least convincing. They analysed primary historical evidence, including a love letter, which sparked some fascinating discussions and the sharing of interesting historical facts.

In English, the children have continued developing their narrative writing inspired by our class reader, The Nowhere Emporium. They have been focusing on using dialogue effectively to reveal more about their characters, paying particular attention to accurate speech punctuation. The children have also been exploring different ways to include additional information through parenthesis, using brackets, dashes and commas. It has been lovely to see them applying these skills to make their writing more detailed, engaging and interesting for the reader.







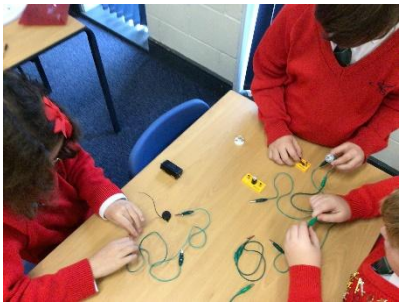


YEAR 6

Year 6 have had a busy and productive week full of exciting learning, practical activities and opportunities to develop their understanding across the curriculum. From investigating electrical circuits and exploring fractions, to creating descriptive writing based on a short film, the children have approached each task with focus and enthusiasm.



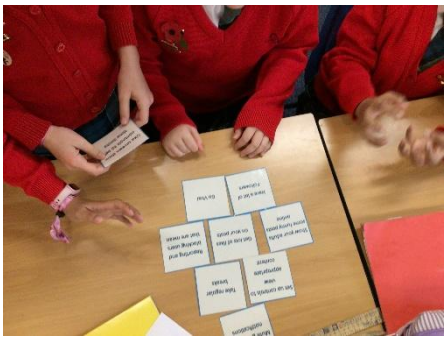
In science, the children have been learning how to draw circuit components and represent them accurately in circuit diagrams. They then made and recorded their own circuits, carefully checking whether the components had been connected correctly. The children enjoyed investigating why a circuit was not complete and discussing what they could change to make it work. They worked well in groups, sharing ideas, testing solutions and explaining their findings. Their teamwork, problem-solving and ability to learn from mistakes were clear throughout these activities.



In maths, the children have been working on addition and subtraction with mixed numbers. They have been practising how to convert fractions so that they have a common denominator before completing their calculations. They have also been remembering to record their answers in their simplest form and checking that their solutions are sensible.



In English, the children have been watching a short film called *The Lighthouse*. They have been developing expanded noun phrases, using prepositions accurately and writing short sentences to create a powerful opening description for the film. The children have considered how word choices can create atmosphere, describe the setting and encourage the reader to ask questions about what might happen next



On Wednesday, the children took part in an online safety workshop. They learnt about the importance of reducing screen time, taking regular breaks and recognising how artificial intelligence can alter images. Everyone enjoyed the session and showed a good understanding of how to support their well-being when using digital devices and engaging in online activity. A huge 'THANK YOU' to the Lincolnshire School Safety Partnership for prividing us with such a great opportunity.

The children have also been creating some fabulous book bags and should be really proud of their amazing effort - we look forward to presenting to one another and to being inspired to read a novel by a different author. The children are now ready to embark on their Dragons' Den journey, following in the footsteps of the fabulous inventors of the Victorian period. It has certainly been a busy week, with lots of excellent work taking place.

SCHOOL COUNCIL



Our first School Council meeting took place this week and what an amazing start it was!

We discussed the fantastic suggestions from our suggestion box, and it was lovely to hear the children sharing their ideas, thoughts and opinions.

We also talked about some of the exciting events coming up, including Children in Need and our Christmas Fete. There is lots to look forward to!

A huge well done to our School Council members. You all did a fantastic job, and we can't wait to see what brilliant ideas you bring to our school this year!

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGUES

There's lots to celebrate in our language lessons this week, with some wonderful storytelling, creativity and confidence shining through! In Infants, the children have been captivated by the Spanish story *La calabaza gigante* (The Giant Pumpkin). They loved joining in with the story, using actions to bring it to life and having a go at all the new Spanish words along the way. We have also been practising the days of the week, with plenty of repetition and fun to help everyone remember *lunes, martes, miércoles…*!



In Juniors, our Year 3 pupils really made me proud! They have been learning Spanish vocabulary linked to fireworks and used their new words to create their very own fireworks poems. The highlight was seeing them perform their poems in front of the whole class. They showed such creativity and confidence, and it was lovely to see them so pleased with their finished work. ¡Muy bien, Year 3!

There is also something exciting just around the corner for Years 5 and 6. Next week, our pupils will be getting ready to put together a special Christmas parcel to send to our partner school in Trévoux, France. It is always such a lovely way to connect with our French friends, share a little of our Christmas traditions and remind ourselves that language learning can open doors to friendships beyond the classroom.

SPORTING NEWS

U9 Tag Rugby Festival at St Hugh's 11.11.26

Our two teams took part in an afternoon of Rugby. From the starting whistle in Game 1 to the final whistle in game 9 the children gave their full effort. All took it in turns to Captain their teams. It was a fantastic experience, and a lot was learnt whilst playing together. There was some excellent running, passing and flowing rugby. Tag tackling was frenetic at times, producing some excellent defence and turnovers of possession.



During the matches the players followed the sporting values and our teams were awarded Certificates for – Giving respect to the referees and linesmen and for – Enjoyment whilst playing as a team.

Thanks go to the parents who supported the fixture with their motivation and energy helping our children to perform and play to the end.

JEWELLERY REMINDER – PLAIN STUD EARRINGS ONLY

Please note that children should only wear plain stud earrings for school. Earrings should be removed for PE and swimming. If children are not able to remove earrings themselves, could parents please ensure they are taken out before school on these days.

HELP! WOOL NEEDED – YEAR 2

Does anyone have any thick wool that they would be able to donate to Year 2 please? Any colours would be much appreciated. Thank you for your help.

EARLY YEARS - A Little Christmas Clear-Out!

As we approach Christmas, we wondered whether any families might be having a little clear-out of toys and resources at home. If you have any unwanted outdoor toys, dolls, dolls' prams, easels or similar items that are still in good, usable condition, we would be very grateful for any kind donations to EYFS. We would also love any unwanted rolls of wallpaper, which are always useful for our creative activities!

Rather than throwing things away, we would be delighted to give them a new lease of life in our setting. Any donations, however small, would be very much appreciated. Thank you, as always, for your continued kindness and support!

PTFA NEWS

The PTFA would like to invite 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 DIARY DATES

- **Friday 20th November – Non-uniform day in exchange for a tombola prize for Christmas Fete. (details attached)**
- **Friday 27th November – PTFA Christmas Fete – 5pm to 7pm (details attached)**
- **Thursday 3rd December & Friday 4th December – Santa's Secret Shop (details attached)**

PTFA PRELOVED SHOP –

We have an abundance of tunics and skirts and are looking to downsize the quantity we have so if anyone is looking for new sizes please do get in touch. You can request access to uniform anytime via your PTFA rep and do not need to wait for the pop up.



Otherwise, we continue to welcome donations of clean and good condition uniform, please dispose of anything at home you wouldn't buy yourself.

The next opening date for the Preloved shop – Tuesday 19th January 2027 – 3pm – 4:30pm.