



Ashton Hayes Primary School weekly newsletter

Good afternoon,

Welcome to the penultimate newsletter of this half term. It has once again been a busy one, with Year 6 attending the first educational visit of the year, a lovely new starters open afternoon (well done to our fabulous Year 6 children who accompanied the families around the school) and our very busy book fair. Thank you to everyone who supported the fair by either buying books or by volunteering to staff it. We had a few issues with being able to follow the link to pay, so thank you also for your patience and understanding in helping to navigate this issue.

Wear it Pink:

Next Friday is wear it pink day. Children can, if they chose, come to school wearing as much or as little pink as they like! It is an annual event across the country and in our school during Breast Cancer Awareness Month to raise money and awareness for breast cancer research and support services. Children can donate by either bringing £1 in or our office team will share a JustGiving link at some point next week.

Owls:



This week in Owl Class, we've been busy stepping back in time and diving into lots of exciting learning! In English, we've been exploring *diaries* and have started writing our own diary entries based on our history topic. The children imagined themselves as people living in London during the Great Fire of 1666 — and their creativity has really shone through! In Maths, both Year 3 and Year 4 have been working incredibly hard on subtraction and are almost ready for their upcoming review — well done, everyone! In History, we've taken our diary writing even further by using ink and quills to write, just as people would have done in the 17th century.



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In Science, we've been learning all about teeth and their functions. To top off our understanding, we used clay to create detailed models of our own mouths — a fun (and slightly messy!) way to bring science to life. In Spanish and Computing, the children combined their language and tech skills by making colourful *Weather* booklets in Spanish using PowerPoint.

What a fantastic week of creativity, curiosity, and hands-on learning — well done, Owls!

Peregrines:

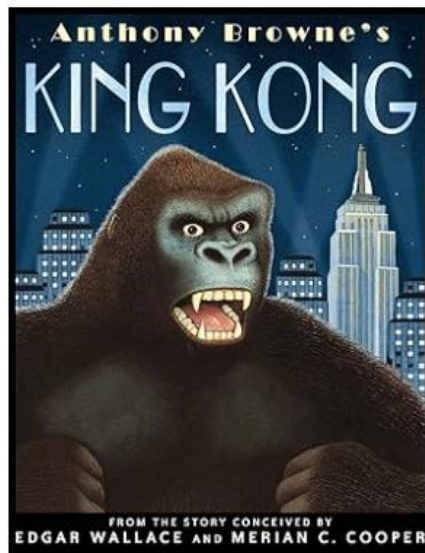
This week, the Peregrines have continued to impress me with their focus, creativity, and teamwork across all areas of learning. In Maths, they've shown fantastic perseverance and accuracy while perfecting subtraction with renaming. Our English sessions were filled with imagination and thoughtful writing as they crafted excellent recounts of Annie Edson Taylor's daring journey down the river. The detail and emotion in their writing brought the story to life! In Science, Peregrines explored the fascinating world of electricity, developing a solid understanding of both parallel and series circuits through hands-on investigations and thoughtful discussions. Team spirit was on full display in Forest School and PE, where students worked brilliantly together during Hockey drills and outdoor challenges. Finally, in Art, the class completed their final sketches of a wooden barrel, using a range of shading techniques and media to create depth and texture. Well done, Peregrines, for another week of hard work and fantastic learning!





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Buzzards:



Buzzards have had a superb week! They have begun their final writing piece, based on Anthony Browne's King Kong and have made an excellent start, using some lovely descriptive language. In maths the class have begun work on multiples and will be moving on to Prime numbers shortly. The children also attended a workshop on 'Speaking out, Staying Safe', delivered by the NSPCC. I was incredibly impressed by the maturity and engagement that the children showed. I have today had an email from the NSPCC sharing how impressed they were by our children – brilliant!

Finally, the children had a fabulous trip to 'Eureka'. In teams, the children designed and built their own bridges, working collaboratively to produce bridges that withstood an earthquake and a hurricane. The whole class were an absolute credit to themselves and the school!

Sparrowhawks:

Sparrowhawks have had a fantastic week. Not only producing some amazing writing as their work on Lost and Found comes to an end, but also in their independent challenges (COOL



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time). They have been making books, exploring magnets - showing real perseverance as they have been attaching magnets to models to try and make them move. In Science we have been exploring Autumn, we enjoyed some Autumn poetry outside and spent time exploring and predicting how sycamore seeds move. We have created some lovely leaf characters based on the book Leaf Man thinking about their names and what they enjoy doing - jumping into leaf piles with their friends, swirling and travelling through the woodland.

We have been thinking about kindness, celebrating it, thinking about ways we can show kindness and creating an extra-long kindness chain! If you spot kindness at home with your child, please send it in on a little note - we would love to celebrate it in the classroom.

Kestrels:



Kestrels...we are nearly at the end of your first whole half term! I want to start this newsletter post with the biggest well done wrapped in all of the love and admiration for you all! You are amazing little humans who make every day a joy. What a team we are. This week we have been thinking about our feelings. The way they can be all jumbled up one minute, tiny the next, and explosive after that. We have been trying to understand what our bodies and faces do when we feel certain things and how important it is to see these things in other people too because we can help them! It has been beautiful to see so many of the



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children using our new little feelings area in the classroom, looking at their faces, using the emotion pebbles and just having a chat with their friends about it. Another highlight of the week has been our new outside area. Potions, Conker runs, soaking wet hair and sand between our toes! We love it! And we're using it perfectly! Whilst we are all very much in need of a lazy and long half term, here's to a last week of this half term where we will be celebrating autumn and all of its colour.

Forest School:

Forest School this week was filled with the sound of Conkers bouncing off targets and pans along with cheering!! All classes used their Forest School sessions in the teams they've been in for PE, to design and build a target or skills game to then share with the other teams. We've had throwing, rolling and target games we even had golf! Great resilience and team building has been shown throughout the whole school, it's been a great week. Please remember though it is starting to get chillier, please bring layers going forward. Mrs Mochrie

School Attendance:

Wow, what a brilliant week for attendance, with Kestrels and Peregrine both have 100% attendance for the full week!

Class	This week's attendance	Cumulative attendance for the year
Kestrel	100%	98.38%
Sparrowhawk	95.7%	95.09%
Owl	97.7%	97.94%
Peregrine	100%	98.19%
Buzzard	98.55%	96.75%
Whole school	98.26%	97.2%

Celebration:

Kestrel – Eleanor & Beauden

Sparrowhawk – Max & All of Year 2

Owl – Arthur & Olivia

Peregrine – Isla & Maggie

Buzzard – Elliot & Grace



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Next week in Ashton Owls.

Day	Sport
Monday	Multi-sports
Tuesday	Football
Wednesday	Netball/basketball
Thursday	Football skills
Friday	Games night

ELSA

As you will know (hopefully), Mrs Collins is our new ELSA. Please find below some information about what exactly an ELSA does (this is information that is also shared with other school staff, so the text in green is not completely relevant to parents. If you have any questions, or think that your child may benefit from ELSA sessions, please contact Mrs Collins or your class teacher.

What is an ELSA?

ELSAs are emotional literacy support assistants. They are teaching assistants who have had special training from educational psychologists to support the emotional development of children and young people in school. ELSAs have regular professional supervision from educational psychologists to help them in their work.

ELSAs help children and young people learn to understand their emotions and respect the feelings of those around them. They provide the time and space for pupils to think about their personal circumstances and how they manage them.

How does ELSA work?

Most ELSA programmes will last for 6 to 12 weeks, helping the pupil to learn some specific new skills or coping strategies. Clear programme aims (SMART targets) need to be set early on and each session has an objective - something the ELSA wants to help the pupil understand or achieve.

The ELSA isn't there to 'fix' the child. For pupils with complex or long-term needs, it's unrealistic to expect ELSA support to resolve all their difficulties. Change is a long-term process that needs everyone's help.



How can we help?

Having an ELSA will make most difference in your school when:

- other staff know about and support the ELSA work
- staff give the ELSA relevant background information on the child and family
- the ELSA liaises regularly with teachers to discuss progress and check on whether new skills are being transferred to class
- the ELSA has regular time for planning and delivering programmes

Continued overleaf

Have a lovely weekend!